changing the white American superior for the white British—and that the difference of colour which formed the insuperable barrier to amalgamation in America, was not less high nor more easily surmounted in Trinidad or Guiana than in Maryland. That the enjoyment of petty offices was but a short step towards real liberty, and that the English residents themselves welcomed them warmly, exactly in proportion as they could do good service in the sugar plantations of the colony. In many instances, it is believed that the coloured people have realized that what is here stated is true—and have expressed their disappointment with the result of their emigration. In the meanwhile the Board of Managers have gone on to strengthen and improve their colony in Africa, satisfied that the time is at hand when it will be hailed by the free coloured population of Maryland as the only place where they can be really free, and where their energies, relieved from the incubus imposed by the presence of a white population enjoying all political power, can profitably, fully and rapidly expand.

In one respect the emigration that has taken place to Guiana and Trinidad is most important. It shews that the hold of the abolitionists upon the coloured population, is growing weaker; for the abolitionists have always opposed any emigration whatever, and insisted, that the only mode by which the coloured population could obtain social and political equality with the whites in this country, was by preserving their numerical strength undiminished. This argument has lost its weight, and the hopes which it was intended to raise have most evidently abated. The emigration to the British islands proves the existence of a restless spirit among the coloured people. They do not now feel at home in the United States. They begin to anticipate the period when their interests will imperatively demand their removal; and this is a feeling that will increase rather than diminish. The idea of emigration constantly presented will become familiar, until the only question will be, to which place can we emigrate with most advantage to ourselves. While the coloured people are thus becoming accustomed to the idea of leaving the United States, the colonies on the coast of Africa are every day becoming more prosperous and happy, and consequently, more attractive; and no doubt is entertained, that the time will arrive, when emigration to Africa will be considered by the coloured population of Maryland, as emigration to America is considered by the European. Then will the fruition of colonization take place, and an emigration, without cost to any but the emigrants, voluntary and eager, will relieve our country from a race that is in the midst of us, but not of us, and whose separation from us will be mutually advantageous.

During the last year there have been signs of a change of feeling on the subject of colonization in England, which is gratifying to the colonizationists of this country, although it is not so openly avowed as in

candor it ought to be. The African Civilization Society which has commenced its existence under royal auspices, admits, that the slave trade can only be put an end to, by a line of colonies of civilized men on the coast, and evidently considers that this line can only be established by those whose constitutions and descent qualify them to live in health, and with the full enjoyment of their faculties, in the climate of Africa. It is well known, that it is just such a line as this that the colonizationists of the United States have, since the year 1816, been labouring to establish; and now, that they are rapidly succeeding in establishing it, it is not at all surprising, that the English society should recognize its efficiency, although former hard things said of the colonizationists prevent their name being used or their merits openly acknowledged. It has been suggested, that the Civilization Society here referred to, has a double aspect; one political, and the other philanthropical; and that perhaps, the desire of opening new markets for English manufactures in Africa, will be more potent in promoting the success of the society in question than any other considerations. Of this, time must be the judge.

Among the evidences of the prosperity of their colony, which have afforded satisfaction to the Board, has been the trade that has been gradually centreing there, and that has enabled the governor to contribute materially to the expenses at Cape Palmas within the past year. The Board hail the beginning that has been made as a good omen for the future, and they trust, that before long, the colonists will be able to export to this country the produce of their labour, in the shape of cotton, coffee, rice, palm oil, and not improbably, sugar. When this shall be the case, the wealth of the colony will be assured. To promote so desirable an object, and also, to make the intercourse between Baltimore and the colony more frequent and regular than it has been, the Board are desirous to obtain a good vessel of their own, a measure which they deem of very great importance. They have directed their agent to take subscriptions for this purpose especially, and between three and four thousand dollars have already been subscribed. The Board hope, that during the present year, the necessary amount will be obtained.

During the coming year it is the wish of the Board to prosecute collections throughout the state, and in the city of Baltimore, and they earnestly call upon their friends for their prompt and energetic assistance. The 4th of July, especially, should not be without its contributions to the cause, and the reverend clergy are earnestly solicited not to forget the claims of the Society on that day. In regard to collections for the Society, the Board would invoke the aid of every well-wisher to the cause of colonization, whether in respect to its influences upon the state of Maryland, the coloured race, or the whole human family. It appeals in the strongest terms to the patriot, the philanthropist and the

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VIII. Commissions and Reports

D. Reports of the Board of Managers
1835-47