

FORTY-NINTH
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

American Colonization Society

WITH THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE

ANNUAL MEETING

AND OF THE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS,

January 16, 1866.



WASHINGTON:
COLONIZATION SOCIETY BUILDING,
Cor. Pennsylvania Avenue and 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ Street.
1866.

American Colonization Society.

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SPRING AND FALL EXPEDITIONS.

The American Colonization Society will send a vessel to Liberia on the first day of May and the first day of November, provided there are emigrants offering in sufficient numbers to justify it in doing so. Those wishing to remove to that Republic, or any knowing such, are requested to promptly communicate with either the Financial or the Corresponding Secretary of the Society.

THE AFRICAN REPOSITORY,

Published on the first of every month, is the official organ of the American Colonization Society. It is intended to be a record of the Society's proceedings, and of the movements made in all parts of the world, for the civilization and evangelization of Africa. It is sent without charge, when requested, to the Officers of the Society and of its Auxiliaries, to Life Members, and to Annual Contributors of Ten Dollars and upwards to the funds of this Society. To subscribers it is supplied at the low price of One Dollar per annum, payable in advance. Remittances are requested to be made for it in GREENBACKS, to the address of either the Financial or the Corresponding Secretary of the Society.

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FORTY-NINTH
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American Colonization Society,

JANUARY 16, 1866.

It is a cause of devout gratitude to the Almighty Ruler of the Universe, that we meet under the happy auspices that smile upon this—the Forty-Ninth Anniversary of the American Colonization Society. “Grim-visaged war hath smoothed his wrinkled front,” and peace again beams upon our beloved land. Let us lift up cheerful hearts before our Preserver, and with thanks for the past, pledge ourselves to higher devotion for the future.

OBITUARY NOTICES.

Four of the Vice-Presidents—two of them Life Directors of the Society—DAVID HUNT, ESQ., JAMES RAILEY, ESQ., DANIEL TURNBULL, ESQ., and HON. THOMAS CORWIN—have been removed by death. They were its early and steadfast friends and generous supporters: men eminent for their virtues and enlarged philanthropy.

Others of the zealous friends of the Society have also passed to their reward: HEZEKIAH HUNTINGTON, ESQ., Secretary of the Connecticut Colonization Society; DR. LYNDON A. SMITH, Secretary of the New Jersey Colonization Society, both of whom have been repeatedly members of the Board of Directors, and whose lives were filled with earnest efforts to advance the Redeemer's kingdom;

Obituaries.—The Treasury.

MRS. LYDIA H. SIGOURNEY, who devoted her purse as well as her pen to forwarding this and other enterprizes that received her commendation; EBEN FAIRCHILD, ESQ., a regular giver, and in his will largely remembering the Society; GERARD HALLOCK, ESQ., a life-long and able advocate of the cause; and PRESIDENT LINCOLN, by his proposal to Congress to recognize the Nationality of Liberia, and by opening diplomatic intercourse and the formation of a liberal treaty between the mother and daughter Republics, deserves to be regarded as an illustrious benefactor.

From Liberia comes the sad intelligence of the death of three of her prominent citizens:—REV. BOSTON J. DRAYTON, long a zealous Missionary of the Baptist Church, and lately Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Republic—drowned in the surf near Cape Palmas: REV. BEVERLY R. WILSON, for over thirty years a devoted Missionary of the Methodist E. Church, and frequently honored with high public trusts: and HON. STEPHEN A. BENSON, who accompanied his parents to Monrovia, they being among its earliest settlers. Consequently he grew with the country, and filled with marked distinction the position of Judge, Senator, Vice President and, for eight years, President of the Republic. General sorrow was expressed in Liberia at the passing away of men so distinguished.

THE TREASURY.

The balance in the treasury, at the commencement of the year, was \$1,523.33. The receipts have been, from Donations \$5,688.27, and from Contributions for the Barbados Expedition \$1,504.76; from Legacies \$5,737.08; from the Government of the United States, being final payment for the support of Recaptured Africans landed in Liberia in 1860-61, \$6,962.50; from Loans recalled to meet expenses of emigration, \$14,700.00, and from other sources \$10,703.26, making the total amount received during the year, \$46,819.20.

Emigration of the Year.—The Barbados Expedition.

The disbursements for the same period were \$41,737.87, of which \$9,259.56, was for passage and the usual support, &c., of American Emigrants, and \$10,367.98 was for the Barbados Expedition, leaving the cash on hand January 1, 1866, \$5,081.34. Of this latter \$4,885.37 is awaiting the order of the authorities of Liberia, and the balance, \$195.97, is to the credit of the Society.

EMIGRATION OF THE YEAR.

The annexed table shows the number of emigrants sent to Liberia by the Society during the past twelve months—exceeding the emigration of any year since 1856:

VESSELS.	SAILED FROM.	TIME OF SAILING.	NUMBER OF EMIGRANTS.
Barque Greyhound.....	New York.....	January 16, '65.	1
Brig M. A. Benson.....	Boston.....	February 9, '65.	1
Brig Cora.....	Barbados.....	April 6, 1865.	346
Barque Thomas Pope.....	New York.....	June 3, 1865.	7
Schooner H. P. Russell..	Baltimore.....	November 4, '65.	172
			527

Those by the Greyhound and the M. A. Benson were respectively Nicholas Augustus, a blacksmith by trade: and Joseph John Blyden, brother of the present learned Secretary of State of Liberia, a steam-engine boilermaker by occupation; both natives of the Danish Island of St. Thomas, W. I., who came to this country at their own expense, and were provided a passage to Monrovia by the Society.

THE BARBADOS EXPEDITION.

At the last Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors, it was
 “Resolved, That the sum of ten thousand dollars be appropriated by this Society, to be expended as the Executive Committee shall direct, for the purpose of aiding emigration from Barbados to Liberia.”

The Barbados Expedition.

The Executive Committee promptly took measures to carry out the novel and interesting trust thus committed to them. The advice of active friends of the cause and of this movement, of merchants engaged in trade between this country and Barbados, and of gentlemen who had resided on or visited that Island, were sought and much valuable information obtained. The Committee, at its meeting held February 1st, directed the Rev. William McLain, D. D., Financial Secretary of the Society, to proceed to Barbados, delegating to him the necessary power to act in the premises.

Dr. McLain embarked February 24th, at Philadelphia, on the brig Eclipse, and arrived at Bridgetown, the port of entry of Barbados, on the 11th of March, after a pleasant voyage of fifteen days. He was received with indications of regard and gratitude, and succeeded in every respect much beyond what was expected. He found that hundreds were anxious to go to the African Republic, while he experienced no little embarrassment in making a selection from the waiting applicants.

So desirous were many of these people to remove to Africa, that on the 14th February, before intelligence of the action of this Board could reach the Island, the Chairman, Vice-President, and Secretary of "The Barbados Company for Liberia," with several of its members, numbering in all sixteen persons, embarked on a small vessel chartered by the British Government to transport Recaptured Africans from her colonies in the West Indies to Sierra Leone. It is stated that they "regretted they could wait no longer." They arrived safely at their place of destination, and some of them have since reached Monrovia.

Large deputations of the two organizations, viz: "The Barbados Company for Liberia," and "The Fatherland Union Barbados Emigration Society for Liberia," were received by Dr. McLain shortly after his arrival, and a free and full conference had. The extent of

The Barbados Expedition.

the means at his disposal for their colonization was made known, and it was unanimously chosen by those intended to be benefited, that these ought to be used rather for the transfer of as many persons as possible, than that any portion should be applied for the comfort and support of a limited number—say one hundred and fifty—after their arrival in Liberia. The universal sentiment and feeling was that they could take care of themselves after landing.

A serious difficulty now presented:—no vessel was in port or expected suitable for the carriage of emigrants. Several days passed by, when to the joy of all interested in the movement, the superior brig *Cora* anchored in the harbor, about the 25th of March, seeking business. She proved to be admirably adapted for the purpose, and was commanded by one of the most skillful and kind masters that ever trod a quarter-deck. A charter at reasonable rates was concluded, and she was speedily prepared for the accommodation of three hundred and twenty emigrants, and liberally furnished for a passage of sixty days. Provisions for the support for at least the same period after reaching Monrovia were, with what were supposed to be three hundred and thirty-three persons, got on board, and everything made ready to sail on the evening of the 5th of April.

The departure of the *Cora* was, however, delayed until the following day, to allow a Commission ordered by the Governor of the Island to survey her: and for the English Admiral commanding on that station, to enable his first Executive officer to make an examination of "how the Queen's subjects were provided for." These Commissions thoroughly performed their duties and reported that the vessel was finely fitted out, and bountifully supplied with medicines, food, water, fuel, cooking utensils, and all things requisite for the people on the voyage.

The passage to Monrovia was a pleasant one, and made in thirty-

The Barbados Expedition.

three days—without serious sickness, or a single death! Instead of three hundred and thirty-three passengers, as was supposed, the Captain landed three hundred and forty-six persons in good health: being forty-six more than was arranged with the representatives of the two Associations already named should go, twenty-six more than berths had been provided for on board, and thirteen more than answered to their names when called prior to the sailing of the vessel!

The cargo and passengers of the *Cora*, were consigned to Mr. Henry W. Dennis, the Society's Agent at Monrovia, who was instructed to transfer them to the authorities of Liberia. Among them were coopers, carpenters, shoemakers, a wheelwright, printer and teachers, with several who thoroughly understood the cultivation of the Cane and manufacture of sugar, and the culture and preparation of all kinds of tropical products. A large proportion were the professed followers of Christ, prompted by the love of souls, as well as the desire to improve their temporal condition. They were mainly Episcopalians, Wesleyans and Moravians:—the Episcopalians being the most numerous.

Under date of Government House, Monrovia, May 13, President Warner wrote as follows:—"I have your letter dated Barbados, April 3, introducing to me Captain William Henderson of the brig *Cora*, which arrived here on the 10th of the present month, bringing us a company of emigrants from the Island of Barbados. They are all landed, three hundred and forty-six in number, not one having died on the passage out.

As far as my observations have gone, the people just landed seem, upon the whole, to be a well selected company, and may be regarded as a valuable acquisition to our young Republic. To your large experience in the kind of materials required here for the upbuilding of this offspring of American philanthropy, and the further development of the country and the character of the people in it, and your sagacity in selecting those materials, is due the very respectable and promising immigration with which we have just been favored.

The Barbados Expedition.

The Government of this Republic feels very grateful to the Society for the great interest it has taken in its West Indian emigration enterprise, both as it regards the pecuniary means it has furnished and the happy selection of the emigrants sent out."

President Warner again says, August 21 :

"My opinion of the company of Barbadians is that they will do well, and will prove as valuable an acquisition to the country as the same number of the American population that have come into it have done. On this question, however, there is amongst us a diversity of opinion—some favoring the American side of the question ; others, the West Indian side.

