Unlike the states south of the Potomac, the coloured population of Maryland are stationary or gradually decreasing, her Legislature, feeling the great importance of the cause, has nobly stept forward and lent its powerful and efficient aid, and white labourers are in many counties rapidly taking the place of the coloured. The sentiments of the people of Maryland are averse to the perpetuation of slavery within the state; and all are fondly anticipating the day, when, by means of colonization, it will no longer exist. This subject has strong claims upon you as philanthropists. You see among you a separate and distinct people, sunk to the lowest scale of degradation and misery, with a mark set upon them by their colour, which must ever prevent them here, from attaining the rank and privileges of citizens. They have but few things in common with the rest of the community; their education is wholly neglected, and as a natural consequence of their ignorance, they pay but little respect to either the laws of God or man. As slaves, although in Maryland their bodily comfort is generally well attended to, and we mention it with pleasure; their minds are left, one wide uncultivated waste, where every noxious weed of vice and immorality grows luxuriantly. As free, they have all that improvidence which characterized them as slaves: without a master to provide for their wants, they crowd our large cities, the most miserable, the most idle, and the most helpless of their population. Go into our prisons and behold what a large portion of their inmates comes from the ranks of the free blacks. This, if any thing else were wanting, should be sufficient to convince the Abolitionists of their total error upon this subject. To liberate the slaves in their present condition, and stop there, without providing for them another and a better home, would be to confer upon them not a blessing, but a curse. Here they can never rise, they may indeed attain the name but they can never enjoy the rights of freemen. They are borne down by the iron hand of a destiny, which they cannot avert, and feel, as they must ever feel, that in this land their lot must always be the same. In thus contemplating their true condition in this country, we hope we strike a cord that will vibrate in every breast. You have felt and sympathized with the wronged of other countries; your voice has been raised loud and long in favour of Ireland, dragooned into silence; you have wept over the desolation of unhappy Poland, and afforded to many of her wandering and houseless children a refuge and a home. The voice of your consolation reached even the shores of Greece in her day of struggle, and echoed around the broken columns of her former greatness. And shall it be said, that your sympathies are dried up, and the current of your noblest feelings arrested, when an appeal is made to you for the oppressed of your own land? Do you ask for a remedy, it is at hand; we point you to African colonization. It is the only balm, which will heal the wound, which ages have inflicted. It provides for the coloured man a home in the land of his fathers, where, escaping from the humiliating recollections of his state of

bondage, as he treads the soil and breathes the air of Africa, he may feel himself a man. That he may there, without any abatement, fully enjoy the rich blessing of liberty, and rise to that moral and intellectual elevation, which so much adorns the human character.'

'African colonization has likewise peculiar claims upon you as christians. Africa is without the Gospel and all its cheering consolations. From the sensual religion of Mahomet on the north, to the brutal and savage idolatry of the Hottentots on the south, she is pressed down by systems of false religions, only varying in their cruel rites, and in their abject and servile superstitions. Systems which annually sacrifice thousands of her children, and break up and tear asunder all the ties of kindred and of friendship. Here lies a whole continent, with her people sunk in the grossest ignorance, and where bloodshed, and cruelty, and violence prevail; and where the moral ruin and utter degradation of her population are as great as the barrenness of her deserts. And the experience of the last twenty years will prove the almost impossibility of planting the christian religion in Africa, except through the instrumentality of colonies. The character of her inhabitants is so cruel and savage, and their jealousy of strangers so great, that it is impossible for the self-denying missionary to enter their country, much less to dwell in peace and safety among them. The melancholy fate of Park and Clapperton, tells in language not to be mistaken, their true condition to the world. But over her dark and bitter waters the rays of the Sun of righteousness are just beginning to break. The Missionaries of the Cross, have already crossed the ocean, and erected the Redeemer's standard on Africa's dark and desolate coast. They are with the colony, which is able to protect them in their labour of love, where they have erected temples dedicated to the worship of the true God, and from which there will radiate to every part of Africa, the light of divine truth. It is by this means only that Africa can ever become civilized, for christianity and civilization will always go hand in hand. Thus, as the colony increases and becomes respected by the people of the interior, will the barriers which have so long kept out the missionaries be broken down, and they will have free access to go and publish the religion of their Lord and Master, with its glorious and cheering promises.'

LATE INTELLIGENCE FROM CAPE PALMAS.

It is all important that the information contained in the annexed despatches from Dr. Hall, and in the address of the colonists to the coloured people of the United States, should be as widely circulated in the State as the press and verbal explanation, with proper prudence, can extend it. We look to the influence of the friends of this cause in the respective counties, for their zealous and circumspect aid in accomplishing this object.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

VIII. Commissions and Reports

D. Reports of the Board of Managers
1835-47