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FIRST REPORT

OF THE

NEW-YORK COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

READ AT THE ANNUAL MEETING,

OCTOBER 29, 1823.

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CONSTITUTION
OF THE
NEW-YORK COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

ARTICLE I.

THIS Institution shall be known by the name of the NEW-YORK COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

ARTICLE II.

The object of the Society shall be to co-operate with the Parent Society at Washington, instituted for the purpose of colonizing the free people of colour of the United States.

ARTICLE III.

Any person, paying one dollar annually, or thirty dollars at one time, shall be a member of this Society.

ARTICLE IV.

The business of the Society shall be conducted by a Board of Directors, consisting of a President, four Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, and twelve Managers, to be annually chosen by this Society: they shall have power to make their own By-Laws, and to fill their own vacancies. Five shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE V.

The annual meeting of this Society shall be held on the last Wednesday in October, at four o'clock P. M.

ARTICLE VI.

This Constitution may be altered at an annual meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

OFFICERS AND MANAGERS.

FOR 1823-24.

Col. HENRY RUTGERS, *President.*

Col. WILLIAM FEW,	1st	} <i>Vice-Presidents.</i>
Rev. ALEXANDER M'LEOD, D.D.	2d	
Mr. DIVIE BETHUNE,	3d	
Rev. PHILIP MILLEDOLER, D.D.	4th	

Mr. GROVE WRIGHT, *Treasurer.*

Rev. PASCHAL N. STRONG, *Corresponding Secretary.*

JOHN B. BECK, M.D. *Recording Secretary.*

OTHER MANAGERS.

Rev. JOHN B. ROMEYN, D.D.	Mr. JOSEPH SMITH,
— JAMES MILNOR, D.D.	— GEORGE P. SHIPMAN,
— WILLIAM M'CURRAY, D.D.	— CHARLES G. HAINES,
Mr. GEORGE GALLAGHER,	— JOHN TARGEE,
— GARRIT N. BLEECKER,	— WILLIAM G. JONES,
— WILLIAM B. CROSBY,	— HARRIS SCOVELL.
— WILLIAM COLGATE,	

LORING D. DEWEY, *Agent of the General Society.*

REPORT.

NEARLY seven years have elapsed since a Society was formed at Washington, for the purpose of "promoting and executing a plan for colonizing the free people of colour, residing in America, in Africa, or such other place as Congress should deem most expedient." As a preliminary step to the carrying of this plan into successful execution, it was deemed proper to send out agents to the coast of Africa, to ascertain the most favourable site for the proposed colony, and at the same time to gather such general information as might facilitate the future operations of the Society. Messrs. Mills and Burgess were accordingly appointed upon this service in the year 1817; and the result of their labours and inquiries was such as to satisfy the Managers that the establishment of a colony on the west coast of Africa might be attempted, not merely with safety, but with every prospect of success. Having obtained this information, it was determined at once to commence their labours in this region of the globe; and measures were immediately adopted for sending out, with all possible speed, the first settlers in the proposed colony. A vessel, the Elizabeth, was accordingly chartered and dispatched to Africa, with about eighty coloured people, together with the two agents of the Society, and one of the government of the United States, appointed to superintend the reception of rescued slaves from on board the slaving ships. The vessel sailed from this port, and the spirit and alacrity with which our citizens came forward to furnish her with necessary supplies, exhibit a satisfactory proof that they are not insensible to the claims of this noble and benevolent enterprise.

The first location of the colonists, on their reaching Africa, proved, unfortunately, to be in every respect disadvantageous;

and information soon reached the Managers of the death of the three agents, together with about twenty of the colonists. In consequence of these and other disasters, threatening their immediate and almost total destruction, the colonists, on the arrival of new agents from the United States, were removed to Sierra Leone, and placed under the protection of the British government. Here they remained until a proper situation could be procured for their settlement. Through the zeal and ability of Dr. Ayres, agent of the Society, and Lieutenant Stockton, of the United States Navy, this was accomplished. A tract of land at Cape Montserado,* was purchased from the native kings, which, according to the description given of it, combines every local advantage, situated on the banks of a large river, "and with one of the best harbours between Gibraltar and the Cape of Good Hope." The colonists were soon after removed to this spot, and the first foundation of a settlement laid, whose benign influence, we trust, will be felt and acknowledged for ages to come, in the remotest regions of Africa.

It is unnecessary to dwell, in detail, upon the intermediate history of the colony. The annual Reports of the parent Institution contain the amplest information on this subject, and are filled with a recital of the most important incidents in relation to its origin and progress. To the lover of bold adventure, as well as to the philanthropist and the Christian, we recommend the perusal of these interesting documents. It is sufficient for our present purpose to state, that, notwithstanding the dangers and the difficulties necessarily attending the planting of an infant settlement on a remote and barbarous shore, the colony still exists and flourishes. According to the latest accounts, the number of settlers is about two hundred, under the superintendence of two agents, of acknowledged character and abilities. The misunderstanding, which at first existed between them and the natives, has been satisfactorily

* Cape Montserado, which is high land, is situated in about the fifth degree of north latitude. Sierra Leone is in N. lat. $8^{\circ} 30'$. Mesurado is the name of the river and bay that wash the cape. The cape is also sometimes called Mesurado.

adjusted, and every thing seems propitious to the growth and perpetuity of the establishment. (A)*

Such is a brief sketch of what has been accomplished under the auspices of the parent Society. To aid in the execution of a plan, so magnificent in its design, and so benevolent in its object, this Auxiliary was formed. It has already existed for six years, and though less has been done by it than was either wished or expected by the friends of colonization, yet the Managers feel confident that its formation and continued existence have not been without their use. Although it has thus far contributed but little to the pecuniary resources of the Society, the Managers flatter themselves that it may have been the means of keeping alive, in this section of our country, a sympathy for the general object, which, it is hoped, will ere long pervade every portion of the community. Notwithstanding the open hostility of some, the skepticism of others, and the cold indifference of a still greater number, the Managers are proud to record their firm and unalterable conviction in favour of the great cause in which they are enlisted. They believe it to be a project, not merely practicable, but pregnant with the greatest blessings to humanity. (B) To this country it offers the only possible means of gradually ridding ourselves of a mighty evil, and of obliterating the foulest stain upon our nation's honour. To those who emigrate, it offers an asylum in the land of their fathers, where they may stand forth in the character of men, and enjoy the rights and privileges of freemen. To Africa, it offers the suppression of the slave trade, while it presents in bold perspective the brightest prospects of future civilization and refinement. (C) If this unfortunate portion of our globe is *ever* to be regenerated in its intellectual and moral character, there is no question that it will have to be the result of efforts foreign to itself. All history proves that no people were ever redeemed from ignorance and barbarism, except through the agency of a nation already civilized.

If such be the fact, how immensely does the establishment of this colony swell in interest, when viewed in its relations to

* The letters (A), (B), and (C), refer to the Appendix.

Africa! It is no extravagant supposition, that, if success attends the present enterprise, colonies will ere long be found established in abundance along the coast of Africa, and that through them, civilization, science, and Christianity, will pour their blessings over a suffering and degraded continent. It is impossible to believe, for one moment, that a plan which promises such splendid results will be suffered to languish by the American public. The countenance and patronage already extended to the infant settlement by the government of the United States, shows that the object is and ought to be a *national one*. The Managers entertain the hope, that ere long this must become a general sentiment throughout our country, and that every heart must be awakened to the claims of this Institution.

APPENDIX.

(A.)

PRESENT STATE OF THE COLONY.

FORMAL possession of Cape Montserado was taken on the 25th of April, 1822, when the American flag was hoisted. The name LIBERIA is given to the region purchased of the natives, and MONROVIA to the town then commenced. The plan of the town is, to build on one principal street, on which each settler has a house and lot, and in addition, is furnished with a plantation out of town. These, if he improves them industriously for two years, become his and his heirs for ever. At the head of this street, in a commanding position, stands the fort, a strongly built stone and mortar fortification; its foundations laid several feet below the surface. The colonists are now engaged in building, and clearing the land. The following extracts will show the present state and prospects of the colony. The first is from a letter to a reverend gentleman in Baltimore, dated June 20, 1823, written by Mr. Ashmun, the United States' agent to take charge of liberated Africans.

“I perceive that the Baltimore benevolence has imposed on the colonists another debt of gratitude. Heaven reward the “unwearied well-doing” which has characterized so many, especially of the pious ladies of that city. Please to remember me most cordially to such as I have the happiness to know. By such exertions, aided by the prayers which I believe accompanied them, has the colony at length obtained a firm footing. An asylum is prepared for the degraded sons of Africa. An opening is made for the effectual introduction of the Gospel among the native tribes. A principal objection to the emancipation of slaves in America is obviated. The annihilation of the slave trade along an extensive line of coast, ever famous for this guilty traffic, is secured—and whatever benefits are destined to result from the colonization of Africa, may be referred to the liberality of Baltimore more than to any other town or district in the United States, “*Laus tibi Domino.*” But it is a pleasure and a duty to recognise the instruments by which he worked. Much of the labour of the colonists has been expended on works of defence: they are now nearly completed, and agriculture will, in future, engross the industry of the people. The rainy season commenced about the 20th of May; but the heaviest rains are yet behind. Why, my dear sir, are not missionaries sent? I can only assure you, in one word, that a better opening exists not in the world, and where they be more needed.”

After a concise account of the disease which prevailed among the emigrants who went out in the Oswego, Dr. Ayres remarks, under date of July 22d :

“ After I was taken down and could not visit the sick, I cannot speak in too high terms of the useful exertions of the Rev. Lot Carey. He three times a day visited the sick, brought me an account of their state, received my prescriptions, and attended to the administering of the medicine. To his great exertions we are all much indebted. On landing, the New-England emigrants took lodging wherever they could find room to stow in. When they became sick, they were strewed over the floor with nothing under them but mats, and many of them drenched with rain every day. Under these circumstances we have been favoured with losing but eight—five adults and three children. Among the deaths I have to lament that of Isaiah Preston, a young man of great promise.