The majority of the company are located on the Carysburg road, about four miles from the St. Paul's river. Some few, who were attacked by fever before they could be removed from the city, are still here, but will be sent to the place of their destination as soon as they are sufficiently convalescent to undergo the fatigue of travelling.

These people are of industrious habits, pious, seemingly, withal. I learn that many of them have already fine gardens coming on just about their present temporary home—the Receptacle on the road."

The last Report of the New York State Colonization Society thus forcibly points out the valuable lesson which the spirit of emigration in the West Indies develops as bearing on the future condition, wants, and feelings of the colored people of the United States :

"We hail this event as highly auspicious for the future welfare of Liberia and the civilization of Africa. These emigrants have enjoyed personal liberty for thirty years, in one of the most beautiful West India Islands, under the colonial government of Great Britain, where laws made no invidious or disqualifying distinctions of color, where their numbers secured a large amount of social comfort ; and yet they longed for a higher theatre of action, and had made up their minds that Liberia, the black man's Republic on the black man's native continent, above all other places, could satisfy their desire. May we not accept this as indicative of the final

 A Gifted Lawyer.

judgment of the multitudes of the African race recently emancipated in these United States? May we not justly conclude, that hereafter, when a clearer view of the claims of humanity and Christianity prevail, thousands of them will call upon us to aid them to plant colonies and spread Christian civilization and freedom along the whole African coast?"

A GIFTED LAWYER.

Among the emigrants sent by the Society in June last was Mr. Henry W. Johnson, of Canandaigua, New York. By occupation a barber, but in the face of obstacles such as would turn back a man of more than ordinary perseverance, Mr. Johnson acquired a knowledge of the law, and was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of the State of New York. Mr. Johnson removed to Liberia, believing that in that field he can accomplish more for the political and social equality of his race, than in America. In a letter written at Monrovia, 10th August, he thus expresses his impressions and appreciation of his adopted country:

"I am happy to inform you that, after a very pleasant voyage of thirty-six days, we arrived at Monrovia, Sunday, July 9, about 4 o'clock p. m. No accident happened during the journey. We have been very kindly treated by all the prominent citizens of Monrovia.

You are, perhaps, anxious to know how I like Africa. I am very much pleased with it so far. It is a noble country. I am also pleased with the people. I am very happily disappointed with the progress and present state of this infant Republic. Here their pecuniary interests have been very much affected by our war, but still I see many evidences of prosperity, industry, and enterprise among the people. They have the manly bearing of *highminded and intelligent freemen!* They look and act like men who know *and have no superior but their Maker.* They are successfully solving the great problem in regard to the capacity of the black man for self-government; they are working out their own destiny in the land of their

The Lynchburg Emigration Society.

forefathers. With the help of God they will succeed in spite of all opposition.

The Republic of Liberia is no longer a myth, existing only in the brain of the enthusiast. It is a sober reality—a solemn fact. The only question is—shall it, for want of aid and emigration from abroad, remain for some time weak and feeble, or shall it speedily become great and powerful? *Black men of America!* what a shame that you do not come here and *aid the young Republic*. Eternal disgrace to you, if this government is allowed to languish and die for the want of your aid."

THE LYNCHBURG EMIGRATION SOCIETY.

This is the name of the organization comprising the one hundred and seventy-two emigrants, by our fall expedition from Baltimore, November 4. They were from in or near Lynchburg, Virginia, and of the class known as "Freedmen." The adults were mostly agriculturists and mechanics, of experience and business character. The greater portion were members of the Baptist church. This movement was originated by one of their number, Mr. John McNuckles, a man of unusual shrewdness and practical good sense, a master plasterer and bricklayer, possessing the confidence and regard of the entire community in which he lived, and from which he removed to Africa. Though he could do as well in the United States as any of his race, yet for years his aspirations were constant for a country and nationality of his own people, to attain which he went forth at as early a day as possible, accompanied by relatives and acquaintances, likeminded and determined to be useful and to prosper in their fatherland.

THE PROSPECT.

The return of peace, and the emancipation of the slaves have removed many obstacles to the prosecution of our work, and revived

The Prospect.—Indications.

our operations. The indications are, that we shall soon have more than ever to do. There are constant inquiries from or in behalf of intelligent and enterprising "freedmen" in regard to settlement in Liberia. Companies of these people have been formed at Lynchburg and Abingdon, Virginia, who expect to embark May 1, next, each one hundred and fifty strong. One of the Vice Presidents of the Society residing in the same State, who, several years since, had nearly all his slaves transferred to Alabama, and in course of training for Africa, they all being now free, wishes us to send fifty, whom he hopes will go. We are informed of numerous disbanded colored soldiers who have expressed a desire to emigrate; and in different portions of the South, the minds of many of the better class of the "freedmen" are tending in the same direction, drawn thither by motives of self-interest—by the hope of lucrative employment, on a soil and in a climate more congenial with their habits and physical constitution than this western hemisphere offers; and more especially by the considerations, that there they can enjoy all the rights of citizenship; that color will not there exclude them from the honors and emoluments of office, nor deprive them of the prestige, rights and true dignity of manhood.

INDICATIONS.

The last Census tells the story of the colored man's future in the United States. The increase of population to this country by foreign immigration alone, exceeded the increase of the slaves and free people of color in the same period nearly four to one:—that of the former being 2,707,624, and that of the latter but 796,947.

And the current from abroad is acquiring new volume and momentum. It is believed that the immigration for some years, will surpass all precedent. A portion of this human importation, with a larger stream of our own citizens, promises to become laborers in the sunny

An African Sugar Planter.

South, there to compete with the blacks in their old and in new bounds of industry.

While this great increase of population takes place, our territory does not increase. The recent report of the Secretary of the Interior, shows that more than five and a quarter millions of acres of land were disposed of by the Government within the last year and a quarter. From these can be inferred the probabilities of changing the relations of the races by force of numbers, and by ownership of the soil. The white is likely ever to remain the superior race, and consequently, the rulers, as it has always had the numbers, intelligence, the prestige and power of mastery, property, and political self-government. The weaker will find it to its interest to remove from out of the reach of the stronger.

Repulsions *here* and attractions *there* will lead the colored population to seek a nationality of their own, with actual homes, real title to the soil, and active dominion of the country where they reside. If of the better class they can rise in Liberia at once to social equality and usefulness. They can enjoy the dignity of true self-respect beyond anything they can attain in our midst. If of the lower sort, they will have open doors and more inducements to successful activity than they can have here. Whatever their condition in any part of the United States, they will have good reason to be thankful for encouragement and aid in securing an asylum in the Liberian Republic.

AN AFRICAN SUGAR PLANTER.

In Liberia there is an excellent field for the industrious and enterprising man of color. There he can obtain a position of social importance and dignity to which he is a stranger here; and he can become an equal citizen in a nation which has all the natural resources for future greatness.

Steady Progress.

Mr. Jesse Sharp, who was a house-painter at Charleston, S. C., removed to Africa in 1852; had a few acres of cane on the St. Paul's river, was aided in getting a Mill by a judicious Vice-President of this Society, and made his first shipment of sugar to the United States in March, 1859. He has been steadily adding to his fields of cane every year. In 1863, a much larger Mill, with improved machinery, was advanced to him by two active friends of our cause, costing about two thousand dollars. This he paid for, in 1864, with warm expressions of gratitude, and a few months ago he had some two thousand dollars in money in New York for the purchase of goods, and over twenty thousand pounds of sugar and nine thousand gallons of molasses undisposed of at home.

STEADY PROGRESS.

Liberia is too apt to be compared with our own colonies in the wilds of Washington, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho and Montana. We must however bear in mind the many drawbacks under which the colored settlers have labored.

Though the African Republic, during the last four years, has been deprived of much of the aid usually furnished from this country, it has been making steady progress in material interests and in influence and usefulness. The era of thatched abodes and of framed dwellings is passing by, and the citizens are generally erecting brick buildings. The cultivation of sugar and coffee and other products is largely increased. The authority of the Republic continues to spread over the native tribes which surround it.

At the general election held in May, 1865, the Hon. Daniel B. Warner and the Hon. James M. Priest were re-elected President and Vice-President of the Republic for the ensuing two years from the 1st January, 1866. *The Liberia Herald* reports that at the June term of the Court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas, at

 Foreign Affairs.

Monrovia, "there was no business found for the Grand Jury," and "no Pettit Jury was empanelled though the Court was in session for six days." The docket contained twenty cases, "not one of which was criminal. Most of them were in equity, and decided without the intervention of a jury." *The Cavalla Messenger* for September announces that at Cape Palmas the "Hon. J. T. Gibson's very fine stone warehouse is completed, and Col. Cooper is also erecting a second one. Two schooners for Messrs. Gibson & Harmon, and Mr. J. B. Dennis, are on the stocks in Hoffman river."

Wednesday, March 15, 1865, was observed as Thanksgiving Day. The proclamation of President Warner gives the following reasons for this appointment, viz :

"Whereas it is becoming and proper that the people of Liberia, who have been so signally favored from their earliest beginnings by the kind guardianship and protection of Heaven should, from time to time, assemble to acknowledge their dependence on Almighty God, to offer up devout thanks for His manifold blessings, to bend in humble prayer at His footstool, to confess their sins and shortcomings, and to invoke His assistance and guidance in the responsibilities which devolve upon them as a nation; and Whereas there is, in my opinion, no time more suitable for these solemnities than this season of the year, at the close of the harvest, and after the crops have been gathered in, which during the season just passed have been remarkably abundant and large."

In his last Annual Message, President Warner remarks:—"I am gratified to give it as my earnest conviction that Liberia is growing in material wealth. Our exports are every year increasing, and if this exercise of our productive power is continued with the same progressiveness as within the last few years, we shall soon be independent."

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

The last Annual Message of President Warner contained the subjoined, touching the relations of Liberia with other Powers:—

Foreign Affairs.

“ Our relations with foreign nations are pacific. The questions which have arisen between this Government and that of Her Britannic Majesty, out of the repudiation by certain chiefs in the north-west portion of the Republic, of the right of this Government to exercise authority in territories bought of them in that section of the country, are still in course of discussion. I regret to state that Great Britain still maintains an attitude on this question which, although unintentionally—for we cannot doubt the friendship of that Government to this Republic—is immensely injurious to us. But to those territories we cannot relinquish our claim, however strongly it may be questioned by Her Britannic Majesty’s Government. I do not trust to diplomacy or force for the adjustment of this question. We and the aborigines are one in race and destiny. Foreigners can produce no permanent alienation between us. The progress of events will ere long set this matter at rest forever, in a manner entirely satisfactory to Liberia, and without infringing upon the rights of the aborigines.”

