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ADDRESS OF REV. S. IRENÆUS PRIME, D. D.*

. EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK OBSERVER.

It occurs to me, in approaching this great subject, that we are enlarging the area of freedom on the plan that infinite wisdom put into operation in early ages and has employed even down to our times for the advancement of the human race and populating of the globe. When the dispersion of Babel builders scattered colonies abroad, it was but repeating on a broader platform the separation of those who survived the deluge and became colonists of Asia, Europe, and Africa. History, poetry, and fiction, even heathen mythology and vague traditions, have chronicled the planting of colonies on inhospitable shores, the struggles of infant settlements, long years of hardships, when tempests and cold and heat and famine and pestilence and war, discouragements, disasters, treason, desertion, death, all evils dire have rocked in the storm the cradle of infant nations—nations that in the future of their manhood became rivals and foes and perished by each other's hands. The Great Sea separated Carthage and Rome, but they were both colonies, frowning their hate across the waters and thirsting for each other's blood. Rome sent her colonies, like the light of the sun, into all the world, and her people unto the ends of the earth. Her ruins, dug from the soil of every country in Europe, are the dumb but eloquent witnesses of the civilization she carried into Gaul and Britain and through them to the spot where now a new world gathers her sons in the capitol that bears a name more illustrious than Hannibal or Cæsar. Roman law—the science of jurisprudence—by Roman progress round the earth, has made itself a living part of the government of every civilized race of men.

And when God left men in England and on the Continent to become the oppressors of their kind, so as to drive the colonists from Britain and Holland and France to Jamestown and Plymouth and Manhattan, He, the Infinite and Eternal, with

* Delivered at the Fifty-Second Anniversary of the American Colonization Society, held at Washington, D. C., January 19, 1869.

and chiefs, whom I may visit in the interior. I may go beyond Misadu, the large capital of the Mandingoes, and reach Kankan, an important town, a week's journey beyond, through which Caille passed forty years ago.

Professors Freeman and Johnson, who are deeply interested in this work, have promised to take charge of my classes in the College till I return."

At a meeting of the Presbytery of West Africa, held at Clay-Ashland, Liberia, December 10-13, 1868, the following preamble and resolution, proposed by Rev. Thomas H. Amos, were unanimously adopted :

This Presbytery, having heard the Report of Rev. E. W. Blyden, in relation to his labors among the Mohammedans, and the gratifying opening that seems to be presented among that people, do

Resolve, That we most heartily express our sympathy in this work, and do recommend Mr. Blyden and his labors to the patronage and Christian benevolence of the members of the Presbyterian Church in the United States and in Liberia, and to all benevolent associations having for their object the spread of the Gospel of our blessed Lord and Saviour."

ITEMS OF INTELLIGENCE.

PRESIDENT ROBERTS lately visited the scenes of his childhood in Virginia. In an address at Petersburg, the 9th February, he remarked that on that day just forty-three years ago, in the very spot on which he was then standing, he had made a public profession of religion ; and that on the 9th of February, forty years ago, he had sailed from Hampton Roads for Liberia.

CAPE PALMAS BOARD OF TRADE.—The merchants and traders of Cape Palmas have formed the Cape Palmas Board of Trade, the objects of which are the protection and development of the interior and coastwise trades and the interests of its members therewith connected. The annual meetings of this Association for the election of its officers take place in the month of October of each year. The following are the present officers: John W. Cooper, President ; Jos. T. Gibson and Jas. W. Dossen, Vice Presidents ; R. S. McGill, Treasurer ; W. F. Nelson, Recording Secretary ; Ellis A. Potter, Corresponding Secretary ; Chas. H. Harmon, D. R. Fletcher, Jas. W. Ashton, and Jas. B. Dennis, Directors.

OPENING OF THE CAVALLA RIVER.—This important river, coming from the far interior to Cape Palmas, and in which much of the wealth of Liberia lies, was lately ascended by Colonel Cooper, with thirty men, "to open the river." Mr. W. R. Brown, Agent for the firm of Dolloner, Potter & Co., of New York,