## MARYLAND COLONIZATION JOURNAL.

Narrative of James Williams.

This narrative has been widely circulated, both through the periodical press and in pamphlet form, and thus exerted an extensive influence on the opinions and practice of many into whose hands it has fallen. For this reason, the renunciation, by the committee appointed to investigate it, of many of the statements it contains as 'wholly false,' and all of them as unworthy of confidence, is honorable on their part; and the exposure ought to be made co-extensive with the circulation of the narrative itself. Justice to the readers of it require this. We have delayed copying the report from the Emancipator, in which it made its appearance some time ago, because we understood that something farther was intended to be published respecting it, and we did not wish to give it unaccompanied with all the circumstances and explanations which the committee might deem proper to present. We apprehend, however, that the expectation of any thing farther on the subject was founded in misapprehension, and that the report below is to be taken as final.

#### (From the Emancipator.)

Statement authorized by the Executive Committee. mittee of the American Anti-Slavery Society, appointed the undersigned a special committee to black, where his testimony was contradicted by a pointed the undersigned a special committee to black, where his testimony was contradicted by a contrad investigate, and report on, certain allegations, published, together with the testimony to support them, in the Alabama Beacon, against the credibility of the 'Narrative of James Williams.' This they have done with the most cautious circumspection, inasmuch as the party, whose veracity was called in question, was absent from the country, and his aid in the investigation could not be had. The investigation was given to the public in the Emancipator of August 30th. It will be | ing longer for answers to letters that have been | every side. If the colony had the actual possesremembered that the objections taken, were not so much to the force and applicableness of the testimony, as to the loose and suspicious form in which it was presented in the Beacon. The material bearing of much of it was not denied, provided the actual entity and the credibility of the witnesses (of which the committee knew nothing) could be made to appear, in such a manner as to remove from them all reasonable ground of doubt or impeachment.

That the editor of the Beacon might be advertised of what-in the eyes of others less excited by the subject than he appeared to be-was wanting to his testimony, the deficiencies were pointed out, and an opportunity thus afforded him of correcting any error, or supplying any omission that might have occured in the preparation of his

Immediately on the publication of the statement, the undersigned individually addressed letters of inquiry to between forty and fifty persons residing in Virginia, Alabama, and elsewhere. Some of the letters were written in such a manner as not to disclose to those to whom they were directed, the object of the writers in seeking the information requested-or, their connection with the anti-slavery cause. Where these letters have been answered at all, it has been done, as it is thought, without any knowledge, on the part of the respondents, of such object or connection. This is mentioned, in the absence of any personal knowledge of the respondents possessed by the undersigned, to show the full confidence may be reposed in the sincerity with which their answers have been given. Other letters were written to persons who were made fully acquainted with the object of the writers and their anti-slavery connection. Where these have been replied to, it has been done in a manner, not only unequivocal and direct, but respectful and courteous.

Letters have been received from the following persons in Virginia:

1. From Dr. John Brockenbrough, who has resided in Richmond forty years, and been long and extensively known as among the most respectable

and intelligent of its citizens. Princeton College, where he was a class-mate and friend of one of the committee, and where he was considered, in every way, a young man of unusual worth. It is believed that he has maintained this this time.

and intelligent citizen.

circuit court, residing in Fauquier county.

county court.

county court.

mentioned.

county court.

are exposed in the narrative.

mony furnished by the letters above cited.

Larrimore.

ed in the Beacon. the Larrimores and Roanes, Brockenbroughs or position to 'dive into the infections of hospitals, Scotts, for the last fifty years, if ever.

ville, never held a slave who was brother to James | circumstances, and gone off and reported accord- from which to controvert any portion of Soorie's Williams.