Ratifications of Treaties of Amity, Commerce and Navigation with Portugal, and with Denmark, have been exchanged in London, by Gerard Ralston, Esq., the enlightened and zealous Consul-General of Liberia. The treaty with Portugal contains the same important principle of international law, first incorporated in the compact between Hayti and Liberia, assimilating the slave trade with piracy.

The Act of the Legislature of Liberia requiring foreign traders to do business at regularly declared ports of the Republic, went into force on the 1st of January, 1865. *The Liberia Herald* for August gives the following account of the effects of its operation:—“ The good accruing to the citizens from it cannot fail to be seen by every Liberian. A splendid chance has opened for our merchants who are in the Palm oil trade, their boats are kept constantly on the go, and every time they return, they bring a full load. Three or four weeks they are absent, instead of as many months as formerly. From three to five thousand gallons of oil may be bought in a week, where the right kind of merchandize can be supplied. The great

Inner Africa.

supply has created the desire for a greater number and a larger size of boats; and has induced our merchants to commence building."

INNER AFRICA.

The geographical knowledge of Africa is now becoming such, that it promises soon to be a grand theatre of enterprise and Christian civilization. Modern travellers give flattering accounts of the vast fertile tracts bordering on the great lakes Nyanzi, Tanganyika, and Victoria Nyanza, or on the banks of the mysterious rivers severally known as the Zambesi, Agobay, Niger, and the Nile. From iron fields, implements used in African agriculture are made in large quantities, tropical produce is raised in great variety, herds of cattle with horns of stupendous size graze on the hills, and a dense population engaged in pastoral pursuits or in the cultivation of coffee, is supposed to be accessible from all these points. These valuable natural highways are doubtless destined to figure conspicuously in the future of civilized and evangelized Africa.

Regarding a portion of the country immediately east of the southern region of Liberia, the subjoined interesting sketch was given, in February last, by the Rev. C. C. Hoffman, for fifteen years a zealous and successful missionary at Cape Palmas :

"As you go interior the country increases in beauty and fertility, and I am inclined to think in *health* also. At a distance of thirty miles you get among beautiful hills, and at seventy they rise almost to mountains. Game abounds, deer and wild goats, and birds; and fish are plentiful in the rivers and streams. The water is abundant, cool and delicious. Iron ore abounds, and fine clays of various colors: gigantic trees and a variety of fruits, flowers and nuts. There are many noble rivers—the finest of all, I think, is the Cavalla, which runs to the North-East. It is a fine, wide and generally unobstructed river of from three to five fathoms deep for seventy miles to the falls:—beyond which it runs a great distance. I have ascended it sixty miles beyond the falls, and I have often been told, as on that

The Liberia College.

occasion, that it flowed far beyond. After you get in the interior you find the people kind and hospitable. But on and near the coast the natives are jealous of strangers going interior, and try to prevent it.

The Liberia Government needs to be strengthened in order to make it more respected by the natives. On account of unsettled difficulties, this beautiful river has been closed to all trade for more than a year, and there is no present prospect of its being re-opened. I have made four journeys however by land, the last during the present month, when I was absent sixteen days and walked about two hundred and fifty miles. We found in the interior an abundance of rice, cattle, sheep, goats, ducks, fowls, oil, but no market. The people wear scarcely any clothing. They would gladly give their produce in exchange of cloths, goods, &c., but the roads and rivers are often closed on account of petty difficulties which a wise and able government would soon be able to settle."

THE LIBERIA COLLEGE.

Under date of Monrovia, August 19, 1865, the Hon. J. J. Roberts, President of "The Liberia College," wrote as follows:

"Our College prospects, I am glad to say, are about as encouraging as could be expected; though, in consequence of the absence of Prof. Crummell, and the feeble health of Prof. Freeman during last term, which ended on the 15th ultimo, the progress made by the students in some of their studies was not so marked and satisfactory as could be wished; nevertheless, the Examining Committee was highly pleased at the proficiency exhibited in several branches of study. The examination of scholars in the Preparatory Department was most satisfactory; three of these are now recommended for admission into College, and four or five others will be prepared to enter the College proper at the commencement of the ensuing collegiate year, January next. I am glad to say that the health of Prof. Freeman is now such that he will be able to commence, and, I trust, continue his duties through the ensuing term, which begins on the 21st instant, without further interruptions from illness."

As yet the students are from the families of the Republic; when

West African Trade.

the College shall become known, it is expected that there will be scholars from other countries in Africa and elsewhere.

Efforts are making to complete the endowment of the College. It having been found necessary on account, mainly, of the high rate of exchange, to raise the salaries of the Professors to one thousand dollars per annum, the Travelling Secretary of this Society has undertaken to secure the additional thousand dollars thus made necessary to support Professor Freeman for five years: and he is encouraged to hope that he will soon succeed in this self-imposed and gratuitous labor.

WEST AFRICAN TRADE.

Africa is one of the richest countries on the globe, and it only requires a moderate industry and a skilful application to turn her natural riches into the common forms of national and individual wealth. The soil and climate produce rapidly, and the productions have all the rest of the world for a market. The greatest eagerness is shown to possess foreign goods. The future commerce of the Continent will be a wonder. The English are most anxious to promote it, and are organizing to secure and to enjoy its profits.

It is stated that THE COMPANY OF AFRICAN MERCHANTS, at their second meeting held in London, declared a dividend of ten per cent. It has purchased, and is about to send out a steamer for the local coast trade of Sierra Leone with the northern rivers, Sherbro and Liberia. Steps have been taken to establish regular steam navigation on the Niger for the purposes of trade.

At the semi-annual meeting of the AFRICAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY in London, December 6th last, it was reported that "the revenue account was slightly better than what it was the previous half year," and "with regard to the two new ships, the Mandingo had been launched and would be ready for sea in a week. The Lagos was

The African Squadron.

launched three days ago, and by the end of January, would be ready for sea also. These ships would be built out of revenue, without calling for a penny of capital from the resources of the Company. They would, therefore, have one ship more than they ever had before. These vessels were of a superior character and were capable of earning larger profits." A dividend "of eight shillings per share for the half year, free of income tax, payable on and after the 8th inst," was declared.

Another new enterprize in London is the COMMERCIAL COMPANY OF AFRICA, the capital of which is fixed at 300,000*l.*, with a present issue of 200,000*l.*, in 20,000 shares of 10*l.* each. The prospectus mentions that this Company is formed "for the purpose of conducting, upon an extensive scale, a trade in the Bights of Benin, Biafra, the River Niger, and other parts of Africa, chiefly by barter, of European manufactured goods for palm oil, palm-nut kernels, ground nuts, gold dust, ivory, cotton, and other produce; also for the purpose of manufacturing oil from the kernels of the palm-nut."

The trade of Liberia now flows almost wholly in European channels, while its character and relations make it American. Reasoning from the known resources of Africa, there must arise a system of commerce, vast, splendid and lucrative. From the advantages which we enjoy over all other nations for supplying its wants, a wise self-interest should prompt us to co-operate, with all possible energy in fostering a more regular and frequent intercourse with Liberia, while a large portion of the continent itself, through this portal, would be improved and aggrandized by the wealth, enterprize, population and education received from the United States.

THE AFRICAN SQUADRON.

No little of the commercial supremacy of England in Africa is owing to her vigilant steam fleet in the African waters. For the last

Our Colored Population.

three years not a cruiser of the United States has even visited that region. Our prestige and influence as a nation requires the early renewal of our armed authority along the entire Western Coast of Africa. The late Admiral Foote, who served with his accustomed zeal and success on that station, frequently stated it to be his highest aspiration to return to duty there with a squadron composed of small but swift steamers to promote American commerce and to prevent the shipment of slaves. In what more easy and inexpensive manner can our authorities help to secure these desirable objects and at the same time aid Liberia in its hopeful work—now more important than ever to our country?

We feel that we cannot too earnestly commend the re-establishment of our African squadron, by the early dispatch and continuance of three or four rapidly running steamers suited to the light winds and shallow waters of that Coast.

OUR COLORED POPULATION.

African colonizationists feel the deepest interest in everything which pertains to the welfare of the colored race in this country. More especially are they concerned, just now, by the mighty problem which comes up in the enlightenment and elevation of the four millions of these people, who have just passed from the house of bondage into the condition of freemen. The state upon which they have entered brings upon them certain duties and obligations which they will be expected to meet and fulfil. But in order to do these they must be trained and educated by all the appliances which are fitted to the creation of superior beings. And it will be, that while educating this people for their duties in America, they are being prepared to benefit Africa. The colored population in our midst are an agency by whom can be reached two continents and two races with benignant influences; for not only through them shall intelli-

Their Duty to Africa.—The Present Exigency.

gence and enlightenment be shed abroad through this country, but in this manner will be raised up a class of men as teachers and missionaries, who will carry the English language, arts, letters, and the Gospel to the land of their forefathers. Thus the American people will be enabled to enlighten and vivify with the influences of civilization and Christianity the vast continent of Africa.

THEIR DUTY TO AFRICA.

The black race in this country owe a great duty to Africa. Their fathers were brought hither and placed in bondage; and their children, in subsequent generations, have seized upon many of the elements of the surrounding civilization. Twelve thousand of them have left our midst, and carried with them American law, literature, letters, and Christianity, and reproduced them in the land of their forefathers. They have gone out as emigrants from this Republic, under the auspices of this Society, to the shores of heathen Africa, and re-created there free institutions and a nation modelled after our own.

But amid the wrongs and distresses they have been fitted to a great work for good in Africa. Never did a people have stronger inducements to decisive and energetic action. Would they be at once men and citizens, they should go where alone the opportunity exists of asserting and maintaining their manhood. And would they not prove recreant to the noble mission given them to fulfil, not to a tribe, but to a continent, toward which the finger of Providence is pointing, they would go to their brethren according to the flesh who are sitting in spiritual darkness.

THE PRESENT EXIGENCY.

The work of the Society has but just begun. Its field of labor is vastly widened. Instead of half a million of people of color, there are now four millions who are the objects of its benevolent regard. We are therefore to address ourselves afresh to the great work of their improvement and education, and Africa's civilization and evangelization—under obligations more sacred than ever, and with the noblest and most inspiring motives ever brought to bear upon patriots and Christians. And no small share of this increased responsibility will devolve upon the patrons and conductors of this Institution.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

DR. Receipts and Disbursements of the American Colonization Society, for the Year 1865. CR.