“ Our first attention was directed to the building of houses. The rains, and other interruptions from sickness, &c. have, as yet, prevented the accomplishment of this object. I hope we shall shortly have our houses finished ; when that is done, I shall introduce an entire new mode of procedure. Their lots will be surveyed to them, and each one go to work for himself. I have set the first of November for the time that all rations will cease to be delivered, except to invalids. There are a number of those who must remain at the charge of the society.

“ It is my intention, when the lots are divided off to the people, to allow them half their time to labour on their lots. The remaining half, they will be liable to be called to public labour.

“ As soon as the houses are finished, and the lots appropriated to the individuals, it is my intention to put in practice the plan which has ever been nearest my heart in the project of colonizing, viz : all male minors who have no guardian in the colony, to be classed with captured Africans. They are to have a house built for the occasion. The Rev. Lot Carey has consented to take charge of them for the present. They will be called up at five in the morning, and attend prayers ; be ready to repair to business at sunrise, work until 8 A. M. ; breakfast at 9, repair to work until 11 ; then attend school until half past 12 ; adjourn for recreation until half past 2—their labour to be always subject to my order. They will be employed principally in clearing and cultivating a plantation in the best manner. We stand most in need of tools of many descriptions. I hope soon to be able to give the society more cheering accounts of our proceedings in this quarter ; but it is yet in the bosom of futurity, and I know not what trials and obstacles it may please the Almighty to lay in our way. My health is daily gaining ; I can now be up half the day.

“ I have the honour to be, &c.

“ E. AYRES.

“ [] Never send another expedition without a Missionary.”

Extracts from Mr. Ashmun's letter, dated Monrovia, July 21, 1823.

“ You will expect but a brief communication from us by this conveyance, the Oswego not having sailed two weeks when the packet arrived. Since her departure we have only built a few houses—enclosed and planted a few lots—finished a commodious storeroom to receive the goods sent out per the Fidelity, by the African Company.

“ Five additional emigrants, including one lad of 12, also arrived by the packet. The schooner is now nearly unloaded, without any serious accident, and will sail in a very short time. I am sorry to state, that Captain Thornton, and some of the crew, have been slightly touched with the fever. The establishment of the packet line will be the making of the colony. By the return of the packet, several of the settlers go home for their families and property. All pay their passage, and leave bonds for reimbursing the expenses already incurred by the society on their account. One of these, a Mr. Waring, from Petersburg, with 12,000 dollars, will call on you in Washington. It is his intention to fit out a vessel with colonists from Petersburg.

"I have determined to let no opportunity pass without humbly but earnestly representing to the Board, and every influential correspondent I have in America, the spiritual and moral necessities of your colonists. A missionary, and two schoolmasters, with a female teacher, are needed beyond measure. They ought, certainly, all to be white. The survivors are, to an individual, nearly recovered. You will be sorry to hear of the death of Abel Herd, the Asiatic traveller. He scarcely commenced his career of observation, before he imbibed the seeds of a mortal fever, which carried him off in eight days. He had imprudently dieted himself to an invalid on the passage. His impatience to begin his observations could not be restrained. As soon as he could fit himself out, his zeal carried him, contrary to the injunctions of Dr. Ayres and my own remonstrances, into the interior. He spent five days in exploring the St. Paul's—wet by night and day, and breathing nothing but an atmosphere tainted with the effluvia of *mangrove mud*. He became sick, and had not a particle of animal vigour to resist the attack. He returned to the colony, reported his observations, and in two days expired. Had he lived, and succeeded according to his plan, a most valuable addition of African geography would have been given to the world.

"The rains set in about the 13th of May. They have not yet proved very severe; but we are seldom a night or day without a considerable fall of water.

"Barracks, or a range of houses built and covered partly in the native style, are nearly completed for our liberated captives. The poor fellows have hardly had justice done them hitherto. It is proposed to place over them the Rev. Lot Carey, to keep them much to themselves, and let them cultivate land enough to employ a good share of their leisure. In a short time they will, I believe, not only support themselves, but always have on hand a provision for the subsistence of future shipments of the same class.

"Our last accounts from America filled us with hope in relation to the future prospects of the society at home. There were evident symptoms in the disposition of the American public to rub open their eyes on the subject. They will, I believe, sir, come on as fast as perhaps the good of the colony shall require. It is not desirable, at present, that more than three or four shipments of sixty persons be made in the year. Let one hundred families be well settled, with a good house and perfectly improved lot to each, in town, and a plantation without, well cultivated. Let a hospital, warehouse, and temporary receptacle for new comers, be prepared—and the wheels of the machine, its schools, courts, &c. get a good momentum on them, in a proper direction, and, sir, you may throw in new settlers as fast as your funds will possibly admit. If we live to witness the progress of things here two years hence, I believe all this and more will be realized. The last Saturday in every month is court-day. One has occurred, and we have had one trial by jury. It was conducted with great propriety, and the verdict strictly according to evidence. It was a criminal prosecution. For the particulars, see the journal."

From the National Intelligencer.

OF THE AFRICAN COLONY.—The subjoined extract is part of a letter from Rev. Colston M. Waring, a coloured preacher of great respectability, from Petersburg, in Virginia, who recently took passage to Cape Montserado in the Oswego, and returned in the Fidelity. This man, we are informed, was recommended to the Colonization Society as a person of tried worth and piety, by the Rev. Dr. Rice, of Richmond, and is spoken of in the highest terms by Dr. Ayres, in his recent communications. We may, therefore, depend upon his testimony. He is a man of considerable property; has a family; has been to Africa in a sickly season; and is now ready to venture all, and to persuade others to do the same, on the success of the enterprise in which the Colonization Society are engaged.

"When I left the United States, I promised to write you from Africa; but, by the sudden sailing of the Oswego, and my being sick at the time of the sailing, I was unwillingly deprived of that pleasure. As I have now arrived in my native land, I consider it my indispensable duty to give you my views of the land of my ancestors.

"Instead of finding Africa a sandy and barren waste, I found the whole country clothed with verdure, and stocked with forest trees of large growth. I saw cattle, sheep, goats, hogs, poultry, and fruit, in abundance. In fine, I can truly say, I think Africa as healthy, as productive, and as beautiful a country

as any in the world. I found all the people in good health, and apparently happy. Mr. Williams returned with me, and I cannot express the effect our arrival has produced on the minds of the people. All seem in favour of the scheme. The coloured people are fired with zeal in the cause. Last Monday evening upwards of one hundred gave in their names for the next expedition. It is all important to know when a vessel will sail, and whether that vessel will touch at this place for emigrants. I am anxious to know, myself, as I shall immediately close my affairs, and take my family with me. I shall go to Richmond, in a few days, to satisfy the minds of the people, and ascertain the number disposed to emigrate."

Such are the present prospects of the colony. It is *established*, flourishing, and in peace with the surrounding tribes. Many of these tribes already rejoice at its settlement, and have requested that their sons may be received into the colony, to learn mechanical arts. The colony has received several, the sons of head men, but has been obliged to refuse others, for want of accommodations.

Thus has the second colony for Africans actually commenced. The first was Sierre Leone, which now can boast of far greater prosperity and population than any one of the old United States at the same length of time after its settlement. The second, Liberia, not having experienced half the disasters of Sierra Leone, having her experience to guide it, and begun under much better advantages, we may safely conclude will, in much less time, reach the same prosperity. The settlement in Sherbro was but a "temporary shelter," though it was fatal to several of the first colonists—yet not so much so as is generally believed. Of 88, but 21 died. "It may be proper," says the fourth report of the Parent Society, "here to correct what we observe to be a very common but mistaken impression, that this location of the people at Campelar, in Sherbro, was the one selected to be purchased for their permanent settlement; whereas it was only taken as a temporary shelter, till they could get the land on the Bagroo, which is high and healthy, abounds in good water, and where the settlement was designed to be located." But had these deaths occurred in the chosen location of the colony, and had they been more numerous, even to half the colonists, it would not have been a valid reason for relinquishing the project; because such reasoning would have prevented the settlement and all the present advantages of our own country. The effect which these deaths have produced on the public mind, has been far too great and depressing, considering how many thousands have fallen victims to the disease and hardships that have been unavoidable in the settlement of our own country. But our countrymen have gone forward, notwith-

standing disasters and hardships, to convert the wilderness into the fruitful field. The English friends of Africa have not desponded in consequence of similar disasters. Look at Grenville Sharp, and the society under whose patronage Sierra Leone is flourishing, to the admiration of its friends. From the first this colony has suffered by the deaths of its active agents and missionaries. In 1819 no less than five died. Their twentieth report, for 1819 and 1820, shows that they did not therefore remit their exertions for Africa.

“On these recent losses, the Committee have pleasure in subjoining an extract from Mr. Nylander’s communications :

“The accounts of so many deaths among us, through the last severe rainy season, must certainly be an additional trial of the faith and courage of the Committee : but be not discouraged, nor be ye dismayed, for it is the Lord’s battles that we are fighting, and we are conquering even when falling. Only send us a fresh supply of troops for this holy war, for the increase and enlargement of the kingdom of Christ.

“It is not our part, indeed, your Committee would add, to scrutinize with anxiety into the purposes of Divine Providence in the withdrawing of these labourers from such a field : “it is enough to know,” as has been well observed in a report of one of the Society’s Associations, “that they died in peace—confiding in the wisdom and goodness of that Lord, to whom all things are committed in this world and the world to come—leaving their last testimony to the truth of those immortal hopes which they had gone to proclaim to a people in darkness.” “I believe,” says a surviving brother, “I speak the feelings of most of our remaining few, when I say, that we are not disheartened, but encouraged : and if we are so who *stand in jeopardy every hour*, you will not do well to be cast down. We are few and weak. Send us faithful and zealous men !”