5. Neither John Smoot, described in the narrative as a planter of Powhattan; nor John Green, and

6. Neither is such a man as Stephen Ransdell | to pluck the fruits, eat and be happy, they have | merchandise kept constantly on hand in the colony known ever to have resided in Caroline county. rejoiced in the success of a scheme, to which they (which has never yet been the case), would draw

resided in Richmond.

narrative, and denied in the letters, that can fairly | for a while, but its effect will be to suffer the be considered as matters merely of opinion, about | complaint to acquire strength insuperable to all which a person of hasty or weak judgment might | attempts at cure. Where is there a country on be expected unconsciously to err. The statements | earth more fruitful in resources than America? are of facts on the one side, met by absolute denials | but where would the colonies planted on those on the other. That one of the parties has inten- | shores, now be, had they not been sustained by tionly misrepresented is placed beyond all doubt. | the powerful hand of European patronage. On The committee, called on, in the discharge of all the principles of human calculation, they would their duty, to say which, in coming to a decision, exist now, only as a historic fact, that an attempt have scrupulously guarded themselves against the | had been made to colonize that country. The About three months ago, the executive com- influence of the prevailing prejudice, which would first requisite to the prosperity and advancement white. Thus prepared, as they feel themselves to acquiring strength, for the last four years. Its improved the state of things, as to render a change be, for impartially weighing all the circumstances | ravages have been more fearful, and the vessels | in the constitution and laws, all important. This, of the case, they have been drawn fully to the engaged in it more numerous than at any former conclusion, that the statements in the narrative, period of the colony's history. An exterminating made to the colonists some years ago, has excited so far as they are cited above, and contradicted by | war has raged over an extent of fifty miles around the writers of the letters, are wholly false, and us,-nearly all communication with the interior therefore they cannot with propriety ask for the has been cut off; lands have remained untilled; confidence of the community in any of the state- | every article of food has advanced 200 per cent. ments contained in the narrative. Without wait- in price, and horror and confusion have raged on to, is to be found in the twentieth annual report; addressed to several persons in Alabama, the un- | sion by purchase from the natives, of all the coast dersigned presented at the last meeting of the between Tradetown on the south and east, and executive committee, a report in accordance with | Cape Mount on the north-west, and Sinoe and | rejected. I would here observe, that no man of the opinion expressed above :- whereupon it was | Maryland in Liberia, similar territorial extent, sense among us, could object to a confederacy, as

> 'That the said special committee prepare, as soon as may be, a statement in relation to said narrative, to be inserted in the Emancipator; and that the publishing agent be directed to discontinue | bare possession of the country, and promulgation | for their concurrence, at least to enable them to the sale of the work.'

In accordance with this resolution, the foregoing statement is submitted.

JAMES G. BIRNEY, & Com. LEWIS TAPPAN,

### American Colonization Society.

Washington, Nov. 19, 1838.

should appoint, without delay, delegates (any num- | ment would be comparatively small. No large and | ber not exceeding five) to this meeting, and that | formidable force would be required. A small armas many of the subscribers to its funds who have ed vessel with the support and countenance it ginning that our friends in America, as well as the at any time contributed thereto thirty dollars, and | would receive from the regular cruisers stationed are thereby become members for life, as can make on the coast would effectually protect the comit convenient, should also be present, as it is ex- | merce of the colony, and prevent all pernicious pected plans more or less vital in their character | intercourse in its territory. For such assistance will come under discussion for remodelling the ample returns might be made in the aggregate constitution of said society.

The place and hour of the meeting will be announced in due time.

R. R. Gurley, Secretary.

By a recent arrival at New York from the coast of Africa, we received the Liberia Herald for May, June, and July, from which we make liberal extracts, prefering to give publicity to information from that country to any matter of our own.

