Another year in the history of colonization has passed away, and in commencing a review of its varied events, we are called upon to discharge the mournful duty of recording the death of some of its valued friends. The Honorable Alexander Porter, of Louisiana, the Honorable Abel P. Upshur, of Virginia, and Colonel W. L. Stone, of New York, three of the Vice Presidents of the Society, have ceased from their labors.

Judge Porter had long been known as a zealous advocate and liberal patron of the Society. Endowed with great natural abilities, a finished scholar; and a perfect gentleman, residing in the extreme south, his example and influence were of vast advantage to this cause.

Mr. Upshur, though more recently numbered among our active friends, was not less true in his devotion, nor energetic in his efforts. The noble and important part which he took in conducting the correspondence between the Executive of the United States and the British government, in behalf of Liberia, will long be remembered with gratitude to his memory. From his high station and commanding influence, and his great anxiety to see the colony flourish, and rise to greatness, we had reason to anticipate great good from his continued labors.

Of the general character and influence of Colonel Stone, it is not in our power adequately to speak. All, however, who have been familiar with the columns of the "Commercial Advertiser," know how continued and ardent was his attachment to this scheme of benevolence; how powerful were his appeals in its behalf; and how cutting were the rebukes, and convincing the arguments which he dealt out to those who were disposed to decry its pretensions, or oppose its progress. He had a large and benevolent heart, a vigorous and well-disciplined mind, and he was frank and fearless in the
avowal of his opinions. To the enlarged views of a philanthropist, he added the expansive benevolence and fervent hope of a Christian. The combination of all these noble traits of character, gave to his advocacy of this cause, a consideration and an influence which few men are so fortunate as to acquire. He considered it as pre-eminently a scheme of philanthropy, designed to carry civilization and establish Christianity in a land all lost and ruined, and irredeemable by any other process of benevolence. Hence, while he explained its principles, demonstrated its practicability, and enforced its importance, he drew from the great treasury of Christian love, motives broad and deep as the woes of man, and vast as eternity, to excite the careless and selfish to give it their support.

But he has been called, in the vigor of his intellect and the strength of his faculties, to a higher sphere! While we weep over his tomb, may we emulate his virtues and sacrely cherish the memory of his worth!

In addition to these, we have also to pay a tribute of respect to the memory of the Honorable Roger Minott Sherman, President of the Connecticut state colonization society, who but recently departed this life. In him colonization has ever enjoyed a warm and devoted friend, a ready and able counsellor and bountiful contributor. He was intimately and thoroughly acquainted with its origin, progress and achievements. Some of the purest and strongest feelings of his generous heart clustered around it, and he never ceased to cherish the firm belief that it would ultimately triumph over every towering obstacle, and accomplish the grand results which it contemplates. Among the last efforts of his pen, was a letter which he addressed to the Secretary, in regard to the best method to be adopted to secure the attention and command the patronage of all the churches and citizens of his own state, extracts from which appear in another part of this report. We cannot but deplore and deeply feel the loss of one whose influence and exertions were so eminently devoted to the interests of this institution. His name shall be honored among Africa's distinguished benefactors, and his benevolence be held in affectionate and perpetual remembrance.*

We have also to record the death of Dr. Wesley Johnson, who several years ago went to Bassa Cove, as colonial physician, under the direction of the New York and Pennsylvania colonization societies, while they maintained a separate organization. After residing in the colony for

*Since writing this report we have learned that he left by his will a bequest to this Society of $4,000.
some time and making himself generally useful, his health failed him, and he returned to New York, his native state. He, however, had formed such an attachment for the colony, and felt such an ardent desire to make himself useful in promoting its welfare, that he again returned to it as superintendent of the high school on Factory Island, under the patronage of the Ladies' Liberia School Association of Philadelphia.

In their last annual report, the managers of that association thus speak of his usefulness, and their and Africa's loss in his death:

"We have also to mourn the loss of our excellent friend and helper, Dr. Wesley Johnson. In the death of this estimable Christian, we have lost an invaluable teacher, and Africa a devoted friend and martyr. The failure of his health, which necessarily suspended the high school of Liberia, about a year since, was to us a source of deep solicitude; still we trusted that his life might be spared many years. He returned to New York last May, in cheerful hope that his complicated disease was not incurable, that strength and time would still be granted him for further labors in the cause of human improvement.

"But, in the designs of an all-wise Providence, it was ordered otherwise. He lived but a few days after reaching the home of his childhood.

"To the piety, zeal and talents of Dr. Johnson, our society is mainly indebted for its success in founding the high school in Liberia. He watched with unceasing care over the erection of the building, organized the school, and proved by experience that its plan was practicable, and promised the best results.

"He had in the school about twenty-five scholars, who were received on condition of their paying 75 cents per week for their board, in labor, cash, lumber or provisions.

"Dr. Johnson, just before his death, observed, that he never regretted going to Liberia, for he hoped, in the erection of the high school, there was one bright spot that would shed its influence far into the interior of Africa.

"Governor Roberts, during his late visit here, bore warm testimony to the estimate the colonists place on the school. He was very anxious to have it re-opened as soon as possible, it being as he termed it, 'the hope of the colony.'"

While we record these instances of mortality among the friends of the cause in this country, we are happy in being able to state that the past year has been one of unusual health among the citizens of Liberia. And it is now an admitted fact, that newly arrived emigrants suffer less in their acclimation, than the inhabitants of the northern sections of the United States do, on their removal to the extreme south or the far west, and that after a residence of a year in the colony, they will find the climate more congenial to their constitutions than that of America.

Immediately after the last annual meeting of the Society, the Executive Committee concerted measures for despatching an expedition from New Orleans. It being impossible for the Secretary to perform this duty in person, the services of Wm. A. Bartlett & Brother were secured, who attended to chartering a vessel, receiving and taking care of the emigrants, purchasing provisions and trade-goods, and doing every thing necessary in the premises, under full and explicit instructions from us. And it is due to them to say that they deserve great credit for their promptness, efficiency, and

*The friends of the school will be glad to learn that another teacher has been obtained for the high school, Ishmael Lock, a colored man, well qualified for the station.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.
accuracy, and have inspired us with the fullest confidence in their honesty, industry, and business character.

The brig "Lime Rock," chartered for this expedition, sailed from New Orleans for Monrovia and Sinou on the 10th of March. She had on board ninety-two emigrants, of whom seventy-two were sent out by Dr. Duncan and the Rev. Zebulon Butler, of Mississippi. Fourteen were from Flemingsburg, Ky., liberated by the will of the late Thos. Wallace; and six were free people of great respectability from the city of New Orleans. They were well supplied with provisions, and all the articles necessary for their comfort and happiness in the colony. A correspondent who visited the brig just before she sailed, wrote us as follows:

"I have this day visited the Lime Rock, as she lies at anchor in the river just below the city, in company with three clergymen, each of whom took part in some of the most interesting exercises I have had the pleasure of witnessing for some time past. The emigrants appeared very well, and seemed quite happy in anticipation of going."

The expense of sending out these ninety-two people amounted to $5,394 80, viz: charter of the brig, $3,500; provisions for the passage, and six months in the colony, $1,588 82; water, fuel, berths, and other small items, $305 98. This makes the expense for each emigrant $58, and does not include house rent, medicine, medical attendance, nursing when sick, and other small expenses to be paid in the colony. We also sent in the vessel between sixteen and seventeen hundred dollars worth of goods, to be expended in the purchase of territory, and carrying on the various improvements in the colony: making a total expenditure on account of this expedition of $7,080 21.