Received Donations and Collections.....	\$5,688 27	Paid Sending American Emigrants.....	\$9,259 56
“ Legacies.....	5,737 08	“ “ Barbados “	10,367 98
“ Interest on Investments.....	5,736 84	“ United States Government Securities.....	3,029 40
“ Loans Recailed.....	14,700 00	“ Insurance, Taxes, and Paving 4½ Street, Colonization Building	1,041 34
“ Rents from Colonization Building.....	4,085 62	“ Paper and Printing “The African Repository”	2,070 40
“ United States Government, final balance for support of Recaptured Africans	6,962 50	“ Salaries of Secretaries, Printing, Postages, Gas, Care of Rooms, and other Expenses.	5,480 45
“ Subscriptions to African Repository.....	119 27	“ Salaries of Agents and Travelling Expenses	6,018 31
“ For Barbados Expedition.....	1,504 76	“ Ship “Mary Caroline Stevens,”	91 86
“ Freight per Schooner “H. P. Russell”.....	433 25	“ The Government of Liberia for support of Recaptured Africans.....	817 07
“ Agent in Liberia.....	328 28	“ Agents, Physicians, and Improvements in Liberia	3,561 50
Receipts.....	45,295 87	Disbursements.....	41,737 87
Balance in Treasury, January 1, 1865.....	1,523 33	Balance in Treasury, January 1, 1866.....	5,081 33
Total.....	\$46,819 20	Total	\$46,819 20

The Committee on Accounts having examined the accounts for the year 1865, find the same correctly kept and properly vouched, and the balance correctly reported.

D. S. GREGORY,
ROBT. B. DAVIDSON, } *Committee on Accounts.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., JANUARY 17, 1866.

ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

American Colonization Society.

The Annual Meeting of the American Colonization Society was held in the First Presbyterian Church, on 4½ Street, Washington, D. C., on Tuesday, the 16th of January, 1866, at 7½ o'clock p. m., the President, Hon. John H. B. Latrobe, in the Chair. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Samuel A. Clark, of Elizabeth, N. J.

Extracts from the Report of the Society, were read by the Corresponding Secretary. Addresses were made by the Hon. Abraham Hanson, * Commissioner and Consul-General of the United States to Liberia, and by the Rev. R. J. Keeling, rector of Trinity Episcopal Church of Washington, D. C.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Keeling, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be tendered to the Hon. Abraham Hanson, for his very able, eloquent and interesting Address of this evening.

The benediction was pronounced by the Rev. John Maclean, D. D., of Princeton, N. J., and the Society adjourned to meet in the Society rooms at 12 o'clock m., to-morrow, for the transaction of business.

COLONIZATION BUILDING, *January 17, 1866.*

The American Colonization Society met at its rooms this day at 12 o'clock m., pursuant to adjournment: President Latrobe in the Chair.

Address of Hon. Abraham Hanson.

The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting, and of the Meeting held last evening, were read and approved.

The President appointed the Hon. D. S. Gregory, Rev. Thomas S. Malcom, and Rev. John Maclean, D. D., a Committee to nominate officers for the ensuing year.

The Committee subsequently nominated the following named gentlemen, who were unanimously elected: (See list on page 3.)

On motion of the Rev. John Maclean, D. D., it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be tendered to the Rev. R. J. Keeling, for his Address of last evening, and that a copy of it and of the Address of the Hon. Abraham Hanson, be requested for publication.

On motion it was

Resolved, That the Society do now adjourn to meet on the third Tuesday in January, 1837, at 7½ o'clock p. m., at such place as the Executive Committee shall direct.

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ADDRESS OF HON. ABRAHAM HANSON,**COMMISSIONER AND CONSUL-GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES TO LIBERIA.**

MR. PRESIDENT, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY :

I wish to premise my remarks by stating that, while it will be my aim to give you a candid and truthful account of such matters as have fallen under my notice in Liberia, it is no part of my primary object to make proselytes, secure emigrants, or induce the public to enlarge their contributions to this Society. Yet if any, or even all of these results should legitimately flow from my humble testimony, no one will be more deeply or sincerely gratified than myself.

Permit me frankly to say that I belong to that class of men who believe that the colored people in our midst have, with us, a com-

Address of Hon. Abraham Hanson.

mon birth-right; that we owe them a deep interest in our sympathies, and a fostering care and protection, equal to, if not beyond, what we so liberally and cheerfully extend to those aliens by birth who seek a home and a country, under our government.

Hence, while we may differ widely upon this point, I am glad that we can so harmoniously unite our efforts under the constitution of your Society, in returning to Africa, those who have the desire and the ability to aid in the extension and perpetuity of the Republic of Liberia.

While I believe that the colored people, who have so long performed useful labor in the cultivation of our cotton and our sugar, &c., have become seemingly indispensable to the interests of a certain portion of our country, and have established a just claim to all the rights of manhood, yet I have come to the discouraging conclusion, that ages must pass away, and many a brilliant intellect be shrouded in obscurity, before the iron hand of prejudice and proscription has been raised and removed from that patient, toiling, suffering race.

In the present crisis in the affairs of our country, the continuance amongst us of this emancipated throng is much to be desired. I can use no arguments to induce them to leave us, but such as are based upon their own and their posterity's immediate and future weal.

Were I a member of that race, with my knowledge of the tremendous weight that still oppresses them, and of the illimitable field which invites them to Liberia, with its innumerable facilities for comfort, independence, and usefulness, I should gather my family around me, and embark on board the first vessel bound for that distant shore, even if I had to avail myself of the generous aid which this Society offers.

In order to assure you how far you may give credence to my words, suffer me to state what means of information I have had.

In May, 1862, I accepted the humble, but honorable office of Commercial Agent of the United States in Monrovia. In December, 1863, the position of Commissioner and Consul-General of the United States to the Republic of Liberia, was intrusted to my

Address of Hon. Abraham Hanson.

hands, the duties of which I still continue to discharge. I have resided in Liberia about three years.

During this time I have interested myself in whatever promised to extend and strengthen the commercial and friendly relations between the two countries. I have made several visits along the coast and up the rivers, going from farm to farm and from house to house, and thus, from verbal statements and personal observation, have acquired a knowledge of the industrious habits and domestic comforts of the citizens.

In every direction new plantations are being commenced, and old ones materially enlarged and improved, so that I can testify that the progress in this department promises well for the future, and full development of the rich resources of the prolific soil.

Coffee bids fair to become the basis of many an independent fortune. It is cultivated with ease, and with comparatively small expense. Its maturity and fruitfulness are not retarded, but rather advanced, by the use of the intervening space for the growth of smaller plants.

The entire lack of suitable machinery for hulling has, heretofore, deterred many from engaging in this branch of agriculture, but this want, I am happy to state, is soon to be supplied, and you may expect in a few years a regular shipment of large quantities of coffee, as palatable and nutritious as any that is produced in any other part of the world.

Sugar cane has, I think, received a much larger share of attention than coffee, owing chiefly to the fact that it yields an earlier return, but, as in the case of coffee, machinery is not yet possessed at points conveniently accessible to those who have to transport their cane to the mill.

There are four steam sugar mills along the banks of the St. Paul's river, besides several wooden mills. The largest of the steam mills has capacity and power enough to grind all the cane raised within ten miles of its location, but on account of the heavy cost of toll and transportation, it has not yet been extensively employed.

My impression is that smaller mills, like that alluded to in your report, owned by Mr. Jesse Sharp, costing two thousand, or two

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thousand five hundred dollars, will generally be selected. Had I been a commercial man I could have brought home orders for a dozen mills from parties who are generally responsible, and who offer a reasonable guarantee to secure the payment.

Specimens of cane have been brought to my office more than sixteen feet in length, and from seven to eight inches in circumference at the base, of one season's growth. More than one-third of the juice of such cane is lost to those who have only the wooden mills to express it.

Perhaps what I am now about to say will seem like a design to obtrude my advice where it has not been sought, yet I will venture to speak freely, hoping that my motives will not be misconstrued. I trust the time is near at hand when our merchants in the United States will regard it as a safe investment, to assist the honest husbandman in Liberia, who can furnish good security, and suitable proofs of industry and skill, with the means of making his labor and his land available to their utmost capacity.

I wish to say emphatically, that large, gratuitous, and indiscriminate assistance to individuals should be studiously avoided, because these sometimes fall into incompetent and unfaithful hands, from which no suitable returns are made, and this works incalculable injustice and injury to the diligent and upright.

I do not mean by these remarks to cast reflections upon any one, but we all know, some of the friends of Liberia know from experience, and a respectable and generous firm in Boston, I have no doubt, knows to its regret, that it is unwise to entrust large capital in untried hands, without some basis of credit.

I believe that the integrity of the *responsible* commercial men, and planters and farmers of Liberia, will bear an honorable comparison with the same classes, in similar circumstances, in any other country. It is mortifying to them, as well as seriously detrimental to their true interests, and a serious barrier to the rapid development of the resources of the country, to have a breach of faith occur. They can duly appreciate the generous motives, but they deprecate the result of the acts of those who send large shipments of goods to irresponsible parties, only to meet with heavy losses, if not a total failure.

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When these remarks are duly weighed, I think they will not work evil to any one deserving of patronage, and certainly not to those enterprising and upright citizens of that country, whose constant aim is to claim and deserve the title of honest men.

The article of cotton is not yet extensively cultivated, though I believe it is attracting more attention than formerly, and that which has been exported has commanded a high price and much praise for its superior staple.

But it would be presumptuous in me to enter into a minute detail of the various productions of the soil of Liberia before such an audience as I conceive this to be. I may say for the satisfaction of the officers and members, as well as patrons of this Society, that I know from observation, that the glowing reports which now come to you, from month to month, and which appear in your various periodicals and magazines, are, in the main, founded upon tangible facts.

There is not, there need not be on all this globe, a richer soil, a soil which yields more prompt and ample returns to the labor of the industrious husbandman, than that of Liberia. She has land enough to *give* a free home to millions who may go hence to aid in her future progress; a home where numerous, various, and substantial products may be obtained with less than half the labor required in many other countries. And, moreover, it is obvious to those who know the habits of the aborigines, their aptitude to trade, especially, that as Christian civilization and commerce advance, the doors of the almost illimitable interior will be thrown open, not by force of arms, by deeds of blood, or exterminating influences, but by the firm and steady progress of the arts and sciences.

I have often, during my sojourn in that land, wished that Mills and Burgess, Caldwell and Finley, Bacon, Bankson, and Crozer, Ashmun and Ayres, and a host of others, who pioneered this noble enterprise, and you, Mr. President, and gentlemen before me, whose zeal has been tested, and who have been "in labors more abundant," could look upon the gratifying fruits of your devoted and persevering labors—could my venerable friend, REV. R. R. GURLEY, the Honorary Secretary of this Society, whose name has

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become a Liberian household word, never to be spoken but with the highest esteem and deepest grateful love—see how happily these people live and labor, it would still more abundantly shed radiance over the remaining years of his careful thought and toil.

