

# Mother Africa



## At the Ashanti Court

King Osai Kojo of the Ashanti Kingdom holds court around 1765. His immediate predecessors had carved out a kingdom of 14,000 square miles. War was a steady, thriving business, and the slaves they sold provided much wealth.

The Gold Coast was so named because the Ashanits mined and worked gold, making beautiful works of art.

The King received a tax from the riches including slaves, but he was limited to 3,333 slaves at one time. Contrary to the custom of the New World, the slaves held by Africans, had many rights including marriage and holding property. They could own slaves and even become the heirs of their masters.



## Robert Singstacke Abbott (1870-1940)

**PIONEER PUBLISHER.** Born on St. Simons Island, off the Georgia coast, he attended Hampton Institute in Virginia and earned his law degree from Kent Law School in Chicago in 1899. He was the founder and editor of *The Chicago Defender*, an articulate voice of Chicago's Black population with a circulation of 250,000 copies by 1929. For 15 years his strong editorials contended for social, political, and economic justice and encouraged Blacks to seek better lives away from the Deep South.



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