The Lime Rock anchored at Monrovia on the 6th of May, after a passage of fifty-five days. Two of the emigrants died on the passage. Nineteen of them stopped at Monrovia, and the others went down to Sinou, and settled in the Mississippi colony, in the same neighborhood with those sent out a year before by Dr. Duncan and Mr. Butler. Gen. Lewis, of Monrovia, who accompanied these people to their new home, gives the following description of the appearance of the settlement, and of the meeting of the two companies of the same family:

"Yesterday I had the pleasure, in company with Dr. Lugenebeel and Captain Auld, of the "Lime Rock," of visiting the settlement up the river, where the poor unfortunate of the "Renown" were placed. I was more than pleased with the appearance of things there. It was truly a gratifying sight to see what improvements had been made in so short a time by a people who had nothing but their own industry to depend upon. Every man and woman in the settlement is living on their own lands, and nearly all their houses are built of timber. They are contented and happy, and would not, they say, exchange their homes under any consideration. They live in a free land—what more can they desire?"

"The moment the news of the "Lime Rock's" anchoring reached the settlement, the people hurried down to congratulate and welcome their friends and relatives to their new home. The meeting was truly worth witnessing. They embraced and kissed each other, and could only say, "Is it possible—thank God—did we ever expect to meet this side of the grave—the Lord is truly good and gracious." They wept on each other's neck—they shed tears of joy and gladness—not a cloud in-
tervened to damp the ardor of their feelings; it was truly a happy time, and my feelings flowed in unison with theirs."

Capt. Auld, master of the Lime Rock, in a letter of 26th July, makes the following allusion to the same thing:

"Dr. Lugtenbeel, his student, General Lewis, Mr. Murray, and myself, visited the new settlement up the river, where the Renown's emigrants had located, and were agreeably disappointed. Notwithstanding the destitute situation they were in, after losing every thing they possessed, when cast away, they had built themselves comfortable houses, and had an abundance of every thing growing in a thriving condition, such as corn, potatoes, cassava, beans, peas, &c., fruit of various kinds, such as water-melons, cucumbers, cantelopes, pine apples, bananas, plaintains, &c. All these improvements have been done in the space of ten or eleven months."

The emigrants by the Lime Rock all passed through their acclimation with very little sickness. Dr. Lugtenbeel remarks of them—

"I spent three months at Greenville, during which time all the emigrants who were landed at that place, sixty-eight in number, experienced one attack, or more, of acclimating fever; but, with the exception of two small children, whose death was caused by the effect of worms in the alimentary canal, they all recovered, and I left them in nearly or quite as good health as when they first arrived. Several of them had their lands cleared and their houses nearly built before I left."

The next expedition sailed from Norfolk, Va.; on the 14th June, with fifty-eight emigrants, in the ship VIRGINIA. This company were generally well prepared for emigration; many of them had been well instructed, and maintained uniformly good characters. They were all supplied with every thing necessary to render industry and economy sources of comfort and plenty. The bare outfit of one company of twenty-two of them cost upwards of eighteen hundred dollars, which was paid by the executor out of the estate. They were liberated by the will of the late Hardinia M. Burnley, of Hanover county, Va., and have been under the management of John H. Steger, Esq., who has acted a most liberal part toward them. He also liberated one of his own best servants, that she might accompany her husband, who was one of the above number.

Four others were from Richmond, Va. They were liberated by Mrs. Sarah Brooke, to whom they were left by her sister, Mrs. Catharine Ellis, deceased, with the request that she would send them to Africa. She also made a bequest to the Female Colonization Society, which, however, was void, the said society not being incorporated. These people have been under the care of John B. Young, Esq., of Richmond, who deserves much praise for the interest which he has shown in their welfare.

One was from Fredericksburg, a young man of fine appearance and good character, liberated by Wm. M. Blackford, Esq., and furnished with the conveniences necessary to render him useful and happy.

Seven of them were from Washington county, D. C., liberated by our fellow citizen, Wm. G. Sanders, Esq., and provided with tools, clothing, and furniture, requisite to their comfort in commencing life in a new country.
Eighteen of them were from St. Charles, Missouri, having been liberated by the will of the late Thomas Lindsay, and provided with a very expensive outfit, under the direction of G. C. Sibley, Esq. As an evidence of their good character and industrious habits, it is worthy of remark that while they were detained in Norfolk, having arrived some six weeks before the Virginia sailed, they supported themselves by their own labor, and won for themselves the confidence and respect of the good citizens of that borough.

Three of them were from Nansemond county, Virginia, liberated for the purpose by the will of the late Mr. Kelly, having for some time been under the direction of Hugh H. Kelly, Esq., of Suffolk, and hired out for their own benefit. They were able-bodied young men, and took some money with them.

One was from Augusta county, Va. He had purchased himself, and had been very anxious to purchase his wife also, but was obliged to leave her behind, intending, if life and health were spared, to return for her.

One was a free man from Smithfield, North Carolina, who had been anxious to see the colony for himself. He paid his own passage out, and if he is pleased with the place and his prospects there, will return or send over for his family.

It has been said that when slaves are liberated to be sent to the colony, their masters are governed by selfish motives; that none are set free unless they are old and worthless, or young and vicious, and then only to avoid the trouble and expense of keeping them. Would that every person who has entertained such a suspicion could have seen this company as they were ready to sail. It would most undoubtedly have corrected their impressions, and convinced them that those who are seeking the removal to Africa of the colored race are governed by the most benevolent and philanthropic feelings!

The invoice of goods sent to the colonial store by this vessel amounted to $2,222 02. For that part of the ship occupied by the emigrants and their provisions, &c., we paid $1,740. Their provisions, water, fuel, berths, and other fixtures for the passage out and support six months, cost $1,395—being a total expense for each one of $54 05, not including house rent, medical attendance, &c., in the colony. Adding the freight on the goods sent to the colonial store, $210, insurance, $41 50, and some other small expenses, $68 20, it makes a total expenditure on account of this expedition, of $5,676 72.

The Virginia arrived at Monrovia on the 3d of August with the emigrants all well, who were safely landed and comfortable houses appropriated to their use. At our latest
dates, 23d October, Gov. Roberts was making preparations to locate them on the St. Paul's river. He remarks:

"Dr. Lugenebeel has been exceedingly successful in carrying them through the acclimating fever. Of the two companies, but five have died, one only of that number being an adult."

Dr. Lugenebeel, under date of 22d October, remarks:

"Nearly all of the last company (by the Virginia) have experienced one attack or more of acclimating fever. None are on the sick list at present; and, with the exception of occasional slight attacks of intermittent fever, they are all enjoying good health. About one-third of them have been going to school during most of the time since their arrival, and several of them have made considerable progress in learning to read and write.

"From my experience and observations, I am fully satisfied that forty-nine persons in fifty, if not ninety-nine in one hundred, who come from the United States to Liberia, might pass safely through the acclimating fever: provided their constitutions were not much impaired by previous disease, and they could be prevailed on to exercise that prudence which is necessary."