The present condition of the people of this Republic is encouraging. On every hand, I have seen the proofs of useful industry. All along the rivers, as well as in the settlements on the coast, the bambo hut, the log cabin, and sometimes the frame house, begin to give way for the commodious and substantial stone or brick edifice. They are furnished as good taste would dictate, not with what is usually termed elegance, but with modern conveniences to an extent beyond what many would expect to find in that far off land.

In accepting of the generous hospitalities of Liberian merchants and planters, I have always found their tables supplied with the substantial elements of food.

During our late national struggle, and especially since the ship *Mary Caroline Stevens* discontinued her semi-annual visits, the Liberians have had to encounter many formidable barriers to her rapid growth.

You will pardon me for saying that the houses in Boston and New York, which trade on the Liberian coast, make it a point to furnish shipping facilities enough for their own business chiefly, and first. Hence, it often happens that the produce of the farmer, or planter, finds no suitable market in the proper season, or it is sold to traders at unremunerative prices. This entails a double loss, as they must sell their productions below their intrinsic value, and purchase supplies at exorbitant prices.

The remedy for this will probably be found, at least in part, when your Society begins again, with regularity, the work of enlarging the settlements by emigration from this country. I give it now, as my decided conviction, that the largest portion of the most valuable productions of Liberia will ultimately flow to the United States.

Two incorporated companies, and one private firm, of another country, have been making large investments and flattering promises to secure the trade, but after all, the ties of kindred associations,

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added to the suitability of the commodities furnished from the United States, enabled us, without special effort, to retain a fair proportion of that trade.

I sincerely hope that some expedient may be devised which will furnish a regular and reliable transportation of goods on consignment to agents in the United States, and the return of such merchandise as may be ordered in exchange. This would not only give a new impetus to the arms of industry, but would also enable the people to obtain supplies at fair profits. A few hints on this subject are all that I can consistently give; yet those hints will suffice to bring before your intelligent minds the difficulties which surround a people so far removed from the centre of supplies.

If an honest merchant, an industrious mechanic, or a toiling husbandman from Liberia could occupy my place this evening, you would have a story which would tell of difficulties and hardships which I must not mention.

I have said that the present condition of Liberia is encouraging. I do not mean to mislead you on this point. I would not even intimate that that Ship of State sails on an unruffled sea. She has to encounter difficulties, to brave many a storm, and navigate through dangerous straits, over shoals and quicksands, with frowning, cragged rocks on every hand.

Who can expect to find her perfect when the antecedents of her people have been duly weighed? To me, the marvel is that she has so much excellence to praise; and I say from my inmost heart, palsied be the hand that would write, and silenced be the tongue that would speak, to magnify her foibles. It is the pride of your speaker's heart to testify that her people stand forth a living monument of rebuke, a noble vindication of their race from the vile slanders of her embittered foes, who sneeringly tell us, "the negro can never acquire the art of self-government."

Let me ask, what struggling people, with so small a share of patronage and sympathy, and with so many and such mighty opposing influences, ever survived so long or accomplished such results as this noble band of exiled men; yes, exiled by oppression, prejudice, and proscription, but inspired with the lofty purpose of

 Address of Hon. Abraham Hanson.

raising themselves, as a race, to a power among the nations of the earth.

I need not set forth Liberia as a paradise, where labor, weakness, weariness, care, sickness and death can never come, in order to make it attractive to those whose presence and influence are needed there. I need not sing of it in the lofty strains which apply only to the fair and happy home above,

“ There generous fruits that never fail,
On trees immortal grow,” &c.

Those who seek it only from such glowing pictures, will go there to sicken, pine away, and die. But those who go to find a free and happy home; to fell the forest, clear the jungle, drain the swamps, bridge the rivers, rear the cottage or the mansion; to break up the soil, cast in the seed, reap the fruitful harvest; dig into the bowels of the earth; exercise the rights of freemen; secure and enjoy blessed Christian privileges; to spread Christian civilization throughout the distant tribes of that dark continent, and to extend the benign influence of that “new empire,” which the prophetic eye of Mills beheld nearly fifty years ago; these are they who shall “flourish like the Palm tree;” their glad eyes shall see a land of

“ Sweet fields arrayed in living green,
And rivers of delight.”

To them will be given the living proof that “all men are created equal, with certain inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”

While speaking of Liberia's present condition, I will state that owing to a new law, which became operative on the first of January, 1865, excluding vessels engaged in foreign trade from other than ports of entry, some difficulties have arisen, and other interruptions are still likely to occur.

This, together with other considerations, is the ground for my suggesting that the transfer of a GUNBOAT from the United States to the Government of Liberia, upon terms mutually agreeable, would be most opportune, at this particular juncture in Liberian affairs. But I offer it most respectfully, as my opinion *now*, after

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mature reflection, that the interests of both Governments would be more immediately, extensively, and I may add, permanently subserved by the return of our squadron to that Station.

I do not claim that our present commercial transactions with Liberia are of such magnitude as to justify an imperative demand for this, but I do claim that we should not be unmindful of the policy of other nations, who spare no labor or expense, to divert this trade into their own channels.

Perhaps it is expected that I should say something in reference to the climate of Liberia. From its location on the globe you will naturally infer that it is uniformly warm. My residence in Monrovia is in 6° 9' North Latitude, but though so near the equator, the air is tempered daily by breezes from the sea. The seasons of the year are two, the rainy and the dry; the former commences with May and the latter with November.

It is now (January) the hottest portion of the year—while we, in our northern homes, are buried in snow, pinched by the cold, hugging our dark, dingy stoves, nestling in the corner by some glowing hearthstone, crowding our half frozen feet over some neat register, muffling our mouths and ears with furs, or neat woolen scarfs, or encumbering our shivering frames with garments enough to furnish a small stock for a country clothing store, I expect that my friends in Monrovia will rise from their refreshing slumbers, just as the sun begins to gild with his radiance the eastern horizon, at six o'clock to-morrow morning. They will throw open their doors and windows to welcome the delicious breezes, wafting precious odors from such delicate plants and flowers as you, with all your care, and skill, and labor, cannot preserve, in perfection, even in your stately, solid mansions.

They will listen to songsters of the most gorgeous plumage, caroling their matin hymn, sipping the dew-drops from the rose and the honeysuckle, and hopping from tree to tree and from flower to flower.

The thermometer averages about 75° Fah., and seldom rises above 90° in the shade. Yet, with all these elements of comfort, *it is not the white man's home.* Africans, who have descended

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from an ancestry absent from the continent for from one to two centuries, can, with good habits and proper care, survive the change and enjoy health, while the white man droops and dies.

My observation leads me to the conclusion that a greater amount of mortality is occasioned by unreasonable anxiety, unfounded apprehensions of danger, unseasonable and immoderate bodily exercise, want of abstinence from improper food during convalescence, the want of suitable remedies during the fiercest attacks of fever, than from the actual, and, if I may use the terms, the avoidable or curable effects of fever.

Mr. President, I have been requested to state what this Society has accomplished. I confess, sir, that I am unequal to the task. The annals of eternity must be unfolded and explored to find a full answer to the question. A divine, an Almighty hand, must be extended to give the full reward, and place the unfading laurels upon the brow of those noble Christian heroes who have labored, suffered, sacrificed, and died, to aid this God-like enterprise. Millions yet unborn will speak their praises on this earth, and myriads in the skies shall be witnesses of the reward bestowed upon them by "the judge of all the earth," when He says: "Well done, good and faithful servants," &c. Then shall that attesting multitude bow, with adoring gratitude, and say Amen, and Amen.

But, Sir, though we cannot trace all the events, or comprehend their full results, if it is not given us to see the end from the beginning, yet, for your heart's comfort, and to inspire you with new zeal, there are some blessed fruits which we can joyfully recount, and every Christian philanthropist must rise from the cheering contemplation, impressed with a freshness and vigor of no common character, to pursue his arduous career.

You found an eligible location for the settlement, a place most obviously reserved by Providence for this especial purpose. Call to mind the words of Stockton, when Mesurado's heights loomed up before him, "That is the spot we ought to have, that should be the site of our colony; no finer spot on all this coast;" and he was competent to judge.

See the intrepidity of that brave and gallant man, and the in-

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domitable perseverance of his coadjutor, Dr. Eli Ayres. Dense jungles, dismal swamps, savage beasts, and barbarous men, intervened in vain to keep them from King Peter and his chiefs. They went and brought back a fair and honorable title to the land.

Reflect upon the numerous, fruitless efforts made by other nations to plant themselves upon the soil, and, more than all, remember that this was the very centre of the mart for the accursed traffic in human flesh.

And here let me assure you that it is my firm conviction that Liberia, which has not had a tithe of the fostering care and material aid which have been lavished upon Sierra Leone, has exercised a more extensive and effectual influence in the suppression of the foreign slave trade than that, or even all the colonial enterprises of Great Britain on the Western coast of Africa. This, if she had accomplished nothing more, well deserves, and well repays, all the toils, sufferings, and sacrifices which have been made; and from this consideration we must be constrained to admit that God inspired with superhuman wisdom, and endowed with superhuman strength, the first honored laborers in this holy work.

Hear what the eloquent and learned Hon. E. W. Blyden said to his fellow-citizens, on the 26th of July last, the anniversary of the independence of the nation which he serves as Secretary of State. Speaking of their location on the coast, he says:

“Here is a land adapted to us, given to us by Providence—peculiarly ours, to the exclusion of alien races. On every hand we can look, and say it is ours. Ours are the serene skies that bend above us; ours the twinkling stars and brilliant planets—Pleiades and Venus, and Jupiter; the thunder of the clouds; the roaring of the sea; the rustling of the forest; the murmur of the brooks; and the whispers of the breeze.” And then, alluding to the insuperable barrier seemingly raised by Providence to prevent its occupation by the white race, he adds: “The miry swamp, sending out disease and death, is also ours, and ours the malignant fever—all are ours.”

Then I call upon you to look at the first emigrants who went forth under your patronage—went forth to enter upon new and un-

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tried scenes, and to endure unutterable hardships. Under the leadership of the sainted Ashmun they repelled and conquered every foe, and through successive changes proved themselves to be high-born souls, who could not brook to continue in a country where, to be of darker hue, was to be condemned to perpetual, menial servitude.

For nearly thirty years you labored on, toiling diligently and patiently, at the cost of many a noble life. Then you found the executive ability of Governor Joseph Jenkins Roberts equal to the task entrusted to his hands; you found also economy and skill in the various officers of the colony, peaceful relations, and profitable intercourse between the settlers and the natives, advancing intelligence, industry, and prosperity among the people; and these you hailed as proofs tangible, irrefragible, living proofs of their capacity for self-government. Then was presented the solemn and momentous question of an independent sovereignty.

