have been the loudest and longest in their outpourings.

Now although Maryland has no law like that which has just been referred to, yet there can be no doubt as to the policy by which she has been governed for the last twenty years: and now, should she even follow the example set to her at the north, and close any of the avenues of labour, she will at all events be able to urge in her justification, that she bore the evil long and patiently, until, without stint as to cost, she had provided a place to which the free coloured people of the State might emigrate – to enjoy under a well ordered and free government the blessing of social and political equality. And this she has accomplished by means of Colonization.

There are perhaps some who believe, that the free coloured people are already so numerous, that their removal in any reasonable period, or at any cost within the means of the state, is wholly impracticable. Nothing can be more mistaken than this view of the subject. The free coloured population of Maryland we must recollect is 62.020. Now we have but to look at some statistics of emigration, for a single year, to understand the subject at a glance.

The voluntary emigration from England, Ireland, and Scotland, during 1840, to all countries, was 83,766 – and all these emigrants paid their own expenses and went of their own accord, to better their condition. Of the whole

number 67,458 came to America – 15,775 went to New Holland, and 513 to Africa. Where they had one inducement to emigrate, the free coloured man of Maryland has ten. This voluntary emigration from England demonstrates the practicability of Colonization. Establish a prosperous colony, create an intercourse between it and this country, and circumstances which are operating here will do the rest. The colony has been established, the intercourse is growing up, and the circumstances are producing their effects.

The plan of emigration to Trinidad and Guiana has been tried and pronounced a failure by most of the coloured people who have gone there. Those who have taken means with them have made fewer complaints than those who went there relying on their labour; but the general impression seems to be among them all, that there was far more of self interest than philanthropy in the efforts made to induce emigration to these colonies of England. Canada, if recent accounts be true, does not consider the coloured emigrants more valuable accessions than the non-slave-holding States of the Union; and there is no reasonable prospect therefore of an outlet in that direction; and the far west of our continent is the already appropriated home of the descendants of the pilgrims. To what other place can the free man of colour look, for a home therefore, when the hour of departure comes, than Africa. One has been prepared there for him already.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

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

4. June 1838--October 1851

1842