The only other company of emigrants sent out this year sailed from Baltimore on the 18th November, in the brig Chipola, chartered by the Maryland Colonization Society. They were twenty-one in number, having been liberated by Joseph H. Wilson, Esq., of Wilsonville, Ky., and furnished by him with a liberal outfit. To the indefatigable agency of the Rev. J. B. Pinney we are indebted for bringing these people from Kentucky and fitting them out for their voyage. The whole expense attending their departure, their passage out, and support six months, is $1,425 38, not including house rent, medical attendance, &c., in Liberia, being an average cost of $67.87 for each one.

Thirty-seven of the other emigrants who sailed in the Chipola were from Virginia, and had been offered to this Society; but not having the means to send them, they went out under the patronage of the Maryland Society, and will be located at Cape Palmas.

We have been under the necessity of declining to send out a great many persons who have been anxious to emigrate the past year. The resources of the Society have been entirely inadequate to meet the demands upon it. These difficulties in the way of persons obtaining a passage to Liberia, have a tendency greatly to check the spirit of emigration, and to discourage a great many masters who have been hoping to send out their slaves. How important, therefore, that our friends should all bear this in their memories, and greatly enlarge their contributions the coming year!

From the accompanying financial report of the Treasurer, it will be seen that the whole amount of the receipts of the Society the past year was $33,640 39. The whole expenditure was $38,237 52, being an excess of the receipts of $4,597 13.

The expenses of the office in this city have fallen below the amount appropriated by the board at their last annual meeting, being only $1,910 56.
The receipts from subscribers to the Repository exceed the expenses of its publication by upwards of $700, and would be greatly increased if subscribers would generally be more punctual in making their remittances.

No payments of consequence have been made on the old debts of the Society. The Committee found it impossible to meet the indispensable engagements, and perform the indispensable business of the year with their limited resources. They consider it an object of the first importance that the Society should be entirely relieved from debt. There is about $6,000 of the old debt yet unpaid, and about $7,642.97 of other debts.

To meet these we have debts due the Society amounting to $3,062.70, together with $4,000 due from several legacies, that will probably be paid in the course of another year or two.

We have also debts due the colonial store, and goods there for sale amounting to about $6,000. We, however, do not expect to receive any immediate assistance from the colony to aid us in paying our debts in this country. Gov. Roberts is under instructions to prosecute the purchase of territory as rapidly as possible, and to appropriate all the available resources to that purpose.

One of the most prominent objects for which we have made special efforts to raise money, has been the purchase of territory. Every arrival from the colony convinces us more and more of the indispensable necessity of obtaining possession of all the territory lying between Cape Mount and Cape Palmas, a distance of about three hundred miles, of which about one hundred and fifty is now owned by the Society. It is thought that the remainder can be purchased for about $20,000. One important tract has been secured the past year. Alluding to it, Gov. Roberts says:

"You will see by the accompanying document that I have succeeded in purchasing from the natives a fine tract of land in the Little Bassa Territory—embracing about ten miles of sea-coast. In this purchase we have secured to the colony the principal landing-place in that country, and nothing but the want of funds prevents the Society from owning very soon the entire coast of the Little Bassa country. King Barguay, Salt Water, and Prince, the proprietors of the remaining section of that country, have expressed a willingness to sell. They own about fifteen miles of sea-coast, and I believe the only unpurchased territory between this place and Grand Bassa Point. This tract they propose to sell for six hundred dollars. I shall lose no time in bargaining with them."

Other tracts of land are also offered at present, on advantageous terms.

In his last annual message to the Legislature, Gov. Roberts makes the following statement, viz:

"I have to report to you that, during the past year, I have concluded treaties of alliance, amity, and trade, with several of the native tribes, both in the interior and on the sea-coast. And, notwithstanding but little immediate advantage may be expected to result to the citizens of this commonwealth by these treaties, still they will have the effect of bringing the natives into a closer connexion with the colony—cause them to identify our interests with their own, and will no doubt ultimately have the happy effect of drawing them from their present condition of heathenism and idola-

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.
try to the blessings of civilization and Christianity. Tribes far beyond us are now making application for citizenship, and to be identified with us in laws and government. I have not failed, in my intercourse with the native chiefs, particularly those on the seaboard, to introduce to them the subject of colonial jurisdiction, and to obtain from them an expression in regard to the purchase, by the Colonization Society, of the entire coast from Cape Mount to Cape Palmas. In almost every instance, the question has been favorably received; and if means had been within my reach, instead of securing only ten, I could have purchased more than one hundred miles of sea-coast the past year. The resources of the Society, however, have not been sufficient to enable them to make an adequate appropriation for the purchase of territory. They are, nevertheless, fully awake to its importance, and are now making strenuous efforts to raise twenty thousand dollars, to be applied to that especial purpose."

It is of great moment to the present welfare and ultimate prosperity of Liberia that its jurisdiction should be extended over an unbroken line of coast.

In his last despatch to us of 22d October, Gov. Roberts says:

"I have just been informed that the King, chiefs, and head-men of the New Sisters Territory are disposed to sell their country to the Americans; and as no time should be lost in acquiring it—as two great objects will be gained, viz: that of extending our territory along the coast, and extinguishing forever the slave trade between Monrovia and Cape Palmas—I have this day sent a commissioner to treat with them for the purchase of their territory, and wish him success with all my heart."

Surely, in whatever light we view it, the purchase of that territory is an object of commanding importance, well calculated to stir all the deep and tender feelings of our natures, and to draw from the benevolent and philanthropic their very largest contributions.

We regret to say that the receipts of the past year for this object have fallen far below our expectations.

During the summer a plan was proposed by a gentleman in New York to raise $15,000, by pledges of $1,000, payable when the whole amount should be subscribed, and promising himself to be one of the number. Since that time three other pledges, of $1,000 each, have been given, and we have strong hopes that several others will be added shortly.

An important Treaty of peace and friendship has been made with the Kroos, by which they bind themselves to abstain from all participation, direct or indirect, in the slave trade, "that no foreign officer, agent or subject, except of the colony of Liberia, or the American Colonization Society, shall purchase, have, or in any way, by sale, lease or gift, obtain right to, or claim upon, the Kroo territory." They also bind themselves to foster and protect the American missionaries.

This Kroo country possesses many important commercial advantages; and foreign traders, and nations, have shown special desire to obtain possession of it. The Kroomen are the pilots of the coast, and their services are almost indispensable to foreign vessels. They have never been engaged directly in the slave trade, but have always been of great service to the slave ships, in assisting them to get their slaves on board. If they should strictly adhere to the terms and obligations of the treaty, it will subject the slavers to very great delay, and thus render them more subject to capture.
The influence of the United States squadron on the African coast has been of vast advantage to Liberia. It has given the native tribes a better idea of the American character and resources, and has tended to quell their turbulent feelings and cause them to seek a more intimate acquaintance, and a closer connection, with the commonwealth of Liberia.

Lieutenant Governor Benedict, in a letter under date of September 10, says:

"The United States squadron has been of much benefit to us: the officers generally seem to manifest the most friendly feelings and social disposition towards us. Commodore Perry, together with Captains Mayo, Tatnall, Abbott, and Craven, will ever be gratefully remembered in Liberia."

The relations of the colony with the native tribes have been of the most friendly character, during the year. Peace has been steadily maintained. This has resulted, as Governor Roberts remarks:

"Generally from a conviction that we consider them almost a part of ourselves, and cherish with sincerity their rights and interests. The attachment of the natives is gaining strength daily, and will amply requite us for the justice and friendship practiced towards them. They continue to refer to the authorities of the colony, for the adjustment of all their important disputes; and I believe in every instance, we have succeeded in settling them amicably; thereby preventing wars, and the great calamities that would necessarily follow."

