When I was about leaving the colony I visited all the emigrants, and asked them if they wished to return to the United States with me—they all, with the exception of three, promptly answered, no sir. They had recovered much of their former spirits, as is fully indicated by their unwillingness to accompany me home.

So far as I was able to ascertain the state of agriculture in the colony, it did not strike me that it had been pushed with sufficient zeal. Not more than six or seven families were, at the time I left the Cape, preparing their lands for cultivation—one man only had cleared and fenced in his lands, and judging from the productiveness of all the gardens on the Cape, I should suppose that he is doing very well. The growth of all garden and field vegetables, so far as they have been tried, is very rapid and luxuriant. All the gardens on the Cape were in a thriving condition. I should say that a square, of the size of the common gardens in this country, would yield a sufficiency of vegetables to support a family of from six to eight persons in number.

The articles growing on the Cape are the following, viz: sousop, oranges, lemons, limes, pine apples, gourd, pawpaws, plantains, banana, pepper, figs, okra, Indian corn, sugar cane, cotton, (both native and American,) cabbage, kale, Virginia greens, lettuce, parsley, beets, sweet and Irish potatoes, yams, cassada, parsnips, turnips, radishes, onions, tomatoes, beans and peas of different kinds, melons, cantelopes, cucumbers, squashes, pumpkins, egg plant and tobacco. There is a continual growth of all these articles, and some of them produce for years successively.

A proper attention to the cultivation of the soil would soon place the colony in a most flourishing and happy condition, and it is to be hoped that the emigrants by the Bourne, who were, as before remarked, very anxious to commence farming operations, are by this settled on their lands.

The soil, though apparently of the same quality of the Maryland good lands, seems nevertheless to be much more productive; and being remarkably easy of cultivation, would soon return a rich reward to industrious farmers.

The introduction of working animals is highly desirable. With the aid of these, the colonists would soon rapidly advance, both in independence and influence over the native tribes.

Jacks, jennies and mules could be introduced at a comparatively small cost, being, as I am informed, sold to the windward of the Cape at from five to ten dollars per beast.

The animals of the country suitable for food are quite numerous—neat cattle, sheep, hogs, goats, and deer are very plenty. Of the latter there are two kinds: the one similar in colour, &c. to the American—and the other peculiarly African, being black. When at full size, I am told that they weigh about 250 lbs. This fact was related to me by a man of the

name of Johnson, who left the United States fifteen years ago, for the British colony at Sierra Leone. How long he remained there I cannot tell. From thence he went to Monrovia, and from Monrovia to Cape Palmas; where he had arrived a few months before I saw him. He has settled at the Cape, and when I left, was clearing a farm.

His extensive travels in Africa have made him well acquainted with the different kinds of animals and birds, some of which are peculiar to that country, as well as with the varieties of soil and climate thereof. He most decidedly prefers Cape Palmas to all other places he has visited. In proof of which he has settled himself in the colony.

In addition to the animals already named, there are antelopes, monkeys, baboons, black, grey and fox squirrels, racoons, oppossums and beavers.

Fish of many kinds are in great abundance, and are of a flavour very superior to any which I had ever before tasted. It is my decided opinion that the use of a seine fifty fathoms long, from eight to ten feet deep, one day in the week, would furnish the whole colony with an ample supply of fish for one week.

Oysters are also to be had of an excellent relish.

An impression having gone abroad among the coloured people of Maryland, that the Society's territory abounds with ravenous beasts of prey, I feel it to be my duty to state that, during the whole time I was in the colony, I neither saw nor heard of one such, except the leopard; and from him no danger need be apprehended as he flies off on the approach of a man. Snakes, so far from being numerous, as has been believed by some, are very seldom seen, and those that have been seen are very small and inoffensive.

Cotton, sugar-cane, rice, coffee, tobacco, and a variety of other articles of commerce, may be cultivated to almost any extent.

The natives immediately contiguous to the Cape are not so entirely friendly in their feelings as I had hoped to find them—and, but for their extraordinary cowardice, I should fear much for the safety of the colonists. One field-piece, and fifteen courageous armed men, would, I think, be amply sufficient to hold one thousand of them at bay.

In conclusion, permit me to say that the climate (for the coloured people,) the soil and productions of Maryland in Liberia, can only be justly appreciated by those who have visited the colony. One half the labour necessary in this country to enable the coloured man barely to live, will secure for him in the colony the greatest abundance of all the necessaries and many of the luxuries of life. The climate to his constitution is as genial as the climate of Maryland. The rains in the rainy seasons are sufficiently moderate, and the heat in the dry seasons is never so oppressive as we have it here in the months of July and August. Although the seasons in Africa have been divided into the rainy and the dry, there is in the latter no lack of sufficient rain to preserve from decay both field and garden vegetables—and in the former there is no such

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VIII. Commissions and Reports

D. Reports of the Board of Managers
1835-47