Within the past three years I have often met with white men on the coast of Africa, and, I am sorry to say elsewhere also, who have curled the lip of scorn, and uttered words of irony at the idea that Liberians should *presume* to call themselves an independent nation.

Let no one suppose that this step was rashly taken, or that any sensible Liberian makes his boast of independence in the abstract. They know full well that they are only in the infancy of their being. Conscious of their weakness, they are aware that any one of the great powers of Europe has sufficient force to blot them out of existence. Their refuge and defence, the firm foundation of their trust, is, "the Most High," who "ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever He will." By your advice and co-operation, they became, what they now profess, and what they are acknowledged to be, a free and independent Republic.

Next, by memorials and petitions, you aided in procuring the honorable recognition of that independence by the Government of the United States.

What more have you accomplished? You have rescued from oblivion, and given to the world, the worthy names and brilliant achievements of those who framed the Declaration of Independence

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and the Constitution of Liberia. You have introduced to a sphere of usefulness commensurate with their expanded views and lofty patriotism, such intellectual chieftains of their race as ROBERTS, BENSON, WARNER, BURNS, Wilson, Drayton, Lewis, Blyden, Crummell, and a host of others, whose noble deeds as statesmen and divines soar far above, and stretch far beyond those puny, sickly, selfish souls whose interminable croak against the negro race is discordant in our ears.

Thank God, history in time, and the revelations of eternity, will tell that those highminded, self-sacrificing men have not lived nor toiled in vain; and the record shall continue until Africa, enthralled and degraded Africa, has been redeemed.

Again, Sir, by its well-directed efforts this Society has enabled this long oppressed and degraded people to demonstrate the capacity of the negro for self-government, just at the juncture of time when the world needed, and was somewhat prepared, to be enlightened on this subject.

I can assure you, Sir, that the people of Liberia have not failed to watch, and to weigh the startling events that have transpired in the United States within the last five years. We have been shaken to our very centre, as by an earthquake. The Almighty has called to us in thunder tones, "LET MY PEOPLE GO!" At last, the mandate has been obeyed, to this extent, at least, that the fetters have fallen from millions of bondsmen. And O! how I long for a trumpet-voice to swell the joyful chorus, by triumphantly asserting that the negro is a man, made in God's own image, and purchased by a loving, universal Saviour's precious blood.

But do not, for one moment, think that the dark sons of toil on yonder distant shore are about to lay the flattering unction to their souls that every wrong has ceased, or that their brethren here are soon to find a quiet resting place in the home of those who have oppressed them.

They have implicit confidence in the integrity of our Government. They believe that we shall, to the extent of our ability, redeem the pledges which we have given. That we shall multiply the privileges of this emancipated people; that we shall throw open to them sources of useful knowledge, and introduce them to

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fields of honorable industry, and honest wealth; and that we shall, by all lawful means, protect them from insult and cruelty. But they know full well that the prejudice and deadly hatred, cruel as the grave, and dark as the lower regions, which still rankle in the hearts of their embittered foes; intensified by disappointed hopes of future gain, will still expose them to untold and unutterable hardships. They look forward for a mountain weight of political injustice still to press them to the ground.

In the spirit of Lott Cary, they virtually exclaim—"We are Africans, and, in the United States, however meritorious our conduct, or respectable our characters, we cannot receive the credit due to either; we wish to dwell in a country where we shall be estimated by our merit, and not by our complexion."

For proof of this, I refer you again to the eloquent address of the Hon. E. W. Blyden: "We know that the gale of popular applause which now fans them into a lustre of such splendid estimation is evanescent, and temporary. The reaction of the present state of things will surely come, and disappointment and irritation will ensue. Would it not be wisdom then, in the leaders of the blacks in America, to catch at once the spirit of the age, and encourage among the people a feeling of race, of nationality, and of union?" * * * "We have the germ of an African empire." * * * "We think that half the time and energy which will be spent in struggling against caste, if devoted to the building up of a home and nationality of their own would produce results immeasurably more useful and satisfactory."

Mr. President, and Gentlemen, I ask you if this does not sound across the waters like the Macedonian cry?—"COME OVER AND HELP US!" Yonder I see them, not in dreams and visions of the night, but with open eyes, with ears intent, and with my heart beating anxiously for them, I see and hear them now—standing on the other shore, waiting with outstretched arms, inviting their fathers and brethren, forced from their fatherland, to return and share their glorious heritage. They say, come and unite with us, in the heaven-appointed mission of carrying to the distant tribes of the interior, the benign influences of Christian civilization.

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The shades, the dense, dark shades of Egyptian's dreary night are now dispersing, the day begins to dawn, revealing to our wondering eyes "a cloud, little as a human hand;" and it requires no prophetic tongue to tell us that, it "shall spread along the skies, hang o'er all the thirsty land." My expanding sympathies prompt me to exclaim, O! for a host of honest, upright, earnest, devoted, self-sacrificing, well instructed men, to go forth, enter this fuller, rich, ripe field.

The institutions of learning which are now under the support of the Government of Liberia, are not, at this time, as numerous or active as could be desired; owing, chiefly, to the embarrassment which cripples all their matters of finance.

But I have a bright hope that this embarrassment will be but temporary; which hope is founded upon the fact that, a rigid economy is now observed in every department of administration; and upon the additional fact, that they have, in their soil, an inexhaustible source of wealth; and they are beginning, like men in earnest, to dig, and plant, and sow, and gather it. "Congo money,"—pardon me, Sir, for this delicate allusion,—"Congo money," that broken staff on which a few have leaned so much, and lived so long, has ceased to flow; and now, a few years more, with the generous co-operation of your Society, will present you with a flourishing people, enjoying the fruits of their honest industry, advancing in wealth and intelligence, as well as moral and political importance and power.

The Liberia College stands as a noble monument of the munificence of its founders. Under the Presidency of the Hon. J. J. Roberts, the benefactor of his race; and with the co-operation of the able faculty, a foundation is being laid, broad, deep, extensive, and permanent, to raise up instruments for Africa's redemption from thralldom and from darkness.

I have said nothing yet, Sir, concerning the open door which this Society has presented, by its labors and success, for the entrance of Christian Missionaries, to watch over the souls of those whom you have aided to go forth; and to preach the Gospel to the surrounding heathen tribes. But I come now to state that this is one of the

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brightest gems in the crown of your reward. Thank God, that Christian leaven has been infused, that the salt of the earth has been freely sprinkled there. That light, which is as a city set on a hill, now sheds its radiance over what were once "the dark places of the earth, full of the habitations of cruelty."

The Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States has had messengers in the field for many years. From the coast, far into the interior, amongst the benighted Africans who had never heard the sweet name of Jesus, or been told of His stupendous grace and love, they have cried, "Behold the Lamb of God, who taketh away the sins of the world!"

The records of the past will testify that bright intellects and devout hearts, were furnished from this branch of the Christian family. Most cheerfully they laid all the tender ties of home, kindred and country, together with their brilliant talents and lives, upon the sacrificial altar; won many precious souls from the darkness of heathen superstitions and practices, and presented them to their Master in heaven, as diadems to enrich the crown of His conquest over death and hell. They went forth weeping, to cast the precious seed of the ever-blessed Gospel into an unpromising soil, but they shall "doubtless come again rejoicing, bringing their sheaves with them."

It is equally gratifying to me to speak in favorable terms of many of the stations occupied at present by this denomination. Several laborers from amongst Liberians and natives, have been converted, through their instrumentality, to the Christian faith, nurtured and educated for Christian usefulness, who give promise of being an ornament to society, and a blessing to Africa and the world.

The tender care, Christian foresight, enlightened judgment, and pure, heavenly-minded zeal of the Rev. C. C. Hoffman, have done much toward the completion of an Hospital for the indigent sick residents, and for mariners and strangers who may be overtaken by disease, far from friends and home; and, already, several weary wanderers have found rest and relief for the body, as well as comfort and instruction for the soul, within its walls.

This institution is distinct from and independent of the mission work—and, as it receives its maintenance from the generous volun-

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tary aid of the humane in this and other countries, I heartily commend it to your sympathy and assistance.

Mr. Hoffman is also making diligent efforts to erect an "Asylum for the Blind." Indeed, everywhere and at all times, this man of God is found moving under the eye of his Master in Heaven, and prompted by the divine injunction, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might." The door of his hospitable home is always open to the stranger, for whom many an otherwise dark and lonely hour is gilded with sunshine, by the intelligent converse of this Christian gentlemen and his amiable lady.

The Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions has a glorious share in the toils, success and honors of placing the means of education and Christian privileges within the reach of Liberians and natives. Time would fail me to recount the instances of all the young men of Liberia, who have, by the liberality of this Board of Missions, been prepared for honorable and useful stations in the Government of the Republic. Many precious remembrances are cherished of the faithful and devoted men whom they have sent forth to impart a knowledge of letters, unfold the mysteries of science, and to enforce the obligations to Christian duty, upon the rising generation. I cannot say that these favored young men have all, *as yet*, laid their talents on the altar, or given their souls to Jesus, but the seed is in them, and the imperative claim is urged upon them to "go and work" in the Lord's vineyard. God grant that they may all become burning and shining lights.

The Muhlenberg, or Lutheran Mission, on the St. Paul's river, is, according to my humble opinion, moving in a manner, and in a direction which promises more general, gratifying, important, and permanent results than can be readily conceived, or set forth. The indefatigable missionary, Rev. Mr. Kistler, bestows his labor chiefly upon recaptured, or liberated Africans, and other aborigines, who are instructed in manual labor, in a knowledge of letters, and in the doctrines of the Christian religion.

There is a little flock of the Congregational order, at Greenville, in Sinou county, under the pastoral care of Rev. H. B. Stewart, who reared with his own hands the building in which his people

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worship. This servant of Christ imitates, in this respect, the example of the first great Apostle to the Gentiles, by laboring as a mechanic for his daily bread.

The little Baptist church, organized in the house of Colin Teage, at Richmond, Va., was transplanted to Africa, and still flourishes as the "PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH OF MONROVIA." From that faithful band, many a bright spirit has winged its way through unknown regions to fairer, happier realms above; and I know of many more there, to-day, who are

"Still tossed on a sea of distress;
Hard toiling to make the blest shore."

This denomination has a church at Monrovia, New Georgia, Caldwell, Carysburg, Grand Cape Mount, Grand Bassa, Bexley, and several other points, all of which are diligently seeking to "convert sinners from the error of their ways," and to "feed the flock of Christ which He hath purchased with His own blood."

They are toiling on unaided, and alone, yet not alone, for the Divine Master is with them, to cheer and strengthen them by the way. They have no pecuniary foreign aid. Formerly they were under the patronage of the Southern Baptist Convention for Foreign Missions; but on the breaking out of the rebellion their supplies were all abruptly terminated. Still, the labor did not cease.

