

Baltimore. June 1859

Mr Editor, In perusing the May number of the Journal, we noticed an article copied from the North Star, a paper published in the State of New York, written over the editorial signature of M. R. D., and teeming with the most bitter invective against the Characters of Judge Benedict and Pres. Roberts of Liberia. From the fierce denunciations contained in that article, it seems to be proper, that some notice should be taken of it, with a view of exhibiting the incentive of the writer, to the perpetration of so great an outrage, upon the Reputations of those valuable men, who in a distant Country, are faithfully labouring, to promote the honor and welfare of the Colored race.

Let it be remembered, by the the readers of the article of M. R. D., that Mr Benedict presided over the solemn deliberations of the Convention that framed the Constitution and organized the Republic of Liberia: thus, in communion with his Colleague, exercising in an eminent degree, the plenitude of that creative political power, which resulted in the establishment of the Free Commonwealth, and his official signature, set forth that Instrument to the Country, upon which being Ratified, by the People, perfected the great Political Change, and which agency of Mr Benedict in these matters, has identified his name, as intimately with the history of Liberian Independence, as the names of Jefferson or Adams with American, Lamartine or Cuvigny with French, Liberty.

This Independence, assumed by the Liberians, with Mr Benedict at the head of their Convention, (though unclouded of the sins of the alleged Misdeemeanors) was received with great complacency by M. R. D., found so much favour in his sight, as to have had the effect, of turning his strenuous violent prejudices against Liberia — and even its Chief Executive Officer, towards whom he had previously cherished such feelings of Contempt, into feelings of a "Charitable" nature. Because it seemed as though the action of the Liberians, favoured of a divorce, with that hateful, Slavery upholding Institution, the American Colonization Society, and it was expected of them, that contrary to all good faith, all the nobles impulses of gratitude, that they would have kicked the plank away

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

10. 1847--1848--1849

1849