

Will the settled ministers carry out the resolutions of their different ecclesiastical judicatories? The Board will wait with anxiety to ascertain. Shall agents be multiplied? for one agent cannot go over the State of Virginia, thoroughly, in a shorter time than three years, and agencies necessarily involve expense. Shall the enterprise, then, be abandoned? This is a contingency for which the Southern Church, at least, is not prepared, professing as she does to believe that Colonization presents the only scheme now in operation for the elevation of the people of color, either practicable for us or really benevolent to them. When we look at the influence of this enterprise upon the free colored population in this country, and upon the slave trade, and upon the fifty millions of Africa, we are urged by the most solemn considerations of duty to sustain it. We are urged by the pitiable condition of 300,000 under our eye and entirely dependent upon us. We are urged by the cries, which, to this hour, are ascending from a hundred ships in the middle passage, to penetrate the ear and invoke the wrath of the Most High. We are urged by the condition of Africa, whose heart has been torn by the avarice of half the world. But we are not only urged, but greatly encouraged to prosecute the work. We are encouraged by the success which has attended our past efforts, by the example of the martyrs, who have possessed with their bones, the colonial ground. We are encouraged by all the blessed signs of the times, by the disclosures of Providence, and by the grandeur of prophetic testimony. What is meant by Ethiopia's stretching out her hands unto God? Is not a fulfilment of the promise discovered in the fact, that the gospel has been planted upon her shores by an Institution, which now makes her appeal to the ministers of God, and promises, if aided by them, to purchase for thousands of souls eternal emancipation from the wrath to come?

It is hoped that the present pecuniary embarrassment of the country will not be considered an insurmountable objection to bringing the subject forward. Let the people be informed upon the subject, their feelings and sympathies and friendship enlisted, and leave them to decide how much they can give. There is known to exist in thousands of minds, and in some who are least under the restraints of virtue, a sentiment like this:—We owe a debt to the colored race, and there is a willingness, and often an anxiety, to discharge that debt. They only call upon us for a safe and practicable way. Colonization is shown to be that way, and, when judiciously and prudently treated, has never failed, in some of its aspects, to meet with sympathy and support. The Board trust, therefore, that on the 2nd or 9th of July next, the subject will be presented to every congregation in Virginia. It will be to hundreds the last opportunity they will ever have to aid in this work. Before the next anniversary thousands will have passed beyond the calls of charity. We cannot afford to lose a year. There, surely, is need of haste and action and instant zeal,

"Among the tenants of a world that seems
To toll the death-knell of its own decease,
And by the voice of all its elements,
To preach the general doom."

Should the collections upon this application average \$25, it will cause a large expedition to be fitted out from Virginia this fall, as there are more than two hundred applicants, from this State, for a passage to Liberia. To all who forward collections, the African Repository will be sent one year gratis.

*I take the liberty of sending a supernumerary copy of all
6th of July circular which was addressed to the clerics of
this state & of N. Carolina. I hope it will not be construed
offensively "pictorial" in Baltimore. The design upon the
first page, I think speaks for itself. It was drawn
by the principal Engraver of the State, but we were com-
pelled, ^{for want of time} to employ a second rate engraver in Richmond.*

*To prevent our good being still spoken of the two ^{explanatory} lines were
put under which the printer has so arranged that the benevo-
lently inclined may choose to construe it an attempt, at
meto. Fewer words could have been used, but I thought it
necessary to use some circumlocution to avoid the appearance
of saying to the intelligent what they might be presumed
to see for themselves. I shall hope to hear favourably from
men with regard to our annual meeting.*

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

IV. Miscellaneous Letters and Minutes

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