A very remarkable instance in proof of the powerful influence exerted over the most warlike tribes by the government of Liberia, is cited in the case of a dispute which threatened to involve the whole Goulah country in a cruel war with the Condoes. It was referred to the Legislature of Liberia by Ballasada, a Goulah chief, and was happily settled, and the two tribes have continued to live in peace and harmony ever since. That the influence of the colony is extending rapidly into the interior and along the coast, there cannot be a doubt.

The commerce and trade of the colony have been steadily on the increase. According to the official returns, the imports for a single quarter, exceeded $40,000, and the exports were about the same. The country has immense resources. It only requires industry and indomitable perseverance to develop them.

It is worthy of remark in this connection, that the receipts into the colonial treasury, chiefly from import duties, were sufficient to meet the current expenses of the commonwealth. These receipts would be vastly increased if all the sea coast was under the jurisdiction of the colony, by which smuggling and the introduction of goods free of duty would be prevented.

While we have these assurances of the growing interests of the commerce of the colony, we are happy in being able to state that the spirit of trade, which has been so rife, is subsiding, and that a growing interest is felt in agriculture. Dr. Lugeneebl, in whose statements the fullest confidence may be reposed, alluding to this subject remarks:

"You need not be apprehensive that a thirst for trade will induce any of them (the last company of emigrants) to take up their residence in the Metropolis; for I am happy in being able to assure you, that the trading mania is vastly on the decline. Some who are now engaged in trading, have already found out that fortunes are
not now so easily acquired, as formerly, in that way. I rejoice that the citizens of Liberia, generally, are convinced that the true source of wealth is in the soil—that in order to the maintenance of themselves and families, and the preservation of their standing as a free and independent community of people, endowed with the 'unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness,' they must cultivate the land; and to a greater extent than formerly, live on the fruit of their own planting.”

In his last annual message to the Legislature, Governor Roberts, says:

“I feel particular satisfaction in remarking that an interior view of our country presents us with grateful proofs of its substantial and increasing prosperity. Agriculture is in a steadily progressive state, and continues to be a subject of much interest to many of our citizens. It is calling up in a greater degree than formerly the attention of men of capital; and when such improvements have been introduced, as the present system requires, it will doubtless become a general source of affluence.”

This important and able document (the message of Governor Roberts) makes a most satisfactory exhibition of the present condition and prosperity of Liberia. The laws are respected—peace prevails—plenty is in all their borders—religion is in a healthful state, education is increasing; agriculture is advancing, and contentment and happiness every where prevail. It exhibits most conspicuously the beneficial tendencies and the happy results of colonization.

The Liberia Herald, speaking of this message, says:

“The Colonial Council assembled on the 4th March, in the neat and commodious room prepared as a permanent place of meeting of the Legislature, over the court room in the new Court House. From the spirit manifested by some, and the known ability of others of the members, we argue something beneficial.

“Governor Roberts delivered the Annual Message. It is an able and interesting document, and does great credit to its author. It is to be published. It will manifest what every Liberian must be proud of,

that our trade, our strength, and our population are all on the advance.”

The meetings of the Legislature were all marked with great decorum, and their proceedings would do honor to many similar assemblies in much older countries.

Increasing attention has been given to the education of the rising generation. The colonial council are concerteding measures for establishing a general system of public schools, in which efficient and competent teachers shall be employed, and a thorough course of instruction be given.

The spirit of improvement has been abroad in the colony. The Liberia Herald says: “The number of buildings at present going up in the colony, as well as those undergoing repairs, is truly cheering.” A large stone jail has been erected in Monrovia. Also a most substantial, well constructed and commodious Court House has been completed. This edifice is built of the stone with which Cape Mesurado abounds. It stands on a site which commands a beautiful view of the lower part of the town—overlooks the bay and anchoring ground, the bar and entrance into the river, Stockton creek, Mesurado river, and a vast extent of the interior country. It is thirty feet by forty in the clear. The first story which is occupied as the court room is twelve feet four inches high, from the floor, which is brick, to the ceiling.

The second story is fitted up for a council chamber. It is a large airy room, reached by two flights of stairs.
of easy ascent and good workmanship. The Legislature met there last March. The third story is divided into jury rooms, offices, &c. The windows of this substantial building are all arched, with shutters made of durable wood, and well painted. The building cost $4,500, and has been paid for entirely by the commonwealth.

The light house on the top of the Cape has also been completed. This is a substantial building, two stories high, with a cupola sufficiently elevated to be seen from any direction, and in any weather, at a distance of ten or twelve miles, unless when a thick fog covers the very Cape itself.

Dr. Lugeneel says of Monrovia:

"In visiting this place, a stranger is at once struck with the remarkably neat appearance of every thing around him, and the air of cheerfulness which seems to be depicted on every countenance."

Of the country, and other towns, he says:

"The other settlements are in a flourishing condition. I have visited those on the St. Paul’s river. In ascending this noble stream, many neat little houses may be seen scattered along its banks, surrounded by cleared lots or small farms, on which may be seen a variety of fruit trees and vegetables."

An officer in the United States squadron says:

"The colony must advance and succeed under all circumstances. It is idle to say that all are prosperous or happy. Industry, economy, patience and temperance, are as indispensable here as elsewhere. Without them little can be done; but with them I do solemnly believe that the colored man is far, very far, better situated in Africa than in any part of America. I am much mistaken if one in twenty of the colonists who have been here two years, could be induced, in any way, to relinquish Africa, and return, to spend their lives in America. Here they are the equals of the whites, and they feel the advantage of it."

Captain Wm. M. Hanbury, of New Orleans, says:

"That the present colonies of Liberia are destined to become a great, flourishing and powerful nation, I am fully convinced. I have dined frequently with the inhabitants in company with the officers of the American Navy, the Governor of the Colony, and other respectable citizens of Monrovia. They live well, and have plenty of every thing around them."

Commodore Perry, in a letter addressed to the Secretary of the Navy about a year since, says:

"It is gratifying to witness the comforts that most of these people have gathered about them; many of them are familiar with luxuries which were unknown to the early settlers of America. Want would seem to be a stranger among them. If any do suffer, it must be the consequence of their own idleness.

"At all the settlements the established laws are faithfully administered, the morals of the people are good, and the houses of religion are well attended; in truth, the settlers as a community, appear to be strongly imbued with religious feelings.

"On the whole, sir, I cannot but think most favorably of these settlements. The experiment of establishing the free colored people of the United States upon this coast has succeeded beyond the expectations of many of the warmest friends of colonization, and I may venture to predict that the descendants of the parent settlers are destined to become an intelligent and a thriving people."

These facts, and this testimony of disinterested persons, which might be extended indefinitely, certainly show that Liberia is in a healthful and prosperous condition at present, and that it promises well for the future. We actually behold what Pitt thought would come to pass, when thirty years ago, in his great speech in Parliament on the slave trade, he said:

"We may live to behold the natives of Africa engaged in the calm occupation of industry, in the pursuits of just and legitimate commerce. We may behold the beams of science and philosophy breaking in upon that land, which at some happy period, in still later times, may blaze with full lustre, and joining their influence to that of pure reli-
gion, may illuminate and invigorate the most distant extremities of that immense continent."

