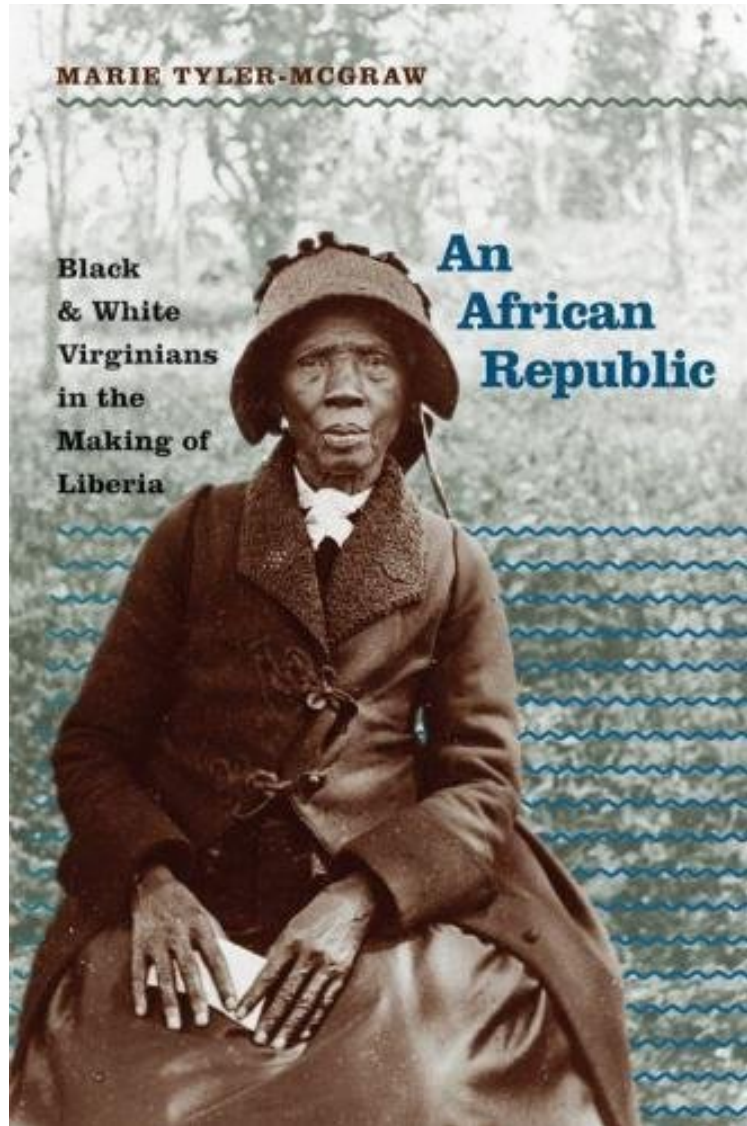


[Free] An African Republic: Black and White Virginians in the Making of Liberia (The John Hope Franklin Series in African American History and Culture)

An African Republic: Black and White Virginians in the Making of Liberia (The John Hope Franklin Series in African American History and Culture)

Marie Tyler-McGraw

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Marie Tyler-McGraw : An African Republic: Black and White Virginians in the Making of Liberia (The John Hope Franklin Series in African American History and Culture) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised An African Republic: Black and White Virginians in the Making of

Liberia (The John Hope Franklin Series in African American History and Culture):

8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Very good work. By A. N. Wegmann This is an excellent, readable, well-researched history of the early founders of the Republic of Liberia and their origins in Virginia. Though esoteric by nature, this is an important work on the growing field of Liberian-American history. In my opinion, it is the best of the hand-full of recent publications on the Liberian-American connection during the antebellum years. It is certainly the best work on the American origins of the Liberian "Founding Fathers," all of whom emigrated from Virginia in the 1820s and 1830s. This book captures the strong, highly important, connection between Americans and the people of Liberia, importantly touching on the reliance of the latter on the former. Overall, a very good book. Well-written, well-researched, and well-published. A must read for anyone interested in African-American history, or, especially, Liberian, or West African, history.

