

Mr. James G. Birney, formerly well known throughout the country as a prominent abolitionist, and at one time the abolition candidate for the Presidency, has published an address to the people of color of the United States, in which, while he holds himself utterly aloof from the colonizationists, as a society, he recommends emigration; and after canvassing the merits respectively of the West Indies, Canada and Africa, gives a decided preference to the latter. The Governor of New York has deemed colonization of sufficient importance to recommend an appropriation for it. New Jersey has appropriated \$1,000 per annum to the cause. The subject of an appropriation has been mooted in the Pennsylvania legislature. The Governor of Alabama has avowed himself in favor of the scheme. The appropriation of Virginia has been continued; and in several of the legislatures propositions have been introduced which look to the exclusion of the people of color from their respective States. These,—which are matters looking to colonization rather in its general, than in its local relations—become of interest to us in Maryland, when it is recollected that we are dependent upon the feeling on the part of the colored population throughout the country, as well as within our own borders, for that ultimate emigration which is looked forward to as the complete fruition of the colonization plan.

In those matters which relate immediately to the office business of the society in Baltimore, there has been more than usual activity during the year. The Rev. Mr. Seys, the travelling agent, has canvassed the State in various directions, spreading information by addresses in public and personal conference, and collecting funds and emigrants. The number of emigrants sent from Maryland during the past year, has been eighty-six, to wit: thirty by the Liberia Packet, on the 3d of January; twenty-two by the Ralph Cross, on the 1st of May, and twenty-four by the Shirley, on the 24th of November. The Protestant Episcopal Mission Station at Cape Palmas, has been reinforced during the past year by the Rev. Mr. Horne and lady, Miss Colquon, Mr. Rodgers, and the Rev. Mr. Pinkney, who sailed with Bishop Payne in the Ralph Cross. The Rev. Mr. Scott and lady, Miss Freeman, and two native African youths, Bedell and Johns, who had been sent to the United States by Bishop Payne, who sailed in the Shirley.

Mr. Seys has the names of sixty emigrants for the expedition of the first of May, and has reason to believe that a company of one hundred will be ready before the vessel sails. He assures the Board that, in his journeyings through the State, he has found a deeper interest in colonization than he has ever met with, pervading the free colored population, particularly on the Eastern Shore and in the north-western counties: and the Board are as confident as they have ever expressed

Maryland Historical Society

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VIII. Commissions and Reports

**D. Reports of the Board of Managers
1852-53**