We have received in the course of the year a census of the colony—also a statistical history from the arrival of the first emigrants in 1820 down to September, 1843, which is full, minute, and definite, and contains nearly all the information that can be desired on all important points. Governor Roberts, in his letter accompanying it, gives the following description of its contents:

"It is in two parts: The first contains a roll of all emigrants that have been sent to the colony by the American Colonization Society, and its auxiliaries; showing their ages—state from which they emigrated—whether free born, purchased their freedom, or emancipated in view of their emigrating to Liberia, and by whom—where located—extent of education—profession—if dead, time and cause—if removed, to what place—showing of course, the number still living in the colony.

"A recapitulation, showing the number of emigrants from each state—the number of recaptured Africans that have been sent to the colony by the United States government, &c., &c.

"Recapitulation—showing the total number of emigrants that were free born, number that purchased their freedom, number emancipated in view of emigrating to Liberia, cause and number of deaths in each year, number of removals from the colony, &c., &c.

"The second part contains a census of the colony, showing the age, time of arrival, connections, profession, extent of education, health, &c.

"Recapitulation—showing the number in the colony this day, that have arrived in each year since 1820; number of children now living, born of American parents, number born of American and native parents, and number of native children adopted into the families of colonists.

"Recapitulation—names of heads of families, occupations, classification of age and sex, number of idiots and paupers in the colony.

"Agriculture—names of farmers, description and number of buildings on each farm, description of crops, quantity of land owned and number of acres under cultivation, where located, number of cattle and other live stock, with an estimate of the value of each estate.

"Commerce—names of merchants and traders, description of buildings they own, number of vessels owned in the colony, their tonnage, whether colonial or foreign built, amount of commission business transacted in the colony for the year ending 30th August, 1843, amount of stock employed in trade, an estimate of the value of property owned by merchants.

"A table showing the number of foreign vessels that have visited the different settlements during the two years, ending 30th September, 1843. The kind and amount of merchandise imported into the colony by each vessel. Amount of imports and exports of each port of entry.

"Schools—names of teachers, where located, number of children of each sex, distinguishing between American and native, by whom supported, &c., &c.

"Institutions for religious improvement, the number of churches in the colony, location, description of buildings, number of communicants, distinguishing between American and native.

"Statement of crime, names of culprits, whether Americans, captured Africans, or natives belonging to some of the contiguous tribes, number of convictions for murder, kidnapping, burglary, grand larceny, petit larceny, &c., date of trial, court and punishment awarded, and lastly a map of Liberia. The principal object of this map, is to give you some idea of the course of the rivers between Cape Mount and Cape Palmas; particularly the rivers St. Paul and Junk, as explored last season, and to fix the location of a number of native towns visited during that time, and others that have not appeared on any map, to my knowledge, before. There are still a number of native towns and villages in the vicinity of the American settlements, that could not be entered for want of space. At some future time I will try to send you one on a larger scale, embracing all."

We forbear in this place and time, making any extracts from this interesting document, believing that the whole of it ought to be printed and laid before the country as an irrefragable, unanswerable argument in favor of colonization, and hoping that means will be furnished to print and publish it as an appendix to this report, the estimated cost of which is $1,166.
The cause of colonization is believed to be in a healthful and flourishing condition in this country. The number of its friends has greatly increased during the past year. The number of subscribers to, and readers of the African Repository, has been considerably enlarged. Many of the daily and weekly newspapers of the country, that formerly were silent on the subject, have opened their columns to communications, and have come out themselves strongly in favor of the Society. A number of new auxiliary societies have been formed, and old ones which had been suffered to languish, have been revived. Many clergymen who for years had been silent on the subject for various reasons, have come to the conclusion that they would be doing wrong longer to conceal "their light under a bushel," and have delivered discourses in favor of the cause, which have met a hearty response in the breasts of their people. Many churches, long shut, have been opened for a presentation of the claims of the Society. Ecclesiastical bodies that have for years thought it unadvisable to have the cause mentioned among them, for prudential reasons, are now anxious that the Society should come and take rank with the other great benevolent institutions of the day, and share in the contributions of the churches.

As a specimen of the changes that are taking place in favor of the Society, we insert the following letter. Dr. Tenney and Mr. Tracy are not gentleman who are apt to be deceived in such matters. They are cool and dispassionate observers of men and things, who always examine the reasons and found their opinions on the most substantial evidence. The fullest confidence may therefore be placed in their deductions.

"Colonization Office,
Boston, October 11, 1844.

"Rev. and Dear Sir:—You are aware that the Rev. C. J. Tenney, D. D., has for some months past, been acting as agent for the Massachusetts Colonization Society, in different parts of the state. I have just received a letter from him, containing some evidence of a change in public sentiment, which may be interesting to you, and perhaps to your readers.

"Dr. Tenney sends me a list of twenty-two parishes, where he has lectured, or has made arrangements to lecture at some future time, on colonization. Two of these lectures have been delivered, and one is to be delivered, in pulpits which have always been open for our use, even in times of the most excited opposition. He has lectured in six pulpits, and has obtained the use, at a future time, of thirteen others, into which admission could not have been obtained three years ago. He has also obtained, for other persons to lecture, the use of three pulpits, at least, formerly inaccessible, which I do not find in his list.

"In some of these parishes, the pastors have formerly thought unfavorably of our enterprise. In others, and probably in a majority of cases, they have shut their pulpits against the agents of all societies which have any bearing on slavery, from the conviction that by opening them, they should only involve their people in bitter and hurtful quarrels, without any good result. Both in closing and opening the pulpits, the pastors have very generally been sustained by their people; or perhaps it would be more accurate to say, it has been done by the united voice of pastor and people. There are still many parishes where nothing can be done but by calling on individuals, without any public movement.

"Dr. Tenney remarks:

"'The bitterness of opposition from the abolitionists has greatly abated since they have adopted political action. There is much less sensitiveness in our churches on the subject of slavery. The facts, showing the influence of the colony on Christian missions, and the general prosperity of the colony, are carrying conviction to the can-

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.
did and pious, of the great importance of the colony to Africa. There is most deci-
dedly, a reaction in public sentiment, re-
specting colonization; although the amount
given by individuals is not increased in equal
proportion; still, several who had discon-
tinued their donations for three or four years,
have renewed them. I feel persuaded that
next year we ought, anew, to bring our en-
terprise before associations and ecclesiasti-
cal bodies.

"This last sentence may need explana-
tion. Nearly all the pastors in Massachu-
setts, of various denominations, are mem-
ers of associations, meeting usually four
times a year, and each on a different day
from the others. Agents of various be-
nevolent societies practice attending those
meetings, to lay their claims before the pas-
tors, and make arrangements for addressing
their congregations. In some communions,
ecclesiastical bodies of other names, answer
a similar purpose. For some years past,
even our friends in the several associations
would have regretted the presence of an
agent of our Society, as an occasion of un-
pleasant and unprofitable excitement. By
another year, Dr. Tenney thinks, they may
hope to be generally welcome; which is as
much as to say, that colonization may then
take its place among the benevolent enter-
prises which our churches generally think
it their duty to sustain. This, however,
you must understand not as a promise,
but as the present opinion of one well quali-
fied to judge. The facts, I think, give a
fair sample of our past depression, and of
the rate at which we are emerging from it.

Very truly yours,

JOSEPH TRACY.

REV. WM. McLAIN."

In a letter of later date, Mr. Tracy
gives some extracts from a commu-
nication received from another cler-
gyman in the state, of which the fol-
lowing are a sample:

"I inclose you two dollars as the first
fruits of my labors in this county, in behalf
of the colonization enterprise.