What course the friends and patrons of African

colonization will now adopt to sustain their colonies, and to give them the firmness and solidity of well established, thrifty and independent commu-2. From John Ruthford, Esq. Mr. R. was born | nities, cannot be at present, with any certainty in Richmond, and has resided there ever since, | conjectured, at least by us, at this distance from with the exception of two or three years spent at | them. Perhaps they are themselves at a loss, in what direction to proceed. Nothing can be done without means, and these means must be money. But where it will come from, and how it is to be raised, may be questions that puzzle the most character in his native place unimpeached up to | sagacious. We once felt a delicacy in enunciating certain truths, in respect to the colony, lest our 3. From Thomas Miller, Esq. two letters have | enemies should wrest them to our injury and disbeen received. It will be remembered that two credit. We had been declared by the wise and communications from Mr. M. appeared in the philosophic, incurably lethargic, and incapable Beacon. It was in this way the committee first of self-government. It had been most confidently became acquainted with his name. They take asserted, that those incentives to high and noble pleasure in stating-and in doing it explicitly- | doing:-that urge the philosopher on in his inquithat they have ascertained from various sources, ries-the hero, in his career of victory-the ambithat Mr. M. is not only all he represented himself | tious in the acquisition of empire—and the literary to be in the communications referred to, but that aspirant to the temple of fame,—exert their influin Virginia, his standing is very high as an upright | ence on us in vain; in a word, that we are insusceptible of those finer touches that give a finish to 4. From Hon. John Scott, judge of the sixth | the human character. Lest any reference to the arduous nature of the work before us, or solicita-5. From William J. Dance, clerk of Powhattan | tions of assistance, should be regarded, confirmatory of an opinion so humiliating and degrading, 6. From James Roy Micou, clerk of Essex | we have voluntarily turned our eyes from the difficulties as they would occasionally present them-7. From James R. Micou, father of the one last | selves to contemplation, and resolutely imposed an unmurmuring silence on our lips, and indulged | tribe, inhabiting the north of Sierra Leone, in a 8. From John. L. Pendleton, clerk of Caroline | a vague and indefinite hope, that some auspicious | recent trading excursion from this place to the | matter. breeze should disperse the scowling cloud that interior, pushed his journey a considerable dis-The committee know no reason for impeaching hangs so portentously upon our path. Serious tance beyond the utmost point which any of our or suspecting the testimony of these witnesses, reflection upon the matter has sometime since American traders have yet reached. He says the FARMING .-- Our people are making rapid proapart from the fact that they are slaveholders, convinced us, that the delicacy is morbid, and route to this place from which gress in farming. We have but little fear, that and interested in the system whose enormities abandoning it as foolish, we have now the moral gold and cattle are carried to Sierra Leone, the we shall not have a full supply of the coarse staff courage thus publicly to confess, that our unaided | Nunez, Pongas, and Gambia is shorter, and more of life, during the ensuing rains, maugre the scar-The committee abstain from any detail touching | energies are unequal to the task before us. An | direct than to any of these places. He states that | city among the natives. Our fear of total loss of the credibility of the greater part of the narrative, arm nerved with more power and guided by more | the country that bounded his journey is inhabited | cattle, have subsided, and we have still some left. that would unnecessarily protract this statement; wisdom than we possess, is required to strike a chiefly by Mandingoes, and is governed by a The sugar-cane on the society's farm we fear will they will only present the substance of the testi- path, and to direct a course, through the physical | Mandingoe chief, and that they possess cattle in | be a total loss, for the want of a mill to grind,—a and political forests, that darken and hedge our large abundance. And he further states that the circumstance exceedingly to be regretted, on many 1. There is an estate in Powhattan county of way. But we feel it due to ourselves, to observe reason why gold and horses are not brought here, accounts, especially as the manufacture of the but little value, called Mount Pleasant, but it has here, that to redeem our character from the odium as plentifully as they are carried to Sierra Leone, article would disprove the declarations of many, not been owned or possessed, in the memory of thrown upon it, to falsify the self-complacent as- is that 'de Cape no hab money fit da trade.' We that the article cannot be produced in Liberia. the existing generation, by any one bearing the sertions of those sage theorists upon the African have known Soorie a long time;—became ac- There are about six acres of cane on the agency name of Larrimore, or any other name resembling | character, who, were it not for the opportunities | quainted with him twelve years ago in Sierra | farm, said by some called judges, to be of excelthey have enjoyed, would be as ignorant as those | Leone, and feel no hesitancy in vouching for his | lent quality. It is now ripe for cutting, and as 2. No such man as the Larrimore described in | they abuse, we only ask the same measure of aid | fidelity, and the general accuracy of his statement. | we have no mill for compressing it, it must of the narrative, or any other of that name, has been | that would be indispensable to any other race sur- | Soorie, must not however be supposed to possess | course be a total loss. Measures have been taken known, at any time, to have resided either in | rounded by similar circumstances. Among the | any very critical geographical knowledge. His | to have a temporary machine constructed here, Powhattan county, or in any of the neighbouring | causes which have combined to close the hand of | estimation of relative distances is founded not | but it seems the only man in the colony that counties; or in Richmond, either in summer or | charity against the colony, are those florid and | on measurement or bearings of one place from | understands any thing of mill business, is labourwinter. There is but one family named Larimer, glowing descriptions that have been given of the another, but upon the reports of travellers, and ing under a disorder that entirely incapacitates (none named Larrimore,) known as having re- pecuniary ability of the people, the docility and acquaintance with whom he met and partly upon him for work. We have now to regret that we sided in Virginia. This consists of two brothers | tractability of the natives, the fertility of the saw some gold and a large quantity | do not possess some small share of the mechanical only; one of them, a few years back, removed to | the general resources of the country. Visitors feel- | of cattle. If Soorie's statement wanted confirma- | genius of Governor Johnson, of Bassa, and one Florida; the other is George T. F. Larimer, of | ing a feverish interest in the colony, and prurient to | this score must be content to stand charged with Essex county, the same whose letter was publish- disseminate news, have visited only the best houses | cured there, we have it in the straggling parcels | the crime of cupidity. This gentleman, by his in the colony, where every nerve has been strained | that have been occasionally purchased from traders | own genius, has constructed the model of a wind-3. There has been no intermarriage between to make a decent exhibition,—and feeling no dis-