“Several schoolmasters and schoolmistresses being under preparation to accompany Mr. Johnson on his voyage back to Sierra Leone, when the intelligence of these losses arrived, they were not deterred thereby from their purpose, but felt an additional reason for persevering therein, trusting in the name of the Lord.”

Recently five of the missionaries, with many others, have been cut off by yellow fever at Sierra Leone ; and what is the effect on English philanthropists and Christians ? Do they say, we will send no more ? The following, from the “CHRISTIAN GUARDIAN,” in relation to this afflictive event, shows that even the deaths of the most valued men, their personal friends and fellow-labourers, do not lead them to conclude it wrong to send more to the same post of danger, or to hesitate in prosecuting the same work. They view it rather as a call to increased exertions for the same objects. “Under such distressing dispensations, they ask, What shall we say ? Surely it becomes us to adopt the language of our adorable Redeemer : ‘The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few ; pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth more labourers.’ The vacancies that have occurred in the military and mercantile departments of Sierra Leone will be immediately filled up by those who are anxious for worldly

honours and advantages. Surely those who are looking earnestly for that crown which the Lord has laid up for his people in that day, should not be discouraged, but should come forward, and be, as it were, baptized for the dead—should occupy the places of those who are fallen, and earnestly prepare, that they also may be followers of those who, through faith and patience, inherit the promises. These events, however, should not only call the friends of missions to fervent prayer and personal devotion, but should also stimulate them to increasing liberality.” So they feel now, and so they have always acted.

Is it not then a little surprising, that the deaths in our colony, which it is well known resulted from the unavoidable evils of a distant new settlement, should have struck such a damp upon American philanthropy?—should have led so many to think it a hopeless work we have begun at Montserado, and that it ought to be relinquished? Such despondency is not of that faith which *counts not life dear*. Then will there be reason for despondency, when none can be found to take the places of the fallen. But they are found, and will be found, as they are needed. We weep at the deaths that fever has inflicted on our gallant navy at Key West. But should we not feel it would be far greater reason for weeping, if our navy should refuse to occupy again that post of danger at the same call, or if our government should refuse to send them? Let us recollect, it is a piracy of human blood, that colonizing in Africa will prevent, as well as promote other most important objects.

(B.)

Facts in relation to the willingness of the Coloured People to migrate to Africa, and the feasibility of the project.

There is a strong natural attachment to the land of their fathers awakened in the bosoms of all who become well informed. This attachment to Africa Paul Cuffee felt, and thousands of others have felt it. As soon as they rise from their ignorance high enough to see their degradation, and discover whence they came, and where their fathers dwelt, they anxiously seek to reach its shores. The following facts are full on this point.

“Of the whole number of free blacks in Nova Scotia, amounting to very near twelve hundred, to whom the humane Clarkson addressed himself in 1792, but

four or five individuals refused to embark with him for Sierra Leone. Almost all those in London yielded, about the same period, to this natural bias.

“It is but a few years since Capt. Paul Cuffee carried thirty-eight from Boston to Sierra Leone, chiefly at his own expense; and in a letter, written after this voyage, he declares, that he could have obtained the consent of the greater part of the free people of colour in that city and its vicinity, to remove to Africa. And let it not be forgotten, that, of those, whom he actually carried, there was not one disposed to return with him, to America. Nor should it cease to be remembered, that this generous and enlightened African, in the last moments, as through the last years of his meritorious life, recommended colonization in Africa to his degraded countrymen here. To this authority, should be added many others, but especially that of Kizell, the guide and friend of the missionaries, Mills and Burgess, who like Capt. Cuffee, knew America, as well as, and Africa much better, than any of the opponents of the plan of colonization.”—*Third Report of the Parent Society, p. 24.*

The following is an extract of a letter from a free negro, dated

Lamott, Illinois Territory, July 13th, 1818.

“I am a free man of colour, have a family and a large connexion of free people of colour residing on the Wabash, who are all willing to leave America whenever the way shall be opened. We love this country and its liberties, if we could share an equal right in them; but our freedom is partial, and we have no hope that it ever will be otherwise here; therefore we had rather be gone, though we should suffer hunger and nakedness for years. Your honour may be assured that nothing shall be lacking on our part in complying with whatever provision shall be made by the United States, whether it be to go to Africa or some other place; we shall hold ourselves in readiness, praying that God (who made man free in the beginning, and who by his kind providence has broken the yoke from every white American,) would inspire the heart of every true son of liberty with zeal and pity, to open the door of freedom for us also.

I am, &c.

ABRAHAM CAMP.

Elias B. Caldwell, Esq.

Secretary of the Colonization Society of the U. S.

[*Ibid.* p. 124.]

It is also a fact, that the society has found no difficulty in obtaining colonists of good character: seventy-nine offered themselves in a body in New-York, in 1818; the only difficulty has been in selection. What would be the feeling generally, were a few more to return with favourable reports from the colony, is seen by the preceding letter of Mr. Waring. There can be no doubt, that, under the powerful motives of both liberty and property, they will be seen, when once a fair prospect of finding a home of freedom and equal rights, and comfortable living, is presented to them, by thousands, urging their way through every obstacle to the inviting land of their fathers—a land abounding with valuable tropical productions, where the cotton shrub and sugar cane grow spontaneously, and may become to them in commerce what they are to the southern states and the West Indies. That such prospects are now in part presented them, and will be to their fullest extent, none doubt, who have had correct information. If the people of the Eastern states, to say nothing of the ten thousands of Europeans, “who have for ever abandoned their

natal soil," can be induced, for the single consideration of property, to meet all the hardships and disasters of new settlements in the western forests, where, in very many instances, greater calamities, from change of climate, privations, and disease, have befallen them, than the African colony has yet experienced, from what principle shall we conclude that the same motive, connected with one still more powerful, liberty, will not induce the coloured people to seek property, and freedom too, without which property is worthless, in Africa? It is next to self-evident, that a judicious management of colonization will so induce them to emigrate, that in a very few years all the free people of colour, and a great mass of the slaves, will have left our country, except the aged, and this at a small expense in proportion to the magnitude of the object.

"Ways and means (says the Fourth Report of the Parent Society, p. 63, 64.) can be supplied to effectuate the objects of our Society. And why not? Has not the colony of Sierra Leone been successfully established? Were not the colonies of our own country established under more unfavourable auspices? Could Xerxes transport five millions of souls, with a hostile design, to an immense distance, by an expensive land transportation; and cannot we transport a much smaller number, under the banners of philanthropy, by water, a method of transportation far more cheap and expeditious? In the course of twenty-five years 1,500,000 slaves have been exported from Africa. And cannot we restore an equal number in the same time? Can avarice and iniquity effect more than humanity and justice?"

"It is undoubtedly desirable gradually to emancipate and colonize the whole coloured population of the United States. If it be expedient to colonize the *whole*, it is also expedient to colonize a *part*; therefore in effecting only the latter, we deserve the patronage of the public. We shall attempt, however, to demonstrate the practicability of accomplishing the whole object.

"Captain Paul Cuffee, from actual experiment, estimated the expense of transporting free persons of colour to Africa, at 60 dollars each. The whole number of blacks, bond and free, may be estimated at 1,900,000, and the annual increase at 58,000. An annual appropriation of five millions of dollars would be adequate to transport every year at 60 dollars each, 83,333, which is 25,000 more than the increase. Thus by sending out every year 25,000 more than the increase, we would in forty years export the whole number. This calculation is strictly accurate, making due allowance for the annual diminution of the increase."— [This estimate of annual increase is too great: by the last census the whole number of blacks was 1,764,332, making the annual increase 47,000.] "The whole number of free persons of colour in the United States amounted in 1810, to 186,446. Admitting 23,000 of this number to be able to transport themselves, the residue agreeably to the foregoing process, might all be transported in two years!"

"It is obvious that the estimate of the expense of transporting the whole black population would be lessened at least one third, were we to make a fair deduction for all those who would be able, from the ordinary causes applicable to emigration, to defray their own expenses. But we are willing to concede every thing to our adversaries, confident of our ability to defeat them upon their own data.

"But it is said the appropriation of five millions per annum is too enormous. To this we reply, that the evil to be remedied is still more enormous, and the vast resources of our country, continually augmenting, would fully justify an expense essential to her own safety and welfare. To some persons fifteen millions appeared a great price for the purchase of Louisiana; and yet by giving that price, we probably escaped a war which would have cost us one hundred millions, besides the loss of valuable lives. Thus a liberal expenditure may eventually become a national saving.

“But although the nominal expense would be considerable, our country would in reality lose nothing: on the contrary, the national wealth would be greatly increased.”

This is evident, because it is now conceded, that slave-labour is dearer than free labour; because land in slave-states is less valuable than in the other, though of the same quality; and because a population that adds nothing to the national strength, whether they are bond or free, but diminishes it, would be removed.*

But this estimate of expenses is far too high. It is not necessary to transport the annual increase. It is only requisite to remove a certain class of population, (and this class might be induced to migrate, by offering greater advantages to such, especially to females,) and all but a few aged might be removed in a comparatively short time. The following, published in the *New-York Statesman*, must be satisfactory to every one who will examine.

