

had to do with me. One day while sitting in my
place of business, looking over some papers, I chanced
to pick up the Centurion Times, and my eyes fell upon
a Paragraph from the pen of the Editor, to this effect
There had been a Petition sent from Frederick County
Praying the Convention to pass an Order, to eject the
Free negroes beyond the limits of the State, upon the
grounds of their being a nuisance but he thought
that it would be much better to hire them out by the
year, and send their Children out to white Men.
Instantly I became so disgusted and provoked, ^{that} I spoke
aloud and said, the Dye is cast. I will live in a coun-
try where I will not be considered a nuisance, and
will not live ~~at~~ at all. I went immediately to the Print-
ing Office without saying a word to any one, and
had my house and lot advertised for sale. When the ad-
vertisement appeared the folks were surprised, in fact there
appeared to be considerable excitement, and all wanted to know
what was the matter, and why I wanted to sell my house.
I told them that I was going away, they asked why, I in-
formed ^{them} that I was going to some country, where I will
not be considered a nuisance, and where will that be
I would always reply in Liberia. Then they wanted to
know when I was going. I told them in the first of
the next month. My determination to leave so suddenly
so unexpectedly created no little excitement amongst my
friends, and caused them to discuss, and consider the propriety
of leaving for Liberia also. This state of things continued
a very short time; before it was generally considered
that it was better for all, who were dissatisfied with
their condition here, to take their families and go to
Liberia. But some more thoughtful than others, thought
that we all should act prudently in the matter: although
they had in possession much information, yet it could

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II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

12. January 1853—April 1855

1853