When individuals who feel but a general and lers, we have reason to believe that a vein of the indefinite interest in the colony, have heard that | precious metal, runs along the edge of this conti-Benjamin Temple, as administrators on the estate | the natives are throwing away their idols to the nent, between the western shores of the Great of the elder Larrimore; nor John Gatewood, as | moles and bats of the earth, and en masse becoming | Sahara, and the eastern boundary of the eternal the master of Williams' wife, and as living about | christians; that the slave-trade is withering under | forest that guards the interior. What sinuosities four miles from Mount pleasant, are known as | the moral breath of the colony—that the country | may have, or how nearly it may, bend to this point having at any time resided in said county or else- produces every thing, and that every thing grows of the coast, is not yet determined. We have been without labour, and that the colonists have only long of the opinion that a full supply of the proper 7. Nor has John Scott, a respectable merchant | cannot rid themselves of a feeling of indebtedness, | much of the gold and cattle, hides, wax, &c. from of many years standing in Fredericksburg, ever | but to which the bounties of nature have precluded | their wonted channel to Sierra Leone, and other the necessity of any pecuniary offering from them. | places to the windward.-Ib. There is but little, if any thing, set forth in the | This tampering with a disease, may lull the patient which for a small consideration might be easily such which must take place at some future day. acquired, they would then possess the right of I say as such, because it appears to me that any excluding from their limits all species of trade and communication inimical to their interests. But a people, should at least be submitted to them, if not of inhibitory laws, would not keep out the slavetrade. The immense lucrativeness of the trade would impel the avaricious on, in quest of the detestable gains. All then that would be wanted, would be a sufficient force, which the colony possesses, to break up any factories that might be of our sister colonies would certainly be the gainestablished for the purpose, and a naval protecting | ers, should a confederacy take place. For this armament from abroad, when such exterminating plain reason: We are certainly ahead of them in operations should be carried on. This would be some all important matters; and it suffice, sir, to The twenty-second annual meeting of the above | making sure work of the business. The natives society will be held in this city, on Tuesday the | then would from necessity turn to the cultivation 11th of the ensuing month. It is desirable that of the soil and to the pursuits of an honourable have not been submitted, and whether when the the several auxiliary societies in the several states | commerce. The cost of such a protecting armatrade of the colony (which would increase with to say, that if the board of managers have not time every succeeding year), if poured into the quarter | to alter it, or if they think that personal observawhence the aid shall come.—Liberia Herald.