“Emigrants usually consist of young people. Let the society aid none but such, and equal numbers of males and females; females between the ages of 18 and 28 years, males between 20 and 30 years. As the children of such parents would all be young, most of them under three years, and as when under that age their removal would cost but little with their parents, such children need not be estimated. Let the society aid 6000 annually of this class, between 18 and 30 years of age, and the population at the end of ten years will be, making all allowances, at least 100,000 less than it would have been, had none been removed. This will appear, if we consider how large a portion of the increase will spring from this class. Allowing for deaths, it would be a low estimate to say their numbers would double in the time.† But estimating their increase only at two-thirds their number, and it will amount to 100,000 in ten years. By the last census, the number of free people of colour was 233,393, and the increase from 1810, is a little less than 47,000. At the same rate of increase, the number in 1830, will be some less than 293,000, if none are removed. Call it 293,000, and suppose the 6000 a year to be removed, and deduct the number with their estimated increase, estimated at 100,000, and it leaves 193,000. At the same rate of increase, and the same deduction the next ten years, the number will be

* One striking evidence of the injury of this population to our country, is seen in the fact, that our prisons are filled with coloured culprits. Hodgson, in his letter to Say, observes: “Travellers in America find the prisons in the slave-states filled with slaves, (as I did almost universally).” The prisons of this city exhibit the fact of six blacks to one white, in proportion to the white and black population of the city. And the state prison, the proportion of eleven to one white, in proportion to the population of the state. Bridewell contains 66 whites and 38 blacks; the state prison contains 455 whites, and 151 blacks: more than a fourth are blacks. At the penitentiary the proportion is supposed to be the same, no distinction being observed between black and white, the distinct numbers of each could not be obtained.

Hodgson also remarks, (another evidence well known to all who have observed,) that “in passing from a free to a slave-state in America, the change is instantly visible, even to the most careless eye, and nature seems to droop and sicken under the withering influence of slavery.”

† Suppose these 6000 to be parents, and that 1500 children are born annually, and that parents and children die annually at the rate of one out of forty: and there will be remaining, at the end of ten years, of the sixty thousand parents and their children, upwards of 121,000. It is therefore too low to call it 100,000, making all allowances.

142,000 in 1840 : 30,000 in 1850, being less than the number which would be removed the next ten years ; the removing 6000 a year amounting to the same as the removal of 100,000 once in ten years. All, therefore, but the aged, would be removed in less than forty years. But the rate of increase of those who remain after the first ten years, considering the class that is removed, would be less by considerable, the next ten ; so that although four years are nearly gone since the first census, if the work were commenced this year, they would all be removed within forty years.

The expense, if it were all met by the society, and they were removed to Africa, would not exceed 360,000 dollars annually, and would probably be less. But as many might be removed to Hayti, as one-fifth would defray their own expense, the expense would be greatly reduced. I have put the rate of expense the same as Paul Cuffee estimated it, who carried out the first colonists that left our country for Africa. Of 38 whom he carried out, 8 bore their own expenses which is more than one-fifth, and he wrote Mr. Mills that they could be carried out for \$60 each.

Vessels of 300 tons burthen might be fitted up so as to transport comfortably 250, and would make with ease two voyages in a year. But we will suppose they make two trips the year and transport only 200 at a time, it would require but 15 vessels to be employed. The yearly expense of these vessels for charter and stores for the 200 passengers, allowing the passage out to be six weeks, will be \$192,000, leaving \$163,000 to meet other expenses. Vessels of 300 tons can be chartered in this port, to make a voyage to Africa and back, all expenses of the crew and their supplies included, for \$3500 to \$4500. Say the cost of vessel is \$4000, the supplies necessary for 200 passengers, estimated at \$2 a week each for six weeks' voyage, \$2400, the cost of one voyage, will be \$6400 ; two voyages \$12,800 ; making the expense of transporting the 6000 in 15 vessels \$192,000. But this expense would be much reduced by freight back, or by chartering the vessels only for the outward voyage, and by engaging with the same owner for several voyages. The expense would be much diminished as the colony increased and trade commenced and increased between this and the colony. Coloured people too could be employed as transporters, and would be able to do it at a less rate than whites, as they have little share in other commerce. When the colony had become established and inviting, the spirit of emigration among them would be aroused, and they would seek out new places to settle ; such as Sierra Leone, the south of Africa and the east, Madagascar, Hayti, and Columbia for mulattoes. Thousands would go yearly to these various places—thousands would be seen seeking employment to gain the means of emigrating, impelled to it by the powerful motives of liberty and property. It is only necessary for a few of their own colour, in whom they can confide, to return to them from some colony or country, with the report of having found an inviting land of equality and comfortable livelihood ; and all this spirit of emigration would be aroused, all this would be seen. This is proved by the fact, that when Paul Cuffee returned, at least two thousand, in the vicinity of Boston, were desirous to have him carry them out to Sierra Leone ; it is confirmed also, by the recent fact, that 100 immediately offered their names to go to Mesurado, after Mr. Waring returned in August at Petersburg, Virginia : and corroborated still further by the fact, that the Society, notwithstanding all the disasters of their colony, have found no difficulty in obtaining colonists.

How soon then and how easy might a degraded people be exalted to the rights of men, a growing empire be founded in Africa, Africa receive the blessings of civilization and christianity, and be delivered from the horrid barbarities of the slave trade, and our own country from an unhappy race, neither bond nor free, who though among us are not of us, and instead of being a source of strength to the nation, enfeeble and endanger it. How soon might all this be done, if the nation would but listen to the voice of interest and humanity, and commence the work !”

Let the same process be adopted with the whole black population, and remove 30,000 yearly, and the whole will be removed within 50 years, allowing the rate of increase to diminish one per cent. every ten years, which it certainly would, considering the

class that is removed. And the yearly expense, if wholly borne by the society, will not exceed ONE MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS. But it would be diminished about one-fifth by what the emigrants would furnish themselves, and would be furnished them by owners of slaves who were colonized. That is, it would cost the nation less than one and a half millions to deliver itself from an evil that forebodes to be worse to our nation hereafter than British oppression was before the revolution, and to gain a glory more triumphant than that of our independence, as it would be less selfish in its character. And it can be gained without paying the bitterest part of the price, in conflict and blood. Let then the "debasement legacy of our *ancestors* immortalize their *posterity*" of this age, by its removal.

We admire the gallant Greeks. We rejoice at their success. We hope they will soon gain that liberty, to purchase which the blood of thousands, and years of conflict and war, they and we think, are not too dear a price. They have long been in bondage, and the time of their deliverance, we trust, is come. But will we not be consistent? Will we approve in them what we would not approve in a degraded population of our own nation? We too, like the Turks, are oppressing a hapless race. By our national compact, the constitution adopted by the north as well as the south, we are doing it. By public feeling and common consent of all, *north as well as south*, we hold them in degradation, and the freedom we give a few, gives them no release from being despised and treated with contempt. Though it may be mitigated, still it is *bondage*, in which we hold them. But we did not bring them into this state. It is our "debasement inheritance." Neither did the present Turks bring bondage upon the Greeks. But we think it is right they should feel the vengeance of an injured people breaking the yoke of oppression. Let us beware lest another rejoice over our nation, as we do at the losses of the Turks. There is but one way to prevent it. Let our nation then perform a deed more noble than any nation has yet boasted. Let us not leave it to our unhappy bondsmen to wrest from us their liberty at the point of the bayonet. Let us nobly give it them, give it so that the boon will be worth accepting. This we cannot do but by colonization. We must do it so, or the glory of the noblest deed a nation can perform, will never pour its bright effulgence on our future history.

CLIMATE.

The following facts and opinions in relation to the climate, are worthy of the attention of those who have feared it as an insurmountable obstacle. The climate did not destroy the eleven hundred blacks removed from Nova Scotia to Sierra Leone; nor has it destroyed those who have gone to our colony: on the contrary, most of them have been there two years, and enjoy usual health.

Mr. Burgess in his Address, published by the Parent Society, Nov. 1813, says,

“Africa has nothing in its climate to distinguish it from any other tropical region. The temperature is very uniform; not more hot than is often known in the United States, and is conducive to the health of the natives of the country. If the country were cleared and cultivated, there is no reason to doubt that it might be visited by foreigners with as much safety as South America, or the East or West Indies,” and confirms his own view by these extracts:

“Those who are acquainted with the soil and climate of the Gold Coast, and who have an equal knowledge of the West Indies, will, doubtless, agree in this opinion, that the Gold Coast has the advantage of the West India islands, not only in soil and climate, but in seasons.—*Meredith's Gold Coast, p. 3, Introduc.*”

“It will be found that on the equator, and about five or six degrees on either side of it, are the most temperate parts of tropical Africa. The sun has less power there than in more northerly or southerly situations, because he is more obscured throughout the year. At Tantumquerry, Winnebah, and Accra, countries situated east of Cape Coast, the heat has been very seldom known to exceed 87 degrees, and the quicksilver in Fahrenheit's thermometer has been observed as low as 74° at Winnebah, in June, July, August, and the greater part of September, and not higher than 78 degrees. Hence the latitude of a place is no criterion to go by, as to the heat of its climate. Experience informs us, that the climate of tropical countries vary, in proportion to their natural qualities, and to the extent cultivation is carried on. High lands also contribute to a temperature of air, &c.—*Idem. p. 2, 3.*”

“I think it would not admit of a doubt, that if a tract of land in Guinea was well improved as the island Barbadoes, and as perfectly free from trees, underwood, marshes, &c. the air would be rendered equally healthful there, as in that pleasant West India island.—*Doctor Lind on hot climates, in Meredith's Gold Coast of Africa, p. 40.*”—[Address, p. 52, 53.]

