

the prominent Colonizationists of the day, became its Corresponding Secretary,—and upon its Incorporation by the Legislature in the following year, was appointed to the same office. He occupied that station until March, 1837, when he was unanimously elected President of the Society. This office he continued to fill, discharging with unwearied assiduity, and as a labor of love, all its varied and responsible duties, until upon the death of the Hon. Henry Clay, the distinguished President of the American Colonization Society, Mr. Latrobe was called upon, in January, 1853, as his successor in that important station, to devote to the interests of Colonization throughout the Union, the talents, zeal and industry which he had displayed in a more circumscribed sphere of operation. The Board of Managers, with much reluctance, felt it to be their duty to consent, by accepting his resignation, to a severance of the peculiarly intimate relations which had so long existed between themselves and their President. It would be as vain as it is unnecessary, to attempt to enumerate his services: frequent traces of his labors are to be found in the early history of the Colony at Monrovia, now the Capital of one Independent Republic, and every page in that of Harper, the infant Metropolis of another and still younger State, will always be regarded as a monument to perpetuate the memory of his exertions.

The Reports heretofore made by this Board, together with the publications made from time to time, in the Colonization Journal, have kept the members of the Society and the public advised of all the material events, affecting the interests of Colonization, which have occurred in this country and in Africa. The Report of January 1st, 1850, gave a general summary of the proceedings of the Board, from the organization of the Society, and an interesting account of the circumstances attending the first establishment and subsequent history of the Colony at Capé Palmas. In later Reports, this history has been brought down to the close of the year 1852.

At the date of the Report of January 1st, 1853, the time appeared to have arrived when the interests of the Colonists would be promoted by making, in conformity with their wishes, an organic change in the political relations previously existing between them and the Maryland State Society. That Report and the documents therewith published, shewed the steps which had then been taken by the Board, in reference to the establishment by the Colonists of an independent Government. The Board have now briefly to recapitulate the principal occurrences which have since taken place.

**Maryland Historical Society**

**The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers**

**VIII. Commissions and Reports**

**D. Reports of the Board of Managers  
1856**