bark in the spring. The agent reports, that, hereafter, he expects to be able to obtain as many emigrants as it will be desirable to send in any one year.

The Board attribute this change wholly to the labours of the agents, and to the success of the Maryland colony in Africa. The Board believe that in proportion as the colonization scheme becomes known, will the willingness of the free people of colour to emigrate ~~to~~ increase. They believe that the unwillingness, heretofore, existing, is to be traced to the dissemination of abolition doctrines.

By the act appointing them, the Board were authorised "from time to time to make such preparations at the colony of Liberia, or elsewhere, as they may think best, which shall seem to them expedient for the reception and accommodation and support of the persons to be removed, until they can be enabled to support themselves?

In carrying the act of 1831 into effect, so far as it depended upon them, the Board found it absolutely necessary to use the authority given by the act as above quoted, and provide a place for the reception of emigrants from Maryland. This, with the aid of the State Colonization Society, has been done. The colony of Maryland in Liberia was founded February 22nd, 1834. Its population is now near four hundred souls. The soil is inexhaustibly productive. The climate is genial to the ~~colouro~~ emigrant — subsistence is easily obtained — and comfort and competence are the

rewards of industry. A salutary system of laws is in operation: and the advantages of the situation have attracted to it the attention of the religious community, until it has become the most important and largest missionary establishment in Africa.

The Board are therefore able now to report, that a settlement on the coast of Africa, under the exclusive control of the State Society, and for the use of emigrants from Maryland, has been firmly made, which is competent to receive any number of emigrants which it is probable can be sent to it, with the means appropriated by the state, or derived from the contributions of individuals: and also that there is the appearance of such a feeling among the people of colour as will keep up a constant tide of emigration hereafter.

The settlement has been made by the State Society, upon whom all the complicated duties connected with its government devolve. It has been made with an economy unexampled in the history of similar undertakings, and at an expense to the State, much less than if the Board had established it, under the law, without the intervention of the State Society; for this last has added to the funds obtained from the Board, a large amount of individual subscriptions, all applied to same object. The Board present herewith the Annual Report of the State Society, in which the situation and prospects of the colony are given in detail.

The Board have endeavoured to conduct their operations in the State upon the most prudent and economical plan. They employ an agent and a clerk, who are the only persons receiving salaries

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

I. Minutes
A. Records of the Meetings of the Board of Managers

3. January 1835--June 1838

1837