shape, and became a subject of some thought with a view of making it subservient to the tribe generally. They concluded that, if they could communicate their thoughts to each other respecting palm wine, and signify when they should retire to some secluded spot to enjoy a scanty meal, by certain signs made on the ground, and on the side of their mud huts, they could also, by increasing the number of those signs, and varying them, make known their thoughts and wishes to each other on any subject that might concern them.

On one occasion, two persons were walking out together; after going a little distance from the town, one of them turned aside in the woods, and from thence brought a jug of wine. His companion knowing that he had not had an opportunity of putting the wine there, asked him how he knew it was there; to which the other replied "my friend informed me of it by certain signs made on the ground as we were about to start away." This circumstance incited his companion on the spot, to a resolution to acquaint himself with this new mode of communicating ideas. The art went on to spread, the more considerate reducing it to some certain system, until it became widely diffused; still, it is now only in its incipient stage.

Thus, I have given to you, Messrs. Editors, and to the public, a plain statement of the alleged facts of the origin of the art of writing as it now exists among the Veys; soliciting, at the same time, a refutation of any thing I have written on the subject, by those who are contemporary with this new invention, so that future historians may not be compelled to pick their way through a globe of conjectures, in trying to search out the origin and the time of the invention of letters by the Veys, as they have had to do respecting many other subjects, the origin of which is as wholly unknown to us as is the spot where man was made.

Yours respectfully, D. B. WARNER.

Monrovia, Dec. 28, 1859.

REPORT OF THE TRAVELLING AGENT.

BALTIMORE CITY.

Collins, Heath & Hutchinson, $10.00; John R. Kelso, Hiser & Co., W. M. Ellicott & Sons, Matthews & Bro., C. W. Ridgely, each $5.00; John Brannan, R. Q. Taylor, each $2.50; Jno. G. Proud & Sons, $3.00; J. E. Byrd & Bro. H. Gaehle, G. J. Appold, each $2.00; E. W. Briding, Geo. A. Macauley, D. A. Jones, James Brundige, Wm. Woodcock, Rev. B. F. Ray, C. Bride, Chas. Hammond, Rev. W. H. Pitcher, each $1.00 ..... $58 00

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY.

Patapsco.—William Hawkins, John Merritt, each $2.00; Dr. Hinkle, Joshua Steward, R. S. Cromwell, Joshua Hawkins, Joseph Coale, Dr. Hamilton, Wm. Downs, Jas. M. Lucas, R. Hammond, J. M. Brian, each $1.00 ..... 14 00

BALTIMORE COUNTY.

Hookstown.—Mrs. Williams, $2.00; John Lewin, Miss R. Stansbury, Rev. Mr. Kane, Rev. A. J. Myers, Mr. Stoopes, L. Rice, each $1.00; George R. Emmart, 50 cts 8 50

Rider's Switch.—A. D. Brown, $2.50; W. O. Wilson, $2.00; John Rider, Edward Rider, John Wright, T. Wright, L. Roberts, Edward Rider, Jr., B. Bowen, R. Wright, each $1.00; T. Wright, Jr., Miss R. Bowen, Miss E. Bowen, each 50 cents 14 00

Green Spring Valley.—Mr. Bennett, Joshua Gent, H. Onderdonk, each $1.00 .. 3 00

Reisterstown.—Jas. Marley, $2.00; Cash, $2.50 ..... 4 50

Dover.—Cash, $1.00; Cash, 25 cents 1 25

Cockeysville.—John Merryman, $5.00; N. Gorsuch, Dr. McLean, Geo. Jessop, Wm. Jessop, Richard Green, Wesley Royston, W. C. Thompson, Wm. F. Butler, G. H. Merryman, E. Parks, Thos. J. Lee, each $1.00: Chas. Gorsuch, Jos. Wheeler, each 50 cents 17 00

FREDERICK COUNTY.

Frederick City.—Cash, ... 6 00

Total $126 25

BALTIMORE, *June 30th*, 1860. P. D. LIPSCOMB, *Travelling Agent.*

MARYLAND COLONIZATION JOURNAL.

CONDUCTED BY JAMES HALL, GENERAL AGENT OF THE MARYLAND STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

New Series. BALTIMORE, JULY, 1860. Vo. 10.—No. 14.

[From the Liberia Herald of April.]

JAMES L. SIMS' JOURNAL—CONTINUED.

Scenes in the Interior of Liberia: being a Tour through the Countries of the Dey, Goulah, Pessah, Barlain, Kpelly, Suloany and King Boatswain's Tribes, in 1858.

BESIDES the products of the country, such as palm-oil, rice, goats, sheep, fish, fowl, cotton in the seed, spun cotton, cloth, knives, earthen ware and hundreds of other little things, the market is crowded with guns, powder, iron pots, salt, calicoes, coral beads, writing paper, and most every thing that is to be found in a trading factory on the coast. The Manni people sometimes bring down large quantities of mineral salt. The market is admirably conducted under the supervision of an officer, whose business is to settle disputes and collect whatever may be gratuitously given towards keeping the market in good repair. No domestic cloth is allowed to be sold until mid-day, from which time until dark it is really amusing. As soon as the officer gives notice that market is open for the sale of "country cloths," the Mahometans commence. You will see one with a beautiful cloth in his hand, crying, "Twenty sticks of salt! twenty sticks of salt!" Two hours later, you will hear him crying, (for the same cloth,) "Fifteen! fifteen! fifteen!"—by and by it is, "Ten! ten! ten!"—and about dark it is, "Who'll give me three? who'll give me three? who'll give me three?" At length the poor fellow, seeing that he can't cheat any body, rolls it up and carries it home; but he is sure to carry it during the week to some of the lesser markets, and if he fails there, he will send it to the beach and take whatever he can get for it.

The next object of attention—if not the first—is the bridges, which are constructed in the following manner. First, on both banks of the river, opposite each other, is erected a butment eight or more feet high, and about five feet wide; next, a layer of vines, the bigness of a man's finger, is stretched across from one butment to the other as tight as they can be drawn and made fast. Other vines are then interwoven in this layer, which forms a sort of net work—this is the floor. A number of vines are then firmly bound together and stretched across for hand railings; vines are then tied, about an inch apart, all the way across, to one of the railings, and carried under the floor and tied to the other railing. The same materials are then interwoven in the sides in the same manner as in the floor. The bridge is now formed. Lastly, strong vines are suspended

Maryland Historical Society

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