

# COLUMBUS KNEW, SAYS HENRY VIGNAUD.

## Didn't Have to Guess That There Was Land to the West.

Paris, Sept. 30.—An important work which throws a fresh light on the discovery of America by Columbus, has been written by Henry Vignaud, first secretary of the United States embassy here.

It is in French and will be published in this city Oct. 1. Mr. Vignaud, who is the vice president of the American Lute Society of Paris, has made a life study of the early history of America.

In an interview with the correspondent of the Associated Press, Mr. Vignaud said:

"The present work is intended to show that for the last four centuries we have been deceived by fraud which hides from us the real beginnings of Columbus' project and that the famous decrements ascribed to Toacanelli, the alleged discoverer of the route, were fabricated."

"I submit excellent reasons for believing that Toacanelli never wrote the letter of 1474 to King Alfonso of Portugal and never traced the chart alleged to have accompanied it. Columbus' design was not founded on any scientific basis, but on positive information as to the existence of lands to the westward."