Extract of a letter from R. F. Stockton, Esq. to the Secretary of the Society, dated

U. S. Schooner Alligator, Boston, July 25, 1821.

“We have had an interesting cruise on the Coast, from the Shoals of the Great River to Cape Palmas: it was during the most unhealthy season, and under circumstances not the most flattering. Being in a very small vessel, we were often exposed to heavy rains, and occasionally encountered great fatigue. Notwithstanding which, we have returned in good health, only regretting that our cruise was so short, and that we accomplished so little of that which we promised ourselves. We had the fever on board, but in every instance it yielded to the skill of our surgeon, John W. Pearce, and his assistant T. W. Wiesen-
thal, to whose abilities and perseverance we all, in common gratitude, owe our thanks. Under these circumstances, I am bound to believe (my conclusions however are deduced from impressions rather than from unalterable opinions) that the horror for that coast, the hue and cry about the African fever, and the noise about the tornadoes, are but little else than a fable, generated by policy, listened to because wonderful, and propagated by the interested. As to the climate, it is true the air is warm, and I think that a constant exposure to the sun must be very debilitating. The thermometrical observations of this vessel, do

not show that the temperature of the air has ever been above eighty-five degrees, measured by Fahrenheit's thermometer; but, as the country is seldom refreshed by a cool invigorating breeze, the heat is more uniform and of longer duration, and from that cause, I think, arises its pestilence, and not from the immediate power of the sun. The heat is not beyond bearing for a while, but from its constancy must overcome any human constitution that is unwarily exposed to it during any length of time without relief. The fever, I think, may be more readily avoided, and if taken is not so dangerous, and may be more easily destroyed than that which infests many places in our own country. The tornadoes, as I saw and felt them, are inconsiderable and harmless, in comparison with squalls met with on parts of the American coast at particular seasons of the year. We may have been particularly favoured, and it is possible that all the dangers which persons are led to apprehend, do ordinarily possess that country. But I can assure you, the fever has not assumed a living shape; the winds are not saturated with pestilence; that even on the coast of Africa, oxygen forms a component part of the atmospheric air, and to inhale it is not certain death. We (for I think I am speaking the sentiments of my companions) respired as freely and enjoyed generally as good health as any country could have supplied us with. After examination and reflection, I honestly think that the climate presents all those obstacles which are the natural productions of a tropical soil uncleared and uncultivated, but that they will yield to proper precautions; and that nothing can prevent the consummation of your wishes but limited means, bad counsels, or feeble efforts. I wish you every success: I am more and more persuaded of the usefulness of your society: I believe it will be instrumental to ameliorate the condition of Africa. The unfeeling clan of Slave-Traders are still, and more *exultingly than ever*, draining "the dearest veins" of that country. Is such to continue to be their fate?—And will not Christendom put an end to it? Are they to be torn from their homes, from their friendships, from their forefathers' graves, while the *vultures* of the world are proclaiming *freedom*, and forming *coalitions for its security*? May the Father of Mercies take care of this oppressed people: and is it too uncharitable to hope that the hour of vengeance is approaching, when the hurricanes will "sweep from the deep" every sail that is spread for so unhallowed a purpose. My associates, most of whom were ready, (and I sincerely believe it,) to sacrifice on the altar of humanity, convenience, comfort, interest, and health, received encouragement to inform themselves on this subject: they were highly competent to the task, and will give, I have no doubt, any information within their knowledge.

I am, Gentlemen, with great respect, your obedient humble servant,
R. F. STOCKTON.

To the Committee from the Society for Colonizing the
Free People of Colour of the United States.

[5th Rep. p. 52.]

"Every day I bless anew, says Mr. Ashman, that favouring Providence, which eventually led your agents to establish the Settlement on Cape Montserado. Not an hour have I spent here without feeling the refreshing and salutary influences of a fresh breeze from the ocean. The Settlement can never be without it. When comfortable habitations are built, a foreigner would endanger his health by a residence here, no more than by spending the same time in sailing down the coast. I am confident we neither have experienced nor shall experience, more sickness on shore, than we should, lying off the coast. The crew of the brig, although, (unfortunately for us) nearly seven miles distant, have suffered at least as much as we.—Could a person from America spend one week of the rainy season on this coast, on board a ship or ashore, he would find no difficulty as to the great cause of fever to new comers.

"I will only say of the healthiness of Montserado, that no situation in Western Africa can be more salubrious. The sea air does all that can be done for it in this climate. One peculiarity is, that the night air is nearly as pure as any other. The fevers with which our company has been visited have all been nearly of the same type; quotidian and tertian intermittent; rather of the putrescent than inflammatory character; commonly gentle in degree, and easily subdued by remedies. Such has been the character of the sickness, so far. The violent symptoms of the Sherbro fever have not, in a solitary case, manifested themselves."—6th Report of the Parent Society, p. 35.

It has been objected by some, that the coloured people, when removed to Africa, would degenerate, and incorporate with the uncivilized natives. This is contrary to the history of all nations. Even barbarians, by conquering nations more civilized than themselves, have become civilized. Those who go from this country immediately find themselves so superior to the natives, that they can exert almost any influence over them. Every motive of interest, love of superiority, will prompt the colonists to maintain their ascendancy in civilization, if there were not the higher motives of Christianity to preserve them from degenerating. But surely we may expect Christianity will produce her happy effects, when we see the several denominations are already contributing their aid to send instruction with the colonists, several of whom are Christians of good standing in different denominations, are formed some of them into a church, have received some additions the past season by converts in the colony, and are all punctually and harmoniously attending upon the public duties of religion. They know too that they go from a land most proud of her free and exalting institutions. This will stimulate them to imitate our national character. The Society too must exert over them a most powerful influence, to aid their advancement in every useful art and wise institution that shall promote civilization. Facts are opposed to this objection. At Sierra Leone, they have not only not been disposed to join the natives, but themselves, though nothing but liberated slaves, a little time captured from their native homes, have rejoiced at the cruel traffic that brought them to Sierra Leone; and they have been joined by several hundreds from the surrounding tribes. They are strongly attached to their new government, and the natives about them are constantly becoming more and more civilized. At our own colony, though exposed to severe privations and hardships, they have manifested no desire to gain relief by joining the natives, but have the strongest attachment to the colony and its government. But an evidence that must remove all skepticism, both as to the danger of their degenerating or their incapacity to rise in character, and manage their own national concerns, is seen in Hayti. To these considerations the following, from the "Proceedings of the Church Missionary Society for Africa and the East," of England, published in 1820, will be interesting, and encouraging to the friends of humanity. It is under the head "Regent's Town," a town of liberated negroes, begun in 1813.

"Your Committee will venture to say, that when brought together at this place in the year 1813, the Negroes were, as on the first settling of them in other Towns, in the most deplorable condition. In 1816, the Assistant Secretary, then on a visit to the Mission, found about 1100 Liberated Negroes assembled at this spot. They consisted of persons from almost all the tribes on that part of the Continent. The efforts of those who had been placed over them, under the vigilant and anxious inspection of the Governor, had meliorated the condition of such as had been there for any length of time. Every measure in his power had been resorted to, for this end, by his Excellency; and a Church had been erected, in preparation for the regular administration of Christian Ordinances among them. His Excellency felt that a powerful stimulus was wanted, to rouse the Negroes to diligence; and that an energetic principle was required, which might harmonize their jarring feelings, and unite them as one body. That stimulus was found in the sense of duty and gratitude which Christianity inspires; and that uniting principle, in the healing spirit of the Gospel.

"At the desire of the Governor, Mr. Johnson was appointed to the care of Regent's Town, in the month of June, 1816.

"On looking narrowly into the actual condition of the people entrusted to his care, Mr. Johnson felt great discouragement. Natives of twenty-two different nations were here collected together; and a considerable number of them had been but recently liberated from the holds of slave vessels: they were greatly prejudiced against one another, and in a state of continual hostility, with no common medium of intercourse but a little broken English. When clothing was given to them, they would sell it, or throw it away: it was difficult to induce them even to put it on; and it was not found practicable to introduce it among them, till led to it by the example of Mr. Johnson's servant girl. None of them, on their first arrival, seemed to live in the state of marriage: some were soon afterwards married by the late Mr. Butscher; but all the blessings of the marriage-state and of female purity appeared, when Mr. Johnson arrived among them, to be quite unknown. In some huts, ten of them were crowded together; and, in others, even fifteen and twenty: many of them were ghastly as skeletons: six or eight sometimes died in one day; and only six infants were born during the year. Superstition, in various forms, tyrannized over their minds: many Devil's Houses sprung up; and all placed their security in wearing gree-grees. Scarcely any desire of improvement was discernible: for a considerable time, there were hardly five or six acres of land brought under cultivation; and some who wished to cultivate the soil, were deterred from doing so by the fear of being plundered of the produce. Some would live in the woods, apart from society; and others subsisted by thieving and plunder: they would steal fowls, ducks, and pigs, from any who possessed them: in the first week of his residence among them, Mr. Johnson lost thirty fowls: they would eat them raw; and not a few of them, particularly those of the Ebo Nation, the most savage of them all, would prefer any kind of refuse-meat to the rations which they received from Government. A sick dog had been killed and buried: it was afterwards discovered that some of these people had dug up and made soup of the carcass.

"But what was the condition of these people when Mr. Johnson left them, for a season, after the labour of three years? A full return had been made for the wise and benevolent measures of the Governor, and for the unwearied labours of their Pastor.

"The eye which beheld the people and their town but a few years before, would now witness a scene that would bespeak the energy of some mighty principle.

"The Town itself is laid out with regularity—nineteen streets are formed, and are made plain and level, with good roads round the town—a large stone Church rises in the midst of the habitations—a Government House, a Parsonage House, a Hospital, School Houses, Store Houses, a Bridge of several arches, some Native Dwellings, and other Buildings, all of stone, are either finished or on the point of being so. But the state of cultivation further manifests the industry of the people—all are farmers—gardens, fenced in, are attached to every dwelling—all the land in the immediate neighbourhood is under cultivation, and pieces of land even to the distance of three miles—there are many rice-fields; and, among the other Vegetables raised for food, are cassadas, plantains, coco, yams, coffee, and Indian Corn—of Fruits, they have bananas, oranges, limes, pine-apples, ground-nuts, guavas, and papaws—of Animals, there are horses, cows, bullocks, sheep, goats, pigs, ducks, and fowls—a daily market is held, for the sale of articles; and, on Saturdays, this market is large and general.

