A VOICE FROM AFRICA.

(From the Colonization Herald.)

We ask the serious attention of both friend and foe to the subjoined extract from the address of the editor of the Liberia Herald, on his recent return from the United States. Colonizationists have ever acted under the well-grounded assurance that their noble system conferred not only great blessings directly on both colonists and natives, and collaterally exerted a powerful influence in favour of the whole coloured race. These positions have been denied in toto by our adversaries. We therefore feel highly gratified when one so highly qualified as Mr. Teage to arrive at just conclusions on this important subject, volunteers the result of his observations in this country, after an absence of fourteen years, during which he has encountered all the privations and dangers of the pilgrim fathers of Liberia, and stored his vigorous and discriminating mind with much sound and valuable learning, solely through his own unaided efforts. Mr. Teage is no common man, and we deem his views on the subject worth vastly more than all the mere theories of men, who, with intentions the most honest, but unaided by the lights of experience, may, by the fierce outbreak of untempered zeal, endanger the very existence of our happy union.

'The friends of this colony, in America and elsewhere, are watching with an intensity of interest its advancement and progress; indeed I may say, their progress in their benevolent career depends almost exclusively upon a development of moral and intellectual energy, on the part of the inhabitants of this colony. There are thousands that stand aloof from the colonizing scheme, from an apprehension that proper materials cannot be found, with which to build up a separate and independent government on these shores. They cannot perceive, they say, the benevolence in assisting to a foreign land, a people, who must, by insurmountable barriers, be forever debarred from the enjoyment of those civil and political advantages which are the indefeasible grant of God to every rational being, and which cannot be wrested from them, without the highest injustice. It is therefore of the utmost importance to us, to correct this misapprehension; to prove that we are not a whit inferior to any race of men on earth; to evince that the conception is narrow and contracted, and founded, not upon a broad and impartial survey of the past greatness of the country whence we derive our origin, but from a prejudicial glance at a small portion of one quarter of the globe, in which we have been placed, in circumstances the most disadvantageous possible. That *knowledge is power* is a truism confirmed by the high authority of Scripture. Solomon says, 'a man's gift will make way for him.' It is, in fact, the grand lever that moves the world: the secret principle that maintains in harmonious operation all

the affairs of nations, and developed resources that must forever remain sealed to ignorance. My visit to America has afforded me much gratification, and still more instruction. It has given me the opportunity, for which I have long been anxious, to compare the prospects of my brethren in this country and America; to ascertain whether, after years of toil, anxiety, and argument, our friends, the abolitionists, (or rather the anti-colonizationists, for I consider colonization a high scheme of abolition,) have effected any thing favourable for our colour, and whether present appearances and movements would afford any ground for the hope, that their system of benevolence will ever be carried into effect. I have been the more anxious for this opportunity, from the fact, that the principles of their scheme are such as no sensible man will so far hazard his character for discrimination as to deny. That they accord with justice, cannot for a moment be doubted. I have therefore been only anxious to ascertain, whether, under existing circumstances, they are admissible. But from close attention to what was passing around me, during my short stay in America, from conversation with many intelligent coloured persons there, and from a comparison of the present condition of the coloured people with what it was some fifteen or twenty years past, I am forced to the melancholy conclusion, that all the labours of abolitionists, thus far, have been spent in vain; and that if they have effected any thing, it has been only to brighten the line of distinction between the whites and the blacks, and to render it more painfully visible to every discerning man of colour. Notwithstanding the causes which present the full operation of these principles are apparent at the very first view, it is greatly to be doubted, if the light of the millenium is not required to remove them. Public sentiment is the supreme law of a republican country, and whenever it is opposed to the minority, in any country, its every exercise will go to bury more deeply in wretchedness, that class against which it is arrayed. Whatever course, therefore, that tends to call into exercise those unholy feelings, cannot be considered in any other light than an unhappy officiousness, tending rather to evil than to good. Under this view of the subject, I was not long in forming a determination, and in taking a decided stand, a decided, immoveable stand on the side of colonization, as the only feasible plan for the benefit of the coloured race. If it should be argued, and even admitted, that colonization is cruel, as its effect is to expatriate, it will be contended that its cruelty is comparative, and not to be compared with that of the state in which the coloured people are placed in their native land. And until this condition is almost infinitely altered for the better, the cruelty of colonization vanishes into the highest benevolence. I acknowledge that, hitherto, I have been in some degree undetermined: vacillating as it were between two points; afraid to act vigorously on either side, lest I should be found opposing the good of my long-afflicted race. I have wanted information; such information as could be derived

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