"The people seemed to be heartily
ashamed of this small contribution; but
they came together supposing that nothing
could be said to justify their giving at all.
The facts, however, which were communi-
cated, changed all their views on the sub-
ject, and they promise to do better next
time.

"The places which Dr. Tenney regar-
ded as accessible, I found to be closed, be-
cause the time devoted to taking collections
for this Society, had gone by, and other ob-
jects of charity must have their turn.

"I have stated the facts, so far as I know
them, in reference to the claims of the Col-
ization Society, to our —— association;
and, with two or three exceptions, all are in
favor of giving the cause a hearing before
their people, and of allowing me to address
them as soon as circumstances permit. The
month during which, heretofore, collections
have been taken, is that of July; and I do
not expect that, till then, much can be
done, except to prepare the way by scat-
tering light and truth on the subject, among
the ministers and churches. I am amazed
at the ignorance of some of our best minis-
ters, as to what the Colonization Society
has done for the benefit of the African race
during the last half a dozen years. They
seem to have got the impression that this
Society was dead and buried long ago.

"This change in their views, I think,
may be expected to give us collections next
summer, in twenty or twenty-five congrega-
tions from which we have hitherto been
excluded. The first collections will proba-
ably be small; but if our affairs go on well
abroad, will increase from year to year."

We might give many facts, con-

nected with the operations of the secreta-
ries of the New York and
Pennsylvania colonization societies,
showing changes of public sentiment,
and unfolding new openings to the
churches, similar to those exhibited
in the above extracts, all evidencing
that the cause is becoming increas-
ingly popular in the country.

The same thing is exhibited in the
receipts of the past year. Every
reflecting person is aware that the
intense excitement which prevailed
throughout the country during most
of the year, in regard to the presi-
dential election, so absorbed the
public mind as to render it almost
impossible to call attention to any
other object. Almost all the great
charities suffered in their receipts in
consequence. And yet the contribu-
tions from the churches, and from
private individuals, to this Society,
considerably exceed what they were
the year preceding. This is certainly a most encouraging fact, especially when it is considered that, for a considerable part of the year, (notwithstanding the efforts made to engage them,) not a single agent was employed by the Society. Captain Barker has labored for this Society, and in connection with the African Repository part of the time, and the balance of the time for the Massachusetts colonization society. The Rev. J. B. Pinney performed a temporary agency of three months in Kentucky and Ohio, during the summer, for this Society, and was very successful in raising funds. Excepting these, no agent has been employed by this Society until since the presidential election. We have appointed H. L. Hosmer, Esq., in Ohio, Rev. A. M. Cowan, in Kentucky, and Rev. J. B. Crist, in Tennessee and Alabama, who have just entered on their labors with flattering promises of success.

The Rev. D. L. Carroll, D. D., has been appointed by the New York state colonization society their secretary, and he has made his arrangements for vigorous efforts the coming year.

The Rev. S. Cornelius has labored part of his time in Connecticut, as the secretary of that state society, and part in New Jersey, as the general agent of that society; and in both these States his efforts have been very successful.

The Rev. J. B. Pinney still continues his important services as secretary of the Pennsylvania state society, by which he was made a life director of the American Colonization Society by the contribution of $1,000 just before the close of the year.

The Rev. Joseph Tracy continues secretary of the Massachusetts colonization society. He has lately published an able and very important argument in favor of the missionary character of colonization, under the following title: "A historical examination of the state of society in Western Africa, as formed by Paganism and Mohammedanism, Slavery, the Slave Trade and Piracy, and of the remedial influence of Colonization and Missions." It is a pamphlet of forty pages, and it is not too much to say that, from the facts which he has recorded, an incontestible argument is deducible in favor of African colonization! He places it in one single light, that is, as it influences Africa, in which none but a dark and prejudiced mind, or a malicious heart, can perceive it to be aught else than one of the noblest and most benevolent works of the present or perhaps any other century.

The Missouri state colonization society has lately been reorganized, and has secured the services of that firm and long-tried friend of the cause, the Rev. R. S. Finley, who hopes to be able to add much to the resources of the Society during the coming year.

It is known to our friends that we enjoyed a visit from the able and
talented Governor of Liberia last summer. His presence among us was attended with the most happy results. The communications which he made to various public assemblies, and the information which he imparted to the many influential gentlemen with whom he had intercourse, tended greatly to inspire new confidence in the stability and growing importance of the commonwealth of Liberia. He was introduced to the President of the United States and Heads of Departments, who received him with great respect, and were much interested in his statements relative to the colony.

Gov. Roberts may be considered as the first ripe fruits of Liberian culture and training. As such, he stands forth at once an evidence of the capabilities of his race, and of the practically benevolent spirit of colonization, as it necessarily rouses up and evolves faculties of mind, which, in a state of slavery or freedom in this country, or in Africa, must have remained torpid and dormant forever.

The question was repeatedly asked him, whether he considered the colonists capable of self-government, if now left entirely to themselves? And his uniform answer was, that he believed that if the Society were no longer to render them any aid or counsel, the colony would live and prosper, if they were not interfered with by any foreign nation.

Dr. Lugeneeel, alluding to the meeting of the colonial legislature last March, says:

“No unprejudiced individual could have attended the meetings of this body, and listened to their deliberations, without being convinced that the citizens of Liberia are capable of self-government.”

Dr. James Hall, who, during his long residence in the colony, became intimately acquainted with all its settlements, and whose perfect candor and integrity, accuracy of observation, and soundness of judgment, impart to his opinions great weight and value, says:

“The Liberians have shown a capacity for maintaining a free and independent government, a capacity and disposition for a fair degree of moral and intellectual improvement. The soil of Liberia is one of the most productive in the world, and capable of yielding all the varieties of vegetables, and all the staple commodities of the tropics. The climate of Africa is one that will prove as favorable to the American emigrant as does the climate of the western States to the New Englander. In fine, all that is necessary to favor and perpetuate, on the coast of Africa, an independent Christian government, is an increase of the number of select emigrants, an increase, for a certain period, of the appropriation to each individual on his arrival, and a general protection from the Government of this country.”

Early in November last, letters were addressed to the secretaries of the State societies, and to other distinguished friends of colonization, making various inquiries in regard to the present state of the cause in their various sections of the country; the number and warmth of its friends; the efforts made the past year, and the obstacles in the way; and as to their opinion of the best measures to be taken, to give increased energy and efficiency to its operations, at the beginning of the approaching year.

The various answers to these inquiries which have been received,
present many facts and truths touching the present and prospective condition of our enterprise, in a manner more satisfactory than could otherwise be done. As we cannot, however, present them entire in this report, we shall make such extracts from them as seem requisite to illustrate the subject.

The Hon. Judge Burnet, of Cincinnati, Ohio, says:

"A large proportion of the people in the Miami valley are friendly to the colonization cause, and if called on, would willingly contribute more or less to sustain it.

"The chief difficulty is in the want of a local agent to keep the subject constantly on the public mind, and to solicit contributions in the sparse as well as the more dense settlements of the country. One agent, such as Mr. Pinney, would effect more than all the organized societies in the Ohio valley, and in fact, it requires such an agent to keep the societies alive.

