On motion of Mr. Gantt, member of the House of Delegates, and seconded by Mr. Jones, also a member of the House of Delegates,

Resolved, That it is deemed expedient for further promotion of the cause of colonization in the state of Maryland, to hold a Convention of its friends in the city of Baltimore, on ——— day of ——— next, and that the Board of Managers be requested to take such measures as may be necessary to give publicity to this call, and to procure a full representation from the counties of the state.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Mitchell,

Resolved, That the thanks of the society be presented to the clergy who have hitherto taken up collections in aid of the society, and that they be respectfully solicited to continue their good offices in this respect, by inviting their congregations to contribute to its aid on the Sunday succeeding the fourth of July next.

The Hon. Judge Chambers, also addressed the meeting.

The various resolutions passed were supported by the gentlemen offering them with spirit and ability; and the general merits of the cause of colonization and its peculiar claims upon the people of Maryland, were fully discussed and most eloquently elucidated.

The resolution to call a State Convention, met with the most universal and hearty approbation.

On motion, the meeting adjourned without day.

NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF MANAGERS

OF THE

MARYLAND STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

It is again the grateful duty of the Board of Managers, in presenting their Ninth Annual Report, to express their profound acknowledgments for the protection vouchsafed by Almighty God to the colony at Cape Palmas, which under his Divine favour has experienced a degree of prosperity, peace and happiness during the past year, that has even more than realized the most sanguine expectations of its friends.

When the colony of Maryland in Liberia was founded, the Board of Managers sent with the first expedition a written constitution, and an ordinance based thereon, for the government of the people. Among the most important principles indicated in these laws, was kindness and forbearance to the natives of the country—the Board being desirous to make the return to Africa of the descendants of her children, carried of old into slavery, the means of civilizing and christianizing the region in which they settled. In this way Colonization would, in addition to its importance in reference to America, be made a blessing to Africa, and something would at last be done for that injured land in reparation of the wrongs of centuries. While therefore, the laws given to the first emigrants were most carefully prepared for the promotion of the prosperity of the community that was to grow up under their shadow, full protection was provided for the natives.

The views of the Board of Managers were much forwarded in this particular respect by the immediate connection which their colony formed with the missionary operations of three large sects of christians. The Episcopal, Presbyterian and Methodist Episcopal churches, cotemporaneously almost with the founding of the colony, established mis-

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

VIII. Commissions and Reports

D. Reports of the Board of Managers
1835-47