Edward Cope this

To the Board of Managers of the State Society for the purpose of Colonization.

In pursuance of a resolution of the Board of Managers of the Maryland State Colonization Society, the Committee appointed for the purpose, do now respectfully present to you a statement of the operations situation and plans of the Society.

It may not be out of place to say a few words, in the outset, of the peculiar features of the State Society, with a view of explaining the system of Colonization that has originated with it.

The State Society holds, not always that any action upon the subject of slavery belongs exclusively to the states respectively, in which the institution exists, and ~~that any such attempt has occasioned such general alarm and excite the deep feeling~~ that each slave holding state in the union should deprecate and prevent any foreign and unsolicited intrusion ~~interference~~ both as unauthorized and impolitic. The State Society looks forward to the time, and by all proper means, would hasten it, when Maryland shall cease to be a slave-holding state; but it anticipates that this result will ~~not be as the effect of coercive legislation but~~ be brought about by the current of those interests in this species of property. The State Society holds, that generally speaking, ~~in most cases it is~~ the condition of the emancipated slave is ~~infinitely~~ worse than that of the same individual before he obtained his freedom, ~~so long as he remains in this country,~~ ~~when~~ because he is the victim of a race with which he cannot amalgamate, and with whom intimate power, operates to repress his energies and prevent the expansion of his intellect, ~~by depressing him of all~~ the highest, each he can ever hope to attain is a degradation and deprived of all those incentives of honorable ambition which ordinarily operate to fill almost immediately with the paths of men & bring them to an early grave. so powerfully and with such effect. The Society believes from close observation for many years that the position here assumed is incontrovertible. ~~(and that the real friends of the slave, in the vast majority of cases should be the last persons to wish him free if he is to remain in America.)~~ The Society believes also, that this state of things so far from ceasing to exist, is daily becoming more universal in those states where there are colored people, slave or free, as the increasing white population comes more and more into compe

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

VIII. Commissions and Reports

B. Reports of Board of Managers and committees
1833—1836