"A large part, probably three-fourths, of your contributions are made in small sums, the collection of which requires much time, and great patience and perseverance. Men engaged in business cannot spare the time necessary for this purpose; nor do they possess the information necessary to accomplish it. A man with the proper qualifications could obtain more in one month than an ordinary collector could in two, and might approach successfully many persons who would not listen to an ordinary applicant.

"Heretofore, but very little aid has been received out of our cities and towns. The great body of farmers and others residing in the country have not been sufficiently attended to.

"The colonization cause has many warm friends in Ohio, but they require to have their attention occasionally roused, and their feelings a little warmed by such communications as an agent ought to be able to give.

"It is much to be regretted, that the African Repository is not more generally circulated. That invaluable periodical, if it could be seen and read by the whole nation, would produce a very beneficial influence on the public mind, if not an entire revolution. I doubt if there be more than one in a hundred in the western States who has a correct knowledge of the condition and prospects of the colony, much less of the influence it is destined to have, and is now producing on the native tribes in its vicinity, in the suppression of the slave trade, and on the commerce of our own country, as well as of the world. This knowledge would be obtained from that publication, were it universally read; and at the same time such an extended circulation might be made to contribute largely to your funds."

The following extracts are from the letter of the late Hon. Roger Minott Sherman, to which allusion has been made in this report:

"In this village, (Fairfield, Connecticut,) the Congregational Society have seven annual contributions for religious and benevolent objects, of which this Society is one; and I supposed it was receiving regular aid, in a similar form, in other places. But upon inquiry, I am much disappointed to find that there is not another church in this association which gives this a place among its charities. In some, the influence of abolitionism is the great obstacle. A clergyman is not willing to hazard the peace of his parish by exciting that reckless, turbulent spirit. But in most instances, the neglect is owing to the fact, that the attention of the clergy has not been turned to the subject. A majority would, I apprehend, be ready to adopt a regular system of collections in their respective parishes, if the great success of the enterprise, and the interesting objects which it embraces, were but sufficiently understood. In order to get the aid of the people, their Pastors must press it on their consideration in their respective parishes. Without their aid, we can do comparatively nothing, and with it, much may be accomplished. From the inquiries which I have made, I think the clergy in this part of the State may be excited to action, except in those places where they are deterred by the fear of the abolitionists. All we want is revenue. This can be obtained in this State in no considerable amount for the aid of colonization, unless the clergy will introduce and sustain annual contributions in their respective parishes, which shall be permanent.

"I will endeavor, as I have opportunity, to promote the establishment of this system of regular parish contributions in this part of the State. What the success of the attempt may be, can be ascertained only by the experiment.

"Could the attention of the clergy of the various denominations be called to the subject, they would certainly be able, and I believe disposed, to enlarge, to a very considerable degree, the amount of our annual
remitances. I hope the attention of our most influential men may be arrested, and if this can be done successfully, I shall look for an increase of patronage. Your Address to our Friends and Patrons, lately published in the Journal of Commerce, and Commercial Advertiser, is well calculated to arrest attention, by an impressive presentation of the influence of the Colonization Society and its wants.

“Accept, dear sir, my grateful acknowledgments for your important public services, and the assurances of my personal respects, &c.”

Richard Henry Lee, Professor in Washington College, Pennsylvania, says:

“The opinions of the people of this part of Pennsylvania are very generally favorable. Abolitionism has made no great progress here. The calm and patriotic in this region see plainly that colonization has afforded them the most effective arguments and facts against its visionary and agitating schemes.

“With regard to the present position of our cause here, it is still strong. In this county and Fayette there must be between twenty-five and thirty auxiliary societies. Many others might be formed by an active agent.

“I can think of no surer means of increasing the energy of our friends and societies than the employment of agents. I can speak from much experience in this matter, that, whenever political excitements are abated, the subject of colonization becomes the most interesting to the people at large; but this interest must be roused into activity by the frequent bringing of the subject before their minds. I would suggest, then, that you prepare an address, for the end of this, or the beginning of the next year, urging a renewal of the attention of the friends of the cause, after the political excitement has passed away. The increasing prosperity of the cause—its enlargement of operations—its soothing influence on the political and religious interests and passions, &c., might be urged as motives and reasons for renewed attention and energy.”

The Hon. Elisha Whittlesey, of Ohio, says:

“The intelligent part of the people in this section of the State, who are not abolitionists, are generally friendly to the cause of colonization. Very many who were formerly its friends, have become its bitterest enemies, by uniting with and becoming abolitionists, taking, however, more recently the designation of ‘Liberty Men.’ Nothing has been done for some time past to revive the colonization societies. The friends of the cause here have hoped, by retiring from all grounds of controversy, that the exertions of the abolitionists would be less vigorous and successful. In this, I think, they were mistaken. Lester King, their candidate for Governor, resides in this county, and he has been, with most of his supporters, very active during the past year. The friends of colonization have been very unwilling to have the cause mingled with politics, and, therefore, the efforts of the abolitionists have not been resisted or counteracted. The decision of public sentiment prevents clergymen from taking an active part in favor of colonization when they are its friends; and when they are abolitionists, they lecture and preach on the subject everywhere.

“As to future operations, I think the State Society should be resuscitated. I shall go to Columbus, and if possible assist in its reorganization.”

Professor Simon Greenleaf, of Cambridge, Massachusetts, says:

“I have reason to believe that the violence of political abolitionism in the north has already created some change of feeling and opinion in favor of colonization, and that the present is a favorable season for renewed action on the part of its friends. Since abolitionism has assumed a separate political organization, I think it has lost much of the sympathy of the real friends of the African race, and that it will soon follow the fate of political anti-masonry, from a similar cause—the want of a true political foundation, and a departure from that of good morals and honesty of purpose.

“I should think, in the present state of the public mind, that a calm but energetic address or circular to the real friends of Africa and her children, would be very favorably received. Such an address, freely circulated through the northern States, I think, could not fail of being of great service to the cause.”

The following extracts are from the letter of the Rev. Philip Lindsley, D. D., of Nashville, Tennessee. They bring to view an entirely different class of difficulties in the way of colonization. He says:

“I duly received your communication of November 1st, but was at that time too ill to attend to its contents. It was a season, also, of extraordinary political excitement.
And, unfortunately, the colonization cause had become so strangely confounded, in the
popular mind, with abolitionism, that it was not uncommon among certain demagogues
to denounce the advocates of the former, as aiming at the latter. We, that is, the friends
of colonization, were frequently advised, nay, entreated, during the summer and autumn,
to remain silent and inactive. We were assured that nothing could then be ac-
complished; that we should only incur popular odium; that we must wait until the
election was over, &c., &c. Well, the election is over, and I fear the prospect is not
much improved.

"Nevertheless, my own deliberate opinion on the subject is, that a wise, eloquent,
judicious agent, who could render palpable, to every capacity, the broad lines of dis-
tinction between colonization and abolition, would dispel much of the darkness and
prejudice which prevail; and thus induce the honest multitude to enlist under our
banner. Our friends are numerous in this State, but scattered; unconscious of their
strength, and therefore somewhat timid and irresolute.

"It will ever afford me pleasure to aid the good cause in any way practicable, and
especially to sustain such agent as you may send to labor among us."

DAVID M. REESE, M. D., of New
York city, says:

"The cause of colonization never pre-
sented so strong claims upon the American
people as now, nor did it ever before, give
so great promise of auspicious results to
benevolent efforts, or call so loudly for
strenuous and united exertion. The num-
ber of its friends in this region is undi-
minished, though their warmth in its sup-
sport has fallen off, I fear, to a great extent,
from a variety of causes. The greatest
obstacles are the hostility of the Aboli-
tionists in many parts of this State, and the im-
possibility of removing the prejudices which
that faction have created against the cause,
and all who advocate it."