It has been already said that all are Farmers; but many of them, beside the cultivation of the ground, have learned and exercise various trades: 50 of them are masons and bricklayers—40, carpenters—30, sawyers—30, shingle-makers—20, tailors—4, blacksmiths—and 2, butchers. In these various ways, upward of 600 of the Negroes maintain themselves; and have been enabled, in this short space of time, by the fruits of their own productive industry, to relieve from all expense, on their personal account, that Government to which they pay the most grateful allegiance.

“The appearance and manners of the people have improved in an equal degree. They are all now decently clothed: almost all the females have learned to make their own clothing—about 400 couple are married—they were accustomed to spend their nights in dancing and drumming, after the heathenish fashion of their countries: not a drum is now left in the town—in six months, only six deaths occurred; while in three months, forty-two children were born—not an oath had been heard in the town, to Mr. Johnson’s knowledge, for the last twelve months; nor had any drunkenness been witnessed—the attendance on public worship is regular and large, three times on the Sunday; on an average, not less than 1200 or 1300 Negroes, while Mr. Johnson’s first congregation amounted but to nine: at Morning and Evening Daily Prayers, not less than 500 are present—the Schools, which opened with 90 Boys and 50 Girls with 36 Adults, now contain upward of 500 Scholars.”

“All have abandoned polygamy, greegrees, and Devil-worship. The baptized are in the habit of regularly partaking of the Lord’s Supper, unless prevented by illness; and when Mr. Johnson left, in April of last year, the number of Communicants amounted to 263.”

If such effects can be produced by Christian instruction, united with civilized institutions, on such degraded natives, what may we not most reasonably expect from the people of colour who enter the colony with such advantages as those have who go from our country, themselves already some instructed, and much acquainted with the institutions of civilization?

In addition, the following particulars, from Mr. Samuel J. Mills’ journal, kept while in Africa, agent for the Society, printed in the second Annual Report of the American Colonization Society, together with the account of the present state of Sierra Leone, taken from the appendix of Hodgson’s Letter to Say, will be most satisfactory in favour of colonization.

Extract from the Journal of the late Rev. Samuel John Mills, written while in Africa.

“Gambia, Friday, 13th March. ✓

“At 12 A. M. we anchored near the village St. Mary’s, situated on Banyan Point. In the afternoon we walked about the village. It is an infant settlement, commenced only two years ago. The people were cheerful, and generally employed in some kind of labour. Some were unloading goods; some burning shells for lime; and some at work in the carpenters’ and smith’s shops. We stood some time to see a company of soldiers go through the manual exercise. They were mostly Africans, above the ordinary stature, well formed, and neatly dressed. They appeared to be quite expert and intelligent. The military force of the place is about 100 men. A few pieces of cannon, mostly dismounted, are arranged along the beach. There is no fort or block-house. Notwithstanding the exposed state of the settlement, there is no fear of assault from the native tribes. The number of Europeans is about thirty, and the population of the village is already seven or eight hundred. Trade is the soul of the colony: this will increase annually, as the trade of the whole river will concentrate here.”—*Second Report of the Parent Society*, p. 20.

"We have had much conversation on the organization and government of the proposed colony. The natives need not be feared. They are not numerous, have few arms, timid in disposition, jealous of each other, and broken up into small, independent, elective governments. There is little reason to fear a general combination among them, and their strength would be small if they should combine together. If the Sierra Leone colony should continue favourable, and throw no obstacles in our way, that will keep the native people in awe. Should our settlement prosper, it will in two or three years be fully competent to defend itself without aid from our country; and previously to that time, a single armed sloop or brig, sent to execute the abolition laws, would give to our settlements perfect security. If the people were troublesome, fire a big gun out in the bay, and they would all fly to the bush, and not an individual be found."—*Ibid.* p. 38.

"Sierra Leone, Monday, 18th May, 1818.

"I have now visited most of the villages in the colony. Each village has a place of worship, where prayers are made, morning and evening, in the presence of the people. The Sabbath is observed through the colony.

"The Governor is justly esteemed as a father and patron of the colony.

"Respecting an American colony, he has at different times expressed the following opinions, which I am the more disposed to write down, as some of them deserve particular consideration: That, in the first instance, white men of intelligence and good character should occupy some of the principal offices: that the government should be mild and energetic: that forts would be necessary: that one hundred men, with arms, and some knowledge of discipline, could defend themselves from the natives: that the occasional visits of an armed vessel, engaged in detecting slave traders, would give entire security: that the neutrality of a colony could easily be ensured by an application to the European governments: that the first colonists should be men of sober and industrious habits, who will devote themselves to agriculture or to some of the useful mechanic arts: that, if expedient, the limits of this colony (Sierra Leone) might be enlarged to accommodate five or ten thousand emigrants from America: that it was particularly proper for the American government to commission an armed ship to this coast, to capture slave-trading vessels, as two-thirds of them are, or have been American: that the free people of colour would be better situated in Africa, than they are, or can soon expect to be, in America.

"I am every day more convinced of the practicability and expediency of establishing American colonies on this coast."—[*Ibid.* p. 66.

SIERRA LEONE.—*From Hodgson's Letter.*

"This Colony may be said to owe its origin to the liberality and benevolent exertions of the celebrated GRANVILLE SHARP. At the time when the decision of Lord Mansfield, in the memorable case of the Negro, Somerset, had established the axiom, that "*as soon as any slave sets his foot on English ground, he becomes free,*" there were many negroes in London who had been brought over by their masters. As a large proportion of these had no longer owners to support them, nor any parish from which they could claim relief, they fell into great distress, and resorted in crowds to their patron, Granville Sharp, for support.

"But his means were quite inadequate to maintain them all, even if such a plan had been desirable for the objects of his compassion, and "he formed a scheme for their future permanent support. He determined upon sending them to some spot in Africa, the general land of their ancestors, where, when they were once landed under a proper leader, and with proper provisions for a time, and proper implements of husbandry, they might, with but moderate industry, provide for themselves." "Just at this time, Mr. Smeathman, who had lived for some years at the foot of the Sierra Leone mountains, and who knew the climate, and nature of the soil and productions there, who had formed a plan for colonizing those parts, was in London, inviting adventurers, but particularly the black poor, to accompany him on his return to his ancient abode." Measures for this purpose were concerted by him and Granville Sharp, but Mr. Smeathman, who was to have conducted the black colonists, died before they sailed, and the care, and for some time the expense of this bold enterprise, devolved entirely on Mr. Sharp. Nothing could be more discouraging than the calamities which befell the undertaking from its very outset. Of 400 black people who left the Thames on the 22d Feb. 1787, under convoy of his majesty's sloop of war *Nautilus*, not more than 130 (who were afterwards reduced to 40) remained alive and in one body at the end of the rainy season, into which they had been

thrown by the death of Mr. Smeathman, notwithstanding Mr. Sharp's strenuous efforts to avoid it. Disaster followed disaster. Famine, disease, discontent, desertion, succeeded each other with frightful rapidity, till the year 1789, when the colony, again in a state of improvement, was almost annihilated by a hostile attack from a neighbouring chief. About that time a company was established in England for the purpose of carrying forward the benevolent views of the founder, which afterwards obtained a royal charter of incorporation. In 1792, about 1100 negroes arrived from Nova Scotia, under the command of Lieutenant Clarkson. These were negroes who had been induced to enlist in the British army during the American war, by an offer of freedom, and "who were afterwards carried to Nova Scotia, under a promise of regular allotments of land, which promise had unfortunately not been fulfilled;" the climate being unfavourable to them, they solicited and obtained permission to join the colony at Sierra Leone. In the year 1800, their numbers were increased by the arrival of 550 Maroons, who, having risen against the colonists of Jamaica, and been induced, by the terror of blood-hounds, to surrender, were carried to Nova Scotia, and subsequently to Sierra Leone. Of such elements, (to which have since been added the negroes liberated from the holds of captured slave ships,) was the colony of Sierra Leone composed; and nothing less than the extraordinary energy, fortitude, and perseverance of our illustrious countryman, could have saved it from the destruction with which it was so often menaced. "Certainly without him the Sierra Leone Company would not have been formed, and had he not supported the colony, when it so often hung as it were by a thread, till the formation of this Company, all had been lost." This is not the place to follow it through all the vicissitudes of its subsequent history, but as its actual condition is little known, I will give a few extracts from various authorities, which will enable the judicious reader to form his own opinion how far it is likely to realize the expectation of its illustrious founder, and to be "one day the means of spreading the benefits of civilization and Christianity through a considerable part of the vast continent of Africa."

"On the 31st Oct. 1787, Granville Sharp writes, "I have had but melancholy accounts of my poor little ill-thriven swarthy daughter, the unfortunate colony of Sierra Leone."

The following was the population in 1820 and 1822, as given in the Missionary Register of Dec. 1822.

	July 8, 1820,	Jan. 1, 1822,
Europeans	120	128
Maroons	594	601
Nova Scotians	730	722
West Indians and Americans,	—	85
Natives	1046	3526
Liberated Africans	8076	7969
Disbanded Soldiers	1216	1103
Kroomen	727	947
Total	12,509	15,081

"The chief increase is apparently in the class of natives, while that of liberated Africans seems to be somewhat diminished; but this is, in part, occasioned by a difference of arrangement in the two returns. "The large number of natives in the native villages of the Peninsula, amounting in the last return to 1825, would have been divided, according to the arrangement in the return of 1820—into natives, properly so called; that is, as we conceive, the Aborigines of the Peninsula; and liberated Africans, living in villages, but not under a superintendant. In the return of 1820, this distinction was made; and then the whole number, amounting to 1468, was divided into 400 of the first class, and 1068 of the second. Both classes being called "natives" in the last return, the number of liberated Africans appears to have diminished; while it has, in fact, greatly increased, independently of the addition of 1590 since the date of the last return. We collect from these data, that the number of liberated Africans, of all descriptions, in the colony, on the 1st of August, was upwards of ELEVEN THOUSAND.