I can most heartily commend these struggling societies in Liberia, to the favorable consideration of that useful body of Christians of the same doctrine and order, in the United States, as presenting the promise of a most fruitful harvest, in return for any liberality which they may be willing to extend.

The Providence Baptist Church in Monrovia was without a Pastor when I left the coast of Africa. It needs the services of a minister, burning with the zeal which inspired Him who "came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many." One who will "count not his life dear unto him," who can truthfully exclaim,

"The love of Christ doth me constrain
To seek the wandering souls of men!"

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I am aware, Mr. President, that it is not the *primary* object of this Society to send out missionaries, but if a Baptist minister, of sound intelligence, true piety, and ardent devotion, comes to you to seek a home in Liberia, and a field of most extensive and distinguished usefulness, direct him to Monrovia, and, if the place has not been filled, I will guarantee for him a cordial welcome from a loving and devoted people.

And now, Sir, having said so much upon this point, it is only reasonable that I should add, that *I am not a Baptist*; but, thank God, *I am not a bigot*; and I feel it to be my Christian duty to use my humble efforts to prevent this branch of the vine of God's own planting; this little flock, some of whom have lived, and worked, and worshipped by the side of Colin Teage, and Lott Cary; and many of whom have been enlightened, and aroused to Christian duty, and holy privilege, by the glowing eloquence of Hilary Teage, the Jefferson of Liberia, who left the impress of his lofty genius upon the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and laws of the Republic, as well as upon the hearts of many of her devoted, patriotic sons—his name, and memory can never die. I feel it, I repeat, to be a solemn, Christian duty, to use my humble efforts to prevent this church from being without a husbandman to cultivate the soil, or a shepherd to guide its members by his voice and example, and to feed them with wholesome Gospel food.

From the time that the sainted Melville B. Cox, uttered his dying exclamation, as the first Methodist Missionary to Liberia, "Let a thousand fall, but let not Africa be given up!" soldier after soldier of the Cross has risen, and joyfully exclaimed, "Here am I, send me," and the Methodist Episcopal Church has displayed a patience and liberality, far above all human praise. She has sustained schools, instituted, and for many years conducted, a noble Seminary, now temporarily closed. She has educated teachers, and ministers; organized a Mission Conference; and, to-day, she has in that distant field, more laborers than any other branch of the Christian family.

From this important mission, the talented and pious Bishop Burns, an honor to his race, and a polished shaft in Israel, has been called from labor to reward. The diligent, amiable, and faithful Beverley

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R. Wilson, fell with his armor on. His continual prayer was, that "the Lord of the harvest would send forth laborers into his vineyard." He left many seals to his successful ministry, who will be stars in the crown of his rejoicing, at the last great reckoning day.

The great want of this branch of the Missionary work in Liberia is, more *workers* in the field. And I humbly trust, that amongst the thousands whom this Society will soon send forth, many will be found who are called of God, and duly qualified for the self-sacrificing work of the ministry; willing and resolved to spend, and to be spent for this alone.

The time has passed away, even in Liberia, when those who "minister and serve the altar," should be required, or allowed, to encumber their thoughts with merchandise, or other secular pursuits. The field is large, the work is arduous and momentous, and claims and justifies the employment of the most expanded minds and cultivated, pious hearts.

But I am apprehensive, Mr. President, that you may have thought, and some of the distinguished gentlemen before me, may have thought, "Wherefore does he introduce such a topic as this? We did not send for him to make a Missionary speech!" No, gentlemen, no—I am sensible of this; and it has cost me a struggle to dwell so long upon what, to some, may seem to be out of place and season. My vindication is found in this, that I deemed the course which I have pursued to be the most appropriate method of assuring you, that the Republic, founded and fostered by your liberality and care, is, not in name alone, but in reality, a CHRISTIAN NATION.

It is true, indeed, that the emigrants whom you send forth go to a continent over which a midnight darkness broods, and on which oppression and cruelty have for centuries held undisputed sway. But, thank God, there is one bright spot on which the eye can rest and linger with joyful exultation, for there is the brightness of a coming Gospel day.

As the immigrant plants his feet upon the soil of his ancestors, and directs his wandering gaze from point to point, he beholds Christian temples rearing their humble but inviting fronts. He listens to the "church-going bell." He hears voices, joining in

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hallelujahs to God, which rend the still air, and ascend as incense to the skies: while countenances irradiated with ineffable, heaven-born brightness, assure him that here Jehovah is known and worshipped; that Christ is honored and adored; and that the Holy Ghost diffuses his convincing, quickening, regenerating, sanctifying, saving power.

Thus the faithful followers of Jesus find that they have only left the fellowship of kindred souls, and the cherished scenes and happy circles of the household of faith, in the land which *gave them birth*, to find them again in all their freshness, fulness, and rich fruition, in the land of *their adoption*.

Among all classes in Liberia, from the President down to the humblest walks of life, you can find those upon whom the badge of Christian discipleship is placed with honorable prominence. To all who would cavil with me on this point, and hint at their delinquencies, I would simply say, "First pull the beam out of thine own eye," &c., &c.

Ex-President Roberts is an exemplary member of the Methodist E. Church. It has been my privilege to kneel with him at the table of the Lord, and mine also has been the lot to partake of the emblems of the broken body and shed blood of our common Saviour, administered by the hands of President D. B. Warner, as Elder of the Presbyterian Church.

I allude to these facts, facts deeply interesting to me, because they justify me in asking, With such God-fearing men at the helm of a struggling Ship of State, why may not the people expect and receive the protection and guidance of the Almighty's arm? When foes rise up to slander, or place themselves in formidable array against them, why may they not joyfully exclaim, "Mightier is He that is for us than are they who can be against us? or, Who shall harm us if we be followers of that which is good?"

And now, Mr. President, I must close by asking, Who can take a careful glance at what the people of Liberia were; at the circumstances which have surrounded them; at what they have accomplished, and at what they are, and what they are doing to day, and not pause, and wonder, and give God thanks, and take courage?

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Liberia lives, yonder, a striking monument, not less remarkable to me than the bush burning with fire, yet unconsumed! And what is more, Sir, my humble faith in the immutable promises of God assures me that she shall continue to live, and grow, for she is emphatically a foster-child of Providence. In spite of the supineness of some of her professed friends, and the sneers and open opposition of her cruel foes, she is stronger to day, in moral power and political wisdom, than ever she has been before.

I say, then, to the members and friends of the American Colonization Society, keep your armor on, and keep that armor bright. Your gigantic work is only just begun. I invite you, in the name of Liberia, to send them willing, industrious, skillful emigrants, by the ship load, if you will. I do not say, send them a horde of helpless creatures; these you must keep until we have atoned for our enormous sins of oppression, by educating and elevating them to the proper standard fit for civilized society; and then, if they will, let them come!



LETTER FROM REV. R. J. KEELING.

WASHINGTON, D. C., FEBRUARY 6, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: Your two favors have come to hand, and should have been promptly answered, but for pressure of parochial and private duty. I had committed to paper my remarks at the last Annual Meeting of the American Colonization Society, but in the hurry and confusion of moving my library and papers, the Mss. have been mislaid or destroyed. Indeed, I cannot recall my words of that evening, and if I could, I am quite certain they would not merit the permanent character which the Society is kindly disposed to give them by publication. Will you therefore have the kindness to excuse the non-appearance of my little speech of that evening?

With sincere thanks to the Society for its complimentary resolution, believe me, very truly,

Your friend and obedient servant,

R. J. KEELING.

EXTRACTS FROM THE

Proceedings of The Board of Directors

OF THE

AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 16, 1866.*

The Board of Directors of the American Colonization Society met this day at 12 o'clock M. in the rooms of the Colonization Building, corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Four-and-a-half street.

The President of the Society, Hon. John H. B. Latrobe, called the Board to order; and the Rev. William H. Steele invoked the Divine blessing.

William Coppinger was re-appointed Secretary of the Board.

The President appointed William V. Pettit, Esq., Rev. John Orcutt, D. D., and Hon. D. S. Gregory, a Committee on Credentials, who subsequently reported the subjoined named

DELEGATES APPOINTED BY AUXILIARY SOCIETIES FOR 1866.

Maine.—Rev. Franklin Butler.*

Vermont.—Rev. J. K. Converse.*

Connecticut.—Hon. Samuel H. Huntington, Hon. James T. Pratt,* Hon. Ebenezer Flower,* Hon. W. W. Boardman,* H. M. Benedict, Esq.,* H. O. Pinneo, Esq.,* E. H. Roberts, Esq.,* W. W. Wakeman, Esq.,* Rev. J. Root Miller.

New York.—Hon. D. S. Gregory, William Tracy, Esq.

New Jersey.—Rev. Samuel A. Clark, Rev. William H. Steele.

Pennsylvania.—William V. Pettit, Esq., Robert B. Davidson, Esq., Rev. Thomas S. Malcom.

LIFE DIRECTORS.

Rev. William McLain, D. D., Rev. John Maclean, D. D., Dr. James Hall, Rev. B. R. Gurley, Rev. John Orcutt, D. D.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Dr. H. Lindsly, William Gunton, Esq., Rev. G. W. Samson, D.

* Not present.

Resolutions.—Standing Committees.

D., Hon. Peter Parker, Hon. Samuel H. Huntington, Hon. John B. Kerr.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Report of the Committee on Credentials be accepted.

On motion of the Rev. John Orcutt, D. D., it was

Resolved, That the Hon. Abraham Hanson, Commissioner and Consul-General of the United States to Liberia, and Edward S. Morris, Esq., Treasurer of the Pennsylvania Colonization Society, be invited to sit with the Board.

The Minutes of the last session of the Board, held January 17 and 18, 1865, were read and approved.

Mr. Coppinger, as Corresponding Secretary of the Society, read the Annual Report of that body.

On motion of Rev. John Maclean, D. D., it was

Resolved, That the Annual Report be accepted, and that so much as relates to Foreign Relations, Finances, Auxiliary Societies, Agencies, Accounts, and Emigration, be referred to the several standing Committees in charge of these subjects respectively.

The Rev. William McLain, D. D., as Financial Secretary of the Society, presented and read the Annual Statement of the Executive Committee.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Annual Statement, just read, be accepted and referred to the appropriate standing Committees.

On motion of Hon. Peter Parker, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the Board be tendered to the Financial Secretary for the able and gratifying Report of his Agency in the Barbados Expedition, and for his judicious and successful conduct on that occasion, eminently blessed, as all the facts show it to have been, by the favor of Divine Providence.

The following are the **STANDING COMMITTEES**, as appointed by the President:

Foreign Relations.....	{ Rev. John Maclean, D. D. Dr. James Hall.
Finances.....	{ Hon. Samuel H. Huntington, Rev. William H. Steele.