The nineteenth-century American Colonization Society (ACS) project of persuading all American free blacks to emigrate to the ACS colony of Liberia could never be accomplished. Few free blacks volunteered, and greater numbers would have overwhelmed the meager resources of the ACS. Given that reality, who supported African colonization and why? No state was more involved with the project than Virginia, where white Virginians provided much of the political and organizational leadership and black Virginians provided a majority of the emigrants. In *An African Republic*, Marie Tyler-McGraw traces the parallel but seldom intersecting tracks of black and white Virginians' interests in African colonization, from revolutionary-era efforts at emancipation legislation to African American churches' concern for African missions. In Virginia, African colonization attracted aging revolutionaries, republican mothers and their daughters, bondpersons schooled and emancipated for Liberia, evangelical planters and merchants, urban free blacks, opportunistic politicians, Quakers, and gentlemen novelists. *An African Republic* follows the experiences of the emigrants from Virginia to Liberia, where some became the leadership class, consciously seeking to demonstrate black abilities, while others found greater hardship and early death. Tyler-McGraw carefully examines the tensions between racial identities, domestic visions, and republican citizenship in Virginia and Liberia.

An informative and insightful narrative that thoroughly explains the complications and desires surrounding Liberian colonization.--H-Net sStrong and compelling. . . . Tyler-McGraw superbly demonstrates her skills as a careful researcher who keenly analyzes primary and secondary materials. . . . Important for all serious southern historians and upper-level students.--NC Historical [A] valuable book.--Journal of Interdisciplinary History[A] promising addition to the ongoing discussion of the economics of migration.--Journal of the Early RepublicImpeccable research. . . . A much-needed addition to African American, early republic, and US Southern historiography. . . . Highly recommended.--ChoiceWell-written. . . . [Tyler-McGraw] carefully balances historical analysis with sympathy as she peels back the complex layers of the social environments on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean that gave birth to 'An African Republic'. . . . A valuable addition to studies in early post-revolutionary American history and the American beginnings of the Liberian republic.--International Journal of American Historical StudiesA teachable book for upper-division courses and graduate seminars. . . . Doubles as a walk through an elegantly curated museum exhibit. . . . A central text to black migration history.--Journal of Southern HistoryAn excellent book that demonstrates that the ACS was consequential; the body not only established Liberia, it also highlighted the debates on slavery in Virginia.--Journal of American HistoryThis provocative, well-researched book makes a significant contribution to the study of early Liberian growth. . . . Scholars as well as students of African studies will find this book a welcome interpretation toward reevaluation of the formative period of Liberia.-- Register of the Kentucky Historical SocietyBreaks new ground in drawing attention to the way women from leading planter families, often in defiance of male relatives, expressed their opposition to slavery by supporting colonization and campaigning for voluntary manumission.--Times Literary Supplement Beautifully crafted and brimming with insight, this book illuminates the ways that the colonization movement and the republic of Liberia were powerful symbols in the politics of race and slavery. By demonstrating that the Liberian experiment reflected a distinctly Virginian set of experiences, Marie Tyler-McGraw reveals the transatlantic dimensions of antebellum southern history.--Elizabeth R. Varon, Temple UniversityMarie Tyler-McGraw has written a groundbreaking book, the most important study of the nineteenth-century movement to settle black Americans in West Africa produced in the last three or more generations. *An African Republic* is an impressive account of the effort to end American slavery and to remove free African Americans from American society. It is based on a wide array of historical scholarship and primary sources, and is written with grace and a sense of drama. If America is ever to have a productive and meaningful conversation on race, Americans must come to understand the significance of race in the formation of the national society. They must also understand that African Americans have helped to create that society and carry American culture within them. As they structured a new society in Liberia, black American emigres to that West African settlement created an American African community distinct in many ways from the African societies around it. This book is destined to claim a place in the forefront of the growing number of studies seeking to place

African American history and American history in a truly global context. All those hoping to achieve a nuanced understanding of American racial culture and its impact on the world owe Marie Tyler-McGraw a debt of gratitude. She has given us a gift of scholarship that will fascinate as well as educate.--James Oliver Horton, George Washington University, author of *The Landmarks of African American History* and coauthor of *Slavery and the Making of America* Through meticulous research and sensitive writing, Marie Tyler-McGraw evokes the dramas that surrounded black and white Virginians' efforts to create a model republic in Liberia. For generations, people from the earliest and largest slaveholding state tried to create a refuge from the ravages of racial oppression in the United States. This is their story, powerfully told.--Edward L. Ayers, University of Richmond About the Author Marie Tyler-McGraw is an independent historian and public history consultant. She is author of *At the Falls: Richmond, Virginia, and Its People* (from the University of North Carolina Press).