"Still there is an increase of the class ranked as "natives" in the last return, to the amount of nearly 1000; of these about one-half are in Freetown, and the other half are chiefly resident in the settlements of the liberated Africans. This

augmentation is derived, we conceive, from the influx of people bordering on the colony; and is a gratifying indication of the growth of mutual confidence between the colony and its neighbours."

IMPORTS.		Invoice Amount.
" From Dec. 10, 1816, to Nov. 22, 1817		£75,716 6 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Nov. 23, 1817, to Dec. 10, 1818		94,799 14 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dec. 11, 1818, to Dec. 31, 1819		80,863 6 11 $\frac{3}{4}$
Jan. 1, 1820, to Dec. 31, 1820		66,725 9 4
Jan. 1, 1821, to Dec. 31, 1821		105,060 15 10

EXPORTS.		No. of Vessels employed in exporting.	Tonnage.	Logs of African timber exported.	Tons of Rice exported.
" From Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1817		17	2990		
Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1818		22	3659	1517	278
Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1819		27	5875	2556	1228
Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1821		26	6805	4736	42

" Comparative Statement of Duties collected in the colony of Sierra Leone, for the undermentioned periods.

" From Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1817	£3086	3	7
Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1818	5124	1	3
Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1819	4656	2	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1820	6153	5	6
Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1821	6318	4	7

J. REFFELL,

Acting Collector and Naval Officer."

At the moment I am writing, there are at least three vessels on the birth in this port, for Sierra Leone.

Extract from Commodore Sir George Collier's Second Annual Report upon the Settlements on the Coast of Africa, relative to the Colony of Sierra Leone.

" Indeed, the colony of Sierra Leone has been so differently represented, so much has been urged against its rising prosperity, and proposals said to have been made for its abandonment, that I consider myself (as an impartial person) the one from whom opinions and remarks may be expected. The climate of Sierra Leone is, like all other tropical climates, divided into a sickly season, and one not positively so: for it may be too much to speak of Sierra Leone as ever absolutely healthful." He then proceeds to speak of various topics particularly connected with the nature of his survey. Alluding to the schools and churches, he says, " The manner in which the public schools are here conducted, reflects the greatest credit upon those concerned in their prosperity; and the improvement made by the scholars, proves the aptitude of the African, if moderate pains be taken to instruct him. I have attended places of public worship in every quarter of the globe, and I do most conscientiously declare, never did I witness the ceremonies of religion more piously performed, or more devoutly attended to, than in Sierra Leone."

In his report dated 27th December, he observes, " The public buildings have not advanced so rapidly as I believe had been expected; but it is, nevertheless, gratifying to observe, that the roads in the neighbourhood of Freetown, and those in the mountains, have been much improved, and that the bridges have been constructed of more durable materials than heretofore. Upon the whole, Sierra Leone may be said to be improving; and if the encouragement hitherto shown shall be continued to the British merchant, no reason appears to me why this colony shall not, in the course of time, amply repay the anxiety, and care, and expense, so liberally bestowed by the mother country. Every year, some new prospect opens to the merchant. An intercourse with the interior of Africa now fairly promises ultimate success, and which must be productive of benefit to Great Britain; and it may even be expected that, some years hence, caravans shall resort to the neighbourhood of Porto Logo, (on a branch of the Sierra Leone,) to convey articles of British manufacture into the very interior of the continent of Africa."

Extract of a letter from Capt. H. Turner, dated the 7th March, 1822.

" I visited the colony of Sierra Leone in the year 1817. My stay among the recaptured negroes in the mountains then was very short, but sufficient to ascertain they were involved in heathen darkness and barbarity.

“Having again visited them in December, 1821, I am able, in some measure, to estimate the great change since the former period, both in a moral and religious point of view, through the exertions of your missionaries, and the blessing of Almighty God upon their labours, without which all would have been ineffectual.

“Regent’s Town, under the direction of the Rev. Mr. Johnson, was then but thinly inhabited.

“Regent’s Town now wears the aspect of a well-peopled village in our happy land; its inhabitants civilized, industrious, honest, and neatly clothed. The ground allotted to each family is cultivated, each lot being distinctly marked out. I have frequently ascended an eminence near the town to behold the pleasing scene on the Sabbath-day—hundreds pressing on to the house of God, at the sound of the bell, hungering after the bread of life. Nothing but sickness prevents their attendance now. What a lesson does this teach many in Britain, who count the Sabbath a burden, and either spend it in indolence and sloth, or in visiting and riot!”

Extract of a letter from Edward Fitzgerald, Esq. Chief Justice of the Colony of Sierra Leone, dated the 3d May, 1821.

After giving an interesting and detailed account of the various places of public worship within the colony, the Chief Justice then proceeds: “In a general view, the observances which have been noticed, will probably be thought sufficient to create a favourable impression of the state of religious feeling and demeanour in the settlement of Freetown. The Lord’s day is more decorously kept than it is in most other places. The shops are all shut; there is no such thing as buying and selling. The Christian part of the people attend worship at the places which they have respectively chosen; and all the congregations are alike remarkable for uniform and respectful attention. Throughout the streets corresponding propriety is noticed: intoxication, in the gross and disgusting form in which it is so commonly seen on the Lord’s day in England, is of very rare occurrence here, with the painful exception of European seamen, whose conduct and language in their frequent inebriations, on that day especially, are of most depraving example. It is not to be understood that the day passes in *perfect* sobriety; among the inhabitants in general, it is the decency, and not the abstinence, that makes the distinction. Excesses are committed, and are generally brought under the animadversion of the magistrates on the Monday, in consequence of the quarrels occasioned by them: but these quarrels are almost universally of a trifling nature. There is not any thing in the circumstances collectively to detract from the credit that has been taken.”

Extract of a letter from the Rev. H. Daring, Superintendent of Gloucester Town, Sierra Leone, dated 28th December, 1821.

“The reception which his excellency Sir C. M’Carthy met with among the people under our care, has indeed been feebly stated in the Gazette, as the editor also honestly owns.

“The Captain, in whose vessel the Governor had come, was struck with astonishment. He (the captain) had seen much of the negroes, having been in Jamaica, and asked what time the settlement had been formed? When told in the beginning of 1817, he smiled, and said to the Governor, Sir Charles M’Carthy, ‘If I knew not your Excellency to be a man of honour, I should think myself greatly imposed on; and I must candidly confess, I can hardly believe it now!’ His Excellency then pointed out to him the way he first came to this place, and the old trees lying about the town, cut down three or four years ago, as evidences of the truth. ‘But,’ said the captain, ‘what sort of people were they with which it was commenced?’ I pointed out to him some who were sent here in the beginning of November, that, looking at their emaciated state of body, he might form some idea of those with whom I began, and who only then were sixty-two in number, twenty of whom died ere scarcely a month had elapsed! He then inquired what method we had pursued to bring them to such a state in so short a time. ‘No other,’ said his Excellency, ‘than the truths of Christianity, which these gentlemen were sent by the Church Missionary Society to propagate: by this alone they have ruled them, and have raised them to a common level with other civilized nations; and, believe me,’ added his Excellency, ‘if you admit Christian teachers into your island, you soon will find them become affectionate and faithful servants to you!’

" Things as they now appear, humanly speaking, never wore so bright and pleasant an aspect; for there were individuals, and are now at this moment, who always were endeavouring to undermine the credit of the Society, as well as that of the colonial government, as it respects the captured negroes; but sure it is, there never was such an opportunity for observation—never were the prejudices more effectually removed from the minds of many European colonists, and never had the Society gained more credit in the colony, even in the minds of those individuals alluded to, than through the present events; as you, I trust, will see in the Report of the Sierra Leone Association in aid of the Church Missionary Society, the collections and contributions to which amount to nearly 200 pounds."

Extracts from the Third Annual Report of the American Society for Colonizing the Free People of Colour of the United States.

" What the Society propose to do with regard to colonizing, is to procure a suitable territory on the Coast of Africa, for such of the free people of colour as may choose to avail themselves of this asylum, and for such slaves as their proprietors may please to emancipate.

" So far is this scheme from being impracticable, that one resembling it in all respects, was accomplished by a private society in England, more than thirty years ago.

" In despite of every representation to the contrary, the colony of Sierra Leone boasts, at this moment, a greater degree of prosperity, than distinguished any one of the British Colonies, now the United States of America, at the same period after its first plantation. The population of Sierra Leone; its commerce and navigation; its churches, schools, and charitable institutions; its towns and hamlets; its edifices, public and private; surpass those of any one of these states, at any time within twenty-five years from its first settlement."

It is for the reader to estimate the value of the preceding authorities, and to draw from them his own conclusions with regard to the present state and future prospects of Sierra Leone. It is for him also to decide how far the prosperity of a community formed of such unpromising materials, may be regarded as an exemplification of what the negro race may exhibit when rescued from slavery: how far such a colony of Africans, of many nations and languages, educated on their own shores, with civil rights, political privileges, and religious advantages, and in frequent communication with their countrymen from the interior, is calculated to civilize Africa; how far it may be expected to send forth, through a thousand channels, those fertilizing streams which will clothe the moral deserts of that injured Continent with verdure and beauty."

(C.)

EFFECTS OF THE COLONY.

It will aid to suppress the Slave Trade.

Extract from an Address to the American Colonization Society, Nov. 1818.

" The slave-trade continues in Africa. To the grief of good men and the disgrace of bad, it is carried on openly or secretly at many places on the coast, where the eye of justice is not widely open and the arm of power visibly extended. A thousand thanks is due to the English colony of Sierra Leone, to its founders and patrons, for their persevering and useful labours in executing the abolition laws. But what can one colonial brig do in guarding a coast of two or three thousand miles? A ship might cross and almost recross the Atlantic to take in a second cargo, before she could advance against current and trade-winds from the Gulf of Guinea to the Senegal. If previous preparation were made on the shore, a ship might run along a cape or into a river, and take in a cargo of slaves in a single week, and almost in a single night. In addition to the colonial brig, an English ship has passed down the coast about once a year. How inadequate are these means to the complete execution of the laws! All present laws may continue in force, and the slave-trade go on indefinitely.