Letter from Rev. Dr. Tracy.

Auxiliary Societies.....	{ Rev. John Orcutt, D. D. William Tracy, Esq.
Agencies	{ Rev. Thomas S. Malcom, Rev. J. Root Miller.
Emigration	{ William V. Pettit, Esq. Rev. Samuel A. Clark.
Accounts.....	{ Hon. Dudley S. Gregory, Robert B. Davidson, Esq.

The Rev. John Orcutt, D. D., stated that he had received letters from the Rev. Franklin Butler, Delegate from the Maine Colonization Society, and from the Hon. James T. Pratt, E. H. Roberts, Esq., and H. M. Benedict, Esq., Delegates from the Connecticut Colonization Society, expressing regrets for non-attendance.

Letters were read from John P. Crozer, Esq., Philadelphia, Jan. 12, and Rev. Joseph Tracy, D. D., Beverly, Mass, Jan. 13, Life Directors of the Society, stating their inability to be present at this session of the Board.

On motion of Rev. John Maclean, D. D., it was

Resolved, That we deeply regret the accident, which has deprived this Board for the first time in many years, of the presence and wise counsels of the Rev. Joseph Tracy, D. D.,—that we sincerely sympathize with him in his affliction, and earnestly hope that he will be with us again at our next meeting.

Resolved, That the letter just read from the Rev. Dr. Tracy, be entered at length on the Minutes of the Board.

“ BEVERLY, JAN. 13, 1866.

J. H. B. LATROBE, Esq.

Dear Sir:—Instead of the pleasure of meeting my friends and fellow-laborers of many years next Tuesday, I am obliged to tender an excuse for my absence. I am so far recovered from the injury which procured me your kind letter of condolence some weeks since, that I have been able to visit my office this week, four days in succession. I could have gone again to-day, but felt much more inclined to rest.

On Wednesday, I attended the Annual Meeting of the Trustees of Donations for Education in Liberia, who, after seeing my awkward, laborious, and sometimes painful movements, decided unanimously, that I ought not to attempt the journey to Washington.

I very much regret, that Massachusetts is not entitled to send a Delegate this year. Yet I think we have not spent the year uselessly. The Report of

Amendments to the Constitution.

the Treasurer of the Trustees of Donations, on Wednesday, showed that the funds for the support of Liberia College are in a better condition than last year, by about ten thousand dollars. Our last Annual Report attracted more attention than any other that we have published for many years. The opinions which we find prevailing around us concerning the future condition and wants of our colored population, give promise of increased contributions during the present year. * * * * *

The condition of the negroes in this country will not be such that they ought to be satisfied with it, and that emigration will be for their interest; so decidedly for their interest, that vast numbers of them will see it, and will act accordingly.

I wish I could be with you, to assist in the arrangements which you will make to meet our coming duties; but the history of the past year has taught me practically,—what I before knew theoretically,—that the world can go on without my help. I submit, therefore, to the necessity of my absence, with no misgivings as to the result.

Very truly and respectfully yours, JOSEPH TRACY."

The Report of the Rev. Franklin Butler, Agent of the Society in the States of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, was presented and read, and on motion, referred to the standing Committee on Agencies.

Communications were submitted from S. G. Lane, Esq., Secretary, Concord, N. H., July 17, and George F. Emery, Esq., Secretary, Portland, Maine, July 22, with notification of Amendments to Articles 5, 6, and 7 of the Constitution of the Society, proposed by the Maine and New Hampshire Colonization Societies, and duly published in "THE AFRICAN REPOSITORY." On motion they were laid on the table.

On motion it was

Resolved, That the Board adjourn, to meet again in this place to-morrow at 10 o'clock A. M.

COLONIZATION ROOMS, January 17, 1866.

The Board met this morning, at 10 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment:—the President in the Chair. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Thomas S. Malcom.

The Minutes of yesterday's session were read and approved.

On motion of Rev. John Maclean, D. D., it was

Report of Committee on Auxiliary Societies.

Resolved, That this Board take a recess at 10½ o'clock A. M., to pay our respects to the President of the United States.

The Rev. William H. Steele, from the standing Committee on Finances, presented and read a report, which was, on motion, accepted.

On motion it was

Resolved, That William V. Pettit, Esq., Hon. D. S. Gregory, Rev. John Orcutt, D. D., and William Tracy, Esq., be requested to act in co-operation with the Executive Committee in making arrangements for the semi-Centennial Anniversary of the Society.

The Board than took a recess to call upon the President.

JANUARY 17, 1866, 12.15 O'CLOCK P. M.

After a most gratifying interview with the President of the United States, the Board resumed its session.

Mr. J. R. Dailey was introduced and allowed to read a Memorial in relation to sundry orders which he holds, drawn by the Secretary of State of Liberia on the Secretary of the Treasury of Liberia, for the support of Recaptured Africans. Whereupon it was

Resolved, That the Memorial of Mr. Dailey be referred to a Committee. Hon. D. S. Gregory, Hon. Peter Parker, and Rev. John Maclean, D. D., were appointed the Committee.

On motion it was

Resolved, That the Annual Report be referred to the Executive Committee for publication.

On motion it was

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to nominate officers for the ensuing year. The Rev. John Maclean, D. D., William V. Pettit, Esq., and Robert B. Davidson, Esq., were appointed the Committee.

The Rev. John Orcutt, D. D., as Chairman of the standing Committee on Auxiliary Societies, made the following Report, which was, on motion, accepted :

“ The Committee on Auxiliary Societies, respectfully Report :

That they find the number and condition of the Auxiliary Societies, much the same as they have been for several years. Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, have State organizations more or less active in the cause. * * * During

Report of Committee on Auxiliary Societies.

the conflict of arms in which the nation has been involved and from which it is now happily delivered, both the Parent Society and the State Societies have deemed it wise to diminish rather than increase their operations. But in the judgment of your Committee, the time has come for renewed and more vigorous efforts in the prosecution of our work.

If the public mind does not need to be enlightened on the subject, it certainly needs to be aroused to a sense of its growing importance. The changed condition of our country has not changed the legitimate objects of the enterprise in which we are engaged. We are still called upon, and in louder tones than ever, to strengthen by emigration the Republic of Liberia. To effect this object we must have funds in our Treasury; and the essential value of an auxiliary consists in its ability to contribute to this end. If such a Society is barely self-sustaining, it cannot be said to be efficient in the promotion of the cause. Besides, we should be glad to see a large delegation from each branch of this Society as members of this Board. On this account it is desirable that suitable measures be adopted to make the annual amount paid into our Treasury from each State as large as practicable.

Your Committee are not prepared to say what those measures should be. They therefore would simply recommend that for the present, it be left to the Executive Committee to take such action as the circumstances may indicate desirable in relation to the formation or organization of Auxiliary Societies."

William V. Pettit, Esq., as Chairman of the standing Committee on Emigration, reported verbally that they saw no occasion to change the policy embodied in the recent reports of the Committee, and that they are gratified to notice the evidences of an increased desire by the people of color to emigrate to Liberia, which it appeared the officers of the Society were diligently seeking to stimulate and encourage.

The notices of the Amendments to the Constitution of the American Colonization Society, proposed by the New Hampshire and the Maine Colonization Societies, submitted yesterday, were taken up and read, and at the instance of an absent Director and of the Delegate of one of the Societies by whom the notice was given, were laid on the table.

On motion it was

Resolved, That the Board adjourn to meet in this place this evening at 7½ o'clock.

COLONIZATION ROOMS, January 17, 7½ o'clock P. M.

The Board met—the President in the Chair.

Election of Officers.

The Minutes of the Morning session were read and approved.

The Rev. John Maclean, D. D., as Chairman of the special Committee appointed to nominate Officers for the ensuing year, presented and read a report recommending the re-election of the present Officers, as follows :

Financial Secretary and Treasurer—Rev. William McLain, D. D.

Travelling Secretary—Rev. John Orcutt, D. D.

Corresponding and Recording Secretary—William Coppinger.

Executive Committee—Harvey Lindsly, M. D., Joseph H. Bradley, Esq., William Gunton, Esq., Rev. George W. Samson, D. D., Hon. Peter Parker, Hon. Samuel H. Huntington, Hon. John B. Kerr.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Board confirm the nominations by the Committee, and elect the persons named in their Report.

On motion of William Tracy, Esq., it was

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Board, the beneficial influence of the College of Liberia might be greatly extended by a provision for the instruction of females in a course of studies to be adopted with reference to their wants, and also by affording to persons engaged in business or whose circumstances prevent them from becoming regular members of the Institution, instruction in classes to meet once or twice a week.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to present the subject to the Trustees of Donations and of the College and confer with them upon the feasibility and expediency of the measure, and to take such action thereon, on the part of this Board, as may appear to the Committee proper.

William Tracy, Esq., Hon. D. S. Gregory and the Rev. John Maclean, D. D., were appointed the Committee.

The Hon. D. S. Gregory, as Chairman of the standing Committee on Accounts, reported examination of the same, and that they found them correctly kept and properly vouched and the balance as stated.

The Hon. D. S. Gregory, from the special Committee on the Memorial of Mr. J. R. Dailey, presented and read the following Report, which was accepted and, on motion, adopted :

Reports of Committees.

“The select Committee, to whom was referred the papers presented to the Board by J. R. Dailey, of Monrovia, Liberia, Report:

That they contain a claim against the Liberian Government connected with the return of Recaptured Africans. That the claim can only be adjusted by that Government, and that the Society has no control over the matter. The Committee therefore ask to be discharged from any further consideration of the claim, and permission be granted to Mr. Dailey to withdraw his papers.”

The Rev. John Maclean, D. D., as Chairman of the standing Committee on Foreign Relations, reported verbally that they had no business requiring their attention.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the President of the Society, in conjunction with the Executive Committee, be requested to call upon the Secretary of the Navy, and to urge upon him the importance of stationing two or three small steamers on the West African Coast; and to solicit from Congress a gunboat as a Guarda Costa for Liberia.

The Rev. Thomas S. Malcom, as Chairman of the standing Committee on Agencies, presented a Report, which was read and, on motion, accepted, and the resolution attached was adopted.

On motion of the Rev. John Maclean, D. D., it was

Resolved, That the cordial thanks of the Board be tendered to the President, for the able manner with which he has presided over our deliberations.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Board are due to the Secretary, for the admirable manner with which he has performed his duties on this occasion.

On motion it was

Resolved, That after the reading of the Minutes, and appropriate devotional exercises, the Board adjourn to meet at this place, on the third Tuesday in January, 1867, at 12 o'clock M.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The Board united in prayer, offered by the Rev. John Maclean, D. D., and then adjourned.

JOHN H. B. LATROBE, *President.*

WM. COPPINGER, *Secretary.*