> The following beautiful lines by the late Rev. S. O. Wright, of the M. E. Church, will, we presume be the more acceptable to our Liberia readers from the fact, that the ardent and glowing prediction they contain was but the echo of a heart determined to 'brave the ocean and the grave' and to present itself an offering on the altar of Afric's

# BY S. O. WRIGHT.

Afric! awake from thy slumbers! The night of thy death-sleep is o'er, The day star is gleaming in heaven, And darkness shall shroud thee no more, Lo! light is now tinging the skies! Awake with the day-spring arise!

Afric! the cup of thy sorrows Is drained, and dashed at thy feet; Thy suff'rings the hand of our kindness With mercy's full chalice shall meet: Drink freely,—and stifle thy fears; 'Tis gladness we give for thy tears!

Afric! thy chains are all riven, And moulded to bracelets of gold; Now hushed in the sigh of thy sadness; The price of redemption is told;-No more the sad face of despair Thy sons and thy daughters shall wear!

Afric! the wave of the ocean Bears tidings of freedom to thee-The VOICE OF JEHOVAH proclaiming Thy land shall be happy and free! Our sons and our daughters shall brave, To bless thee, the ocean and grave.—Ib.

GOLD TRADE.—Soorie, a native of the Soosoo

and take the gauge of disease,' they have assumed I from Dan to Beersheba, of the colonization world.

(From the Christian Advocate and Journal.) 4. The late Mr. Brockenbrough, of Charlottes- what they there saw as the general measure of from that section. We have, however, no data, statement. From the reports of different travel-

# Monrovia, June 19, 1838.

MR. EDITOR :- Permit me to trouble you with a few remarks, on the constitution and laws of Liberia. You are aware, that the board of managers has long since, promised a new constitution and also a code of laws. They, as well as the colonists, agree that the present constitution and laws, are insufficient for our government: and the reason is very obvious. The present laws were made when the colony, as it were, was one mere together with a promise of the board of managers, a considerable interest here; and indeed, if read aright, in America too. You are aware, sir, we have already received a proposed constitution on an entire new plan. The new constitution I allude which was intended to go into operation, should there be a confederacy between the different colonies; but the proposition seems to have been movement that affects any important relations of a prepare to conform to it. But we are minors, and I suppose our good parent do not think we are capable at present of knowing what is best for us. But at the present crisis, we of the old colony would neither be losers nor gainers, while those mention one of them. We have passed through ordeals to which the other settlements, as yet, day of trial come, they will be able to stand, time

alone can prove. But to the constitution ;-I observed in the becolonists, seem to think that a change in the constitution and laws of the colony is all important. This grievance has had the effect to make some of our friends here quite impatient, because the promise of the board has not been fulfilled; they begin tion here is requisite to qualify one to make the alteration, give us the chance to exhibit our constitutional and political abilities; and when we have committed them to paper, let them be sent to the board of managers for their approval.

The most important objections to the present constitution, is, the blending of the executive and judicial authority together and the holding of annual elections of civil officers. These two features in the constitution are objected to, by every man of sense in the colony; and as far as this is concerned, I am as impatient for a change as any individual. For corruption must be the consequence of such mingling of the executive and judicial offices and of the frequent elections, which is greatly to be regretted in a new country like this; for the people in all countries will be like the laws, and the laws like the people. How important then, is it here, that our constitutional laws should guard against political corruptions and speculations. I do not say, Mr. Editor, that there is more of it here than in other countries, not so much as in some. Yet, we are but men, and men of less experience than men of other countries; and it will follow as a matter of course, the less experience in governmental affairs, the more liable we are to political corruption, unless the constitution and laws which ought to be the great moral agent of the country,-guard us against it. The present constitution provides too, for the election of certain officers, which ought not to be, especially here; they should receive their appointment from the executive or legislative authority. There are many reasons for this, which I will withhold for the present; but they are well known to you, as well as every other thinking man in the colony. In conclusion, sir, let me comfort myself by saying, that I hope the first vessel that arrives here with any communication from the board, will bring us the long promised laws of the colony, to the great disappointment of those who think the board of managers are unconcerned about the Yours, &c.

mill, upon the plan of which the structure is now \* See Captain Able's report, which has been echoed | going rapidly up, and approaching fast the point of completion