" A colonization of the free people of colour of the United States in Africa will operate, in several ways, directly against this trade. It will take away its

grand temptation with the native princes and people, by introducing those articles of foreign produce and manufacture to which they have become accustomed, and have few means of obtaining except by the sale of slaves. It may lead some of our vessels to engage in an honourable trade along the coast. It may be found convenient that some of our armed ships should occasionally visit stations on that continent. The people of colour themselves, taught in the school of experience, will surely exert their influence by persuasion, example and instruction, to effect its ruin. Though a single colony could not look far up or down the coast, yet a few colonies like Sierra Leone would do much to guard the coast. Colonization may be regarded as one principle means, by which this scourge of Africa will be destroyed, this blot of humanity washed away, for ever."

Extract from a letter, dated Mesurado, December 16, 1821, by Lieut. Stockton to the Secretary.

"I am anxious that this letter may be conveyed to you by the first opportunity, and take the earliest moment to enclose copies of the written instruments, which were signed yesterday and to-day; by which a tract of land and some houses at Cape Mesurado, have been ceded to the American Colonization Society.

"The slave-trade (in the destruction of which the nation as well as the government are so sincerely and zealously engaged) has received, by the purchase you have made at Mesurado, a fatal blow; under which it may indeed linger some time, but must eventually expire."*

"* The first act of the *new order of things* at Mesurado was, to declare that the slave-trade was contrary to the law of nature; and a violation of "*jus gentium*:" that all persons, *native born*, or foreigners, so engaged, should be considered "*hostes humani generis*," and if prosecuted and convicted in our high Court of Admiralty, should be capitally condemned and punished."

[5th Report, p. 69.]

It carries civilization to Africa.

It is an asylum for recaptured slaves, taken by our government in executing its laws against the slave trade, and already contains fifteen of these injured beings.

It gives a home of freedom without contempt, to the degraded free blacks of our country.

It will promote emancipation of the slaves of our country.

"The past year" (1822) say the Managers of the parent Society, in their last report, "has also afforded evidence, to corroborate the opinion, expressed by the Board in their former Reports, that many extensive proprietors of slaves will emancipate their servants, and aid in their transfer to Africa, as soon as the colony shall be prepared for their reception. The Managers cannot determine the extent of this liberal disposition; but when they reflect upon the frequency of manumissions, wherever the law has imposed no restriction, when they consider the power of example, in whatever concerns the honourable and generous of human character, and especially, when they recollect the institutions of their country, and the light of the age, they are induced to expect, that should prosperity attend the colony, thousands now in servitude amongst us, will one day be freemen in the land of their ancestors."—6th Report, p. 15.

Several applications of owners to give up their slaves to the Society, are now before the Board, waiting for the colony to be so established, as to receive this unhappy class of our population.

In 1815, the Convention of Manumission and Abolition Societies at Philadelphia was applied to, to receive several hundreds of slaves, attended with large donations of money; but the Convention was compelled to give to these generous owners of slaves, the unwelcome answer, that it could not receive them.

Although the great majority of slave-owners may be determined to perpetuate slavery in our country, it is certain there is a noble and increasing minority who are solicitous to emancipate their slaves, and strongly desirous to rid the country of this foul reproach. But by the state laws they are prevented from giving freedom to their bondmen. This Society is their only hope of relief. Hence, though there are some engaged in this Society, who openly contend for slavery,

but believe it would be a benevolent object to colonize the free blacks, as they are even more degraded and despised in the slave-states than the slaves, and are most miserable, many of the most efficient members and most liberal benefactors of this Society, are men who have slaves they wish to manumit. Many of the patrons of this Society at the south, who are deploring the bitter evils of slavery, are satisfied it would not be for the happiness of the slaves, nor the benefit of our country, were the slaves even gradually emancipated, if they must remain here, and are therefore looking to colonization as the only remedy.

The Society affording such facilities for emancipation, has been assailed by the friends of slavery as an abolition society. It has, therefore, in most explicit language, assured the south that it did not aim to require any to give up their slaves, but to relieve some from being *compelled* to keep them. When freed, it offers its aid to give them a land of equal rights and desirable privileges; and thus assists emancipation. It is simply a Society to colonize *free* blacks. But objects so immense are promoted by such colonization, that, it would seem, it ought not to have found opposition any where. When such men as Mills, and Finley, and Paul Cuffee, were its active friends till death, it should not have found opposition where people call themselves Christians—certainly not at the north.

“It would go far,” say the Managers in their third Report, and it *ought* to go far, “towards extinguishing the prejudices existing in the northern sections of the Union, if the fact were generally known, that in the two slave-holding states of Maryland and Virginia, where so many motives of policy conspire to retard, or to prevent emancipation, there were sixty-three thousand free people of colour at the census of 1810: that within a few years past, more than five hundred slaves have been emancipated in Virginia, by three individuals only.

“When it is recollected that all the free people of colour south of Pennsylvania owe their liberation to the VOLUNTARY ACTS of their former masters, it will not be deemed an extravagant deduction, to infer from these facts, that, when, by colonizing the free people of colour, every political restraint upon emancipation shall have been removed, there will be found no sordid impediment to the colonization of Africa, in the propensities of the southern proprietor.

“Such, indeed, for the last thirty or forty years, has been the disposition of many individuals in the southern states, to emancipate their slaves; and so many have actually been emancipated, that the different legislatures, consulting for the general good, and deeming it highly injurious to the community that such numbers of degraded beings, without education and without property, should be thrown upon society, have entirely prohibited the right of emancipation to individuals, except on the condition of sending their slaves into some other state. The states of Pennsylvania and Ohio are the nearest asylums which will receive such; and accordingly, the five hundred mentioned above, have been directed to these states.

“If emancipation is still going on, notwithstanding all the restrictions, and by evasions of the laws, and while the condition of the free men of colour affords so little inducement to the master to discard from his care those who depend upon him for protection, what may not be expected if Africa should prove to be to them what America is to us—a land of plenty and of freedom?

“The Managers of the Society, from the repeated assurances which have been given by respectable individuals, as well as by what has actually occurred, are firmly persuaded that this effect will be produced, and that many will, so soon as the Society shall deem it proper to permit such a step, place under its direction those whom they no longer wish to retain in servitude.”—pp. 99, 100.

If there were not other immense objects promoted by colonization, there would be a claim on the north to aid such men to deliver themselves from the evil and guilt of holding slaves, and it would be nobly generous to do it, if there were no claim. But let the north remember, that it assisted not a little to make these men slave-holders; that the odium of slavery rests on the whole nation, and that all are interested to pursue a course that promises to remove some at least of this national opprobrium, as much as all are interested in the honour and prosperity of the nation. It is therefore a national, and not a sectional, object, as it truly is “an enterprise, looking to results as grand and as glorious as were ever effected by human exertion; that would exterminate a trade, the thought of which is agony; cover Africa with the monuments of civilization and the Light of Truth; remedy an evil, in its nature most distressing, in its influence most injurious, and which threatens to convulse our country; and thus render stainless the honour, and eternal the stability, of the freest and the happiest nation on earth.”—6th Report, p. 23.

CIRCULAR.

The Board of Managers of the American Colonization Society, powerfully urged by the necessities and importance of their institution, beg leave respectfully and earnestly to invite you, Christian friends, to aid their benevolent design.

The proper season for emigration has now arrived; many respectable coloured persons are ready to depart: and loudly does the Colony and the American nation demand from our Society immediate, bold, and vigorous action. Of the practicableness of their plans, the Board entertain no doubt. An adequate and suitable territory has been obtained—there is, to coloured people, nothing formidable in the climate; and the settlement at Montserado has been commenced with the strongest probabilities (unless culpably neglected) of security and success. Indeed, the impression of the power and courage of civilized men, made by the recent contest on the minds of the barbarians, together with the existing fortifications, will, without doubt, prevent any recurrence of hostilities. Multitudes are anxious to visit the Colony, and this number is daily augmented.

Christians! The object of our Society is, to rescue the free coloured people of this country, from degradation, ignorance, and vice, and to confer on them, in the land of their ancestors, true freedom, the knowledge, which civilizes and exalts, and the religion that saves the soul: to kindle a light on a dark and barbarous shore, and to plant the Cross there; and thus emancipate from superstition, innumerable tribes, and bring them to adore and obey the living God: and finally, by the influence of our publications, and by demonstrating that the plan of Colonization, is both practicable and desirable; to prepare the way for such legislative enactments, as shall deliver our country from the immense evil of slavery—a work, which must contribute most largely to the interest of humanity, our national honour, and the glory of God.

Great as this work may appear, Heaven has unquestionably decreed its accomplishment; and the Colonization Society rejoice to commence it, though they must leave its completion to a future age.

The Board have determined to fit out one or two vessels immediately, from Petersburg or Richmond, Va; and they venture to ask their friends to furnish them with the means. They are not unmindful of the fact, that numerous important objects now claim your charitable attention and support, and they cannot expect large contributions; but they trust you will recollect, that He who is the Light of the Gentiles and the Glory of Israel, came to bring those who sit in darkness out of the prison-house, and that in His reign, Ethiopia must stretch out her hands unto God. A mere mite from each individual, will effect the immediate object proposed in this letter; and he who gives it from a sense of duty, shall in no wise lose his reward.

RALPH RANDOLPH GURLEY,

Agent for the Board.

WASHINGTON CITY, October 15th, 1823.

☞ The Agent for this vicinity will add, that 120 colonists are ready—that this expedition will soon depart—and that donations to aid it can be left at Mr. J. P. HAVENS', 102 Broadway, New-York.

L. D. DEWEY, Agent.

