

Henry Vignaud.

Mandeville, La., Sept. 16, 1922.

To the Editor of The Times-Picayune:
Your editorial of last Wednesday told the interesting life story of Henry Vignaud. Inasmuch as he was once a public school teacher in New Orleans, there is the more reason why we should do honor to his name by recognizing the special distinction of his historical works.

The course of his studies shows that he was an American at heart, and these studies brought him such recognition in Europe that in the article on "Christopher Columbus" in the eleventh edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica his writings are cited as authority.

In the issue of "The Living Age" of July 15 last will be found a translation of his latest pamphlet entitled "How America Was Really Discovered." This throws so much light on the methods of historical research in addition to the interesting facts it recites that no teacher or student of history is quite informed who overlooks it. Clearly and convincingly it corrects a number of errors of no small moment in school and popular histories.

It is such men as Henry Vignaud who reflect most credit upon the American abroad. To come to old age (he died at 92) with a mind clear and vigorous is a personal achievement in itself deserving honors, but when it was a ripe, full mind we are proud that he was an American.

A. E. BRIGGS.