The Rev. JOSEPH TRACY, of Bos-
ton, Mass., says:

"To understand the present position of
colonization in this State, we must look at
its past position. And, as to that, I am
more and more convinced that the merits of
our enterprise were never understood here,
by any considerable number of our people.
Twelve or fifteen years ago, it was gen-
erally viewed with favor by that class of men
on whom foreign missions depended for
support. Their favor, as I am now per-

suaded, was extended to it charitably, rather
than intelligently. They wished it well,
and were willing to help a little, because
they thought its authors and managers to
be well-meaning and sensible men, who
probably understood their business, and
would make a good use of the funds com-
mitted to them; and not because they had
studied and understood the merits of the
enterprise. In this state of things, Mr.
Garrison’s war on the Society commenced,
and has been carried on for ten years, or
so, at an expense of several thousand dol-
ars, annually; every cent of which has
told against us more effectually than if op-
position to us had been its avowed and only
object. A state of feeling prevailed, in
which a calm and profitable consideration
of our claims became impossible. We
were shut out from almost every pulpit
in the State. By hearing continual asser-
tions against us, and nothing in our
favor, great numbers of good men came
to regard colonization as a moral felon,
detected, condemned, executed, and bur-
ried, beyond the possibility of a resurrec-
tion!

"But since last spring, access has been
gained to nearly fifty pulpits. I think it
safe to expect that by July next the num-
ber may be double.

"The number of our friends is consider-
able, and is increasing. ‘Their warmth,’
with few exceptions, is rather below blood-
heat than above it. A gentleman in this
city told me ‘he had not been much indo-
cinated in our enterprise.’ He likes to
have our publications, to know what we
are doing, and is willing to give us $5, or
less, now and then; and that is all. He is
an intelligent, liberal and energetic pro-
moter of all our benevolent efforts, and
were he ‘indoctrinated,’ would not think
of giving us less than $100 a year. He
is a fair specimen of very many of our
friends, except that he knows why he
has no zeal, and they do not. They are
friendly; but are not ‘indoctrinated,’ as
Yankees must be before they become
zealous.

"The obstacles in our way are the state
of mind already described, and especially
the erroneous impression that coloni-
zation and missions are hostile to each
other.

"Our principal efforts have been by
newspaper discussion, circulating our an-
nual report, and Dr. Tenney’s agency.

"As for myself, I have spent a consider-
able part of the past season in executing
the first of an intended series of attempts
to ‘indoctrinate’ the good people of Mas-
achusetts. The result is, an octavo pam-
phlet of some forty pages, which is now in the press, and will reach you almost as soon as this letter. Its object is, to secure the intelligent support of the friends of foreign missions. I have aimed to exhibit the argument on this point with as much fullness of detail as I could in a pamphlet of a readable size.

"To 'give increased energy and efficiency to the cause,' we must keep Dr. Tenney in the field; or if winter drives him within doors, as I fear it will, get a good substitute, if we can: but a good one, or none. ‘Circulate the documents,’ as politicians say. Work with the Repository. Diffuse information through the newspapers, and in other ways, as found practicable. Make arrangements, as far as possible, for parochial contributions next July. Carefully avoid all spasmodic efforts; all attempts to get up a 'vigor... movement,' as the old expression is, at some particular time. Our future patrons are yet too ignorant, and conscious of their ignorance, to be wholesomely moved in that way."

The Rev. D. L. Carroll, D. D., of New York, says:

"The answers which you seek to these inquiries are of great moment, and ought to be given intelligently, and with the utmost candor.

"I do not understand you as asking my opinion of the cause of colonization in general, or in the abstract; but my opinion of its position within the more immediate sphere of my knowledge. My opinion of this general cause has long been known. The spirit, the conception, the execution, of the enterprise of African colonization, exhibit some of the loftiest qualities—the noblest combinations of thought, and the grandest and most august benevolent action that pertain to fallen human nature! But this is not the general estimate of the cause in the 'Empire State.' I therefore proceed to define its present position here. It is not as flourishing as it should be in this large and flourishing portion of the north. A number of causes have contributed to this result. Abolition excitement became so tumultuous and alarming some years ago, that the friends of colonization cowered before it, and, for the sake of peace, ceased to defend, or do anything to promote, the cause. Our late most worthy and venerable treasury, Dr. Poudfit, for three or four years previously to his death, ceased to speak of colonization publicly, and from the pulpit, or to impart information, or to give impulse to the cause in this way; so that it has measurably 'fallen out' of the popular mind to make way for other things that

have been more exciting, and that have been prominently urged upon public attention.

"Some of the obstacles which have stood in the way, are, utter want of information respecting the present condition of the enterprise; total misapprehension of the real nature of the cause; violent prejudices, excited by the misrepresentations, falsehoods, and untried vituperations of abolitionism! —the grand throes and agony of political excitement; the lingering effects of the late prostration and pecuniary pressure of the country.

"In regard to future measures, one thing, it seems to me, will be indispensable, and that is, to diffuse information on the subject. Wherever I have obtained the ears of people, and communicated the facts respecting the present condition of the enterprise, I have conciliated favor to the cause, and increased the number of its friends. So that the colonization interest in this State is now a little on the increase, and the cause begins to look up from its deep depression with a commingling of smiles and tears on its face! If some good, never-tire agent for the Repository could be procured to traverse the States and thrust that periodical upon people as other publications are crowded in, this would be a great desideratum. Another thing that ought to be, and must be done, to give increased energy to this cause, is, to induce pastors to consent to have it brought back to the pulpit, from which it has been most iniquitously exiled, as a mistaken concession and costly peace-offering to the fiery and inexorable Moloch of Abolition! The secular and religious press, too, ought to be laid under contribution to our cause to a greater extent than hitherto. Some means ought also to be used to diffuse more courage and determination in the friends of this cause. If a general convention could be appointed at such time and place as to secure a good attendance of the friends of colonization, and be addressed by some of the most distinguished speakers that could be obtained for the purpose, this might have a salutary effect in creating a new interest, and infusing a new and indomitable energy in this cause. The fact is, we want something more of the fierce and unconquerable spirit of determination, in this cause, which politicians manifest in theirs. Inflexible determination and unfaltering perseverance, are the two great elements of success in every human enterprise! The truth is, we must make a mighty aggressive movement for the conquest of new influence and resources. There are so many objects of engrossing, not to say maddening, excitement, pressed upon the popular mind in this country, that

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.
Surely not. They all speak the language of confidence—of determination, and of perseverance, until the nation is awakened—until a moral and Christian influence in favor of this Society has reached every heart in our country; and until the colony is erected into an everlasting monument to the praise of American justice and benevolence!

Rise, then, ye friends of humanity! ye statesmen and orators, join all your eloquence, and your exalted powers in this noble cause. Animated by the encouragements to be drawn from the past, fully impressed with the magnitude of the work to be accomplished in the present, let us press forward under the cheering prospects of the future! The God of heaven is with us! The enterprise is undoubtedly His, and His richest blessings have been upon it. He has brought it safely thus far, and He will pursue with a steady and uniform course, and complete, with a splendid and glorious triumph, whatever and every work which His wisdom has devised, and His hands have begun!