It will be seen from the above extracts from the Code of Laws, which has been in force in the colony since it was founded, that full provision has been made to secure the education of the colonists as far as mere legislation can effect it. But the system cannot go into operation in the early periods of the colony's existence, except with but very partial effect, unless it is promoted and sustained by means furnished from this country.

It has often been asked of the Board of Managers, in what way female benevolence and influence could be brought most efficiently to aid the cause of colonization? The answer may be given by indicating education as the most important subject to which the attention of the female friends of colonization can be directed; and one upon which their efforts may be concentrated with the happiest effect. A few hundred dollars per annum, raised in Maryland, invested here in trade goods and sent to the colony, would erect a school house and pay a teacher; and that the necessary amount could be procured by societies of females, auxiliary, *for the purpose of promoting education*, to the state society, there can be no doubt entertained. It is therefore suggested that the female friends of the colonization cause should organize themselves into societies, and by a concentration of effort, raise funds sufficient to commence a system of education in Africa, on a small scale in the first place, as by establishing a single school, but extending in the scope of its operations, until a whole nation shall bless the labours that have enlightened them.

It is further suggested here, that, for this purpose, each female society should determine to raise annually a certain quota, and that any sum collected beyond this should be invested as a part of a fund for education, the principal of which should for ever remain inviolate. In this way, in a few years, enough may be obtained, after supporting schools in the interim, to found a college at Cape Palmas. Constant, active, effort is competent to all this, and female benevolence is relied upon to afford it.

Should the plans thus suggested be adopted, the services of the society's agents can be at all times commanded by the female auxiliaries.

Since the last annual report, the Board have passed an ordinance making good merchantable cotton, the growth of the colony, a legal tender, at ten cents per pound, and appointing inspectors to settle

differences in regard to quality. The effect of this will be, it is expected, the promotion of the growth of this staple production; and it is justified by the experience of Maryland, where, until within the last fifty years, tobacco continued to be a legal tender. The effect of the ordinance is not yet known, but good results are anticipated from it.

In concluding their fifth annual report, the Board of Managers congratulate the society upon the prosperity that has heretofore attended the colony in Africa, and the bright prospects that are before it; and return sincere and humble thanks unto Him in whose hand are the issues of its fate, and the shield of whose protecting arm has been so signally displayed over and around it.

All which is respectfully submitted.

B. C. HOWARD, *President.*

February, 1837.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

VIII. Commissions and Reports

D. Reports of the Board of Managers
1835-47