

interest. But these had better be postponed until the agent shall be received in Baltimore.

In the mean while the Convention of independence had better be convened—a draft of the constitution be prepared to the satisfaction of the people, without being submitted to them for ratification, and sent to Baltimore by the agent to be appointed as suggested in the report of the committee, and whose expenses we will bear.

I have thus expressed at great length the views of the Board, and have addressed you as though my letter were directly to the people, for whom it is intended, and to whom you will communicate it along with the documents already referred to.

The other portions of your late dispatches will be made the subject of a separate official communication.

Most respectfully,

JNO. H. B. LATROBE,
President Md. State Col. Soc.

CALL FOR A COLORED PEOPLE'S CONVENTION.

C I R C U L A R .

Pursuant to an invitation given through the columns of the Baltimore Daily Papers to the Free Colored Population of Baltimore, friendly to calling a State Convention, to be held in this city some time during the ensuing summer, to take into consideration their present position and future prospects in this country, and to compare the same with the inducements and prospects held out to them to emigrate to Liberia or elsewhere; a respectable number assembled in the school room of St. James' (colored) Church, corner of Saratoga and North streets.

The meeting being duly organized, it was resolved that a Convention of Delegates from the Free Colored Population from each county of the State of Maryland and of the city of Baltimore, be held in this city on the 25th July next, for the purpose above stated.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to issue a circular, addressed to the Free Colored People of the State, setting forth the object of the Convention, the time of its commencement, and the conditions upon which Delegates will be entitled to a seat in the same.

At an adjourned meeting of persons friendly to the call of the said Convention, held on the 4th of June, 1852, in the room before referred to, the Committee on the Circular Address, made the following report, which was unanimously approved and adopted:

ADDRESS TO THE FREE COLORED PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

Brethren:—Whereas, the present age is one distinguished for inquiry, investigation and enterprise, in physical, moral and political sciences above all past ages of the world, one in which the nations of the earth seem to have arisen from the slumber of ages, and are putting forth their utmost energies to obtain all those blessings, which nature and nature's God seem to have intended that man should enjoy, and the principles set forth by the American Sages, in the Declaration of Independence of these United States, "that all men are created equal, and are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among which, are life, liberty and pursuit of happiness," with each revolving year have extended wider and wider throughout the habitable globe, and sunk deeper and deeper into the hearts of millions of men, and as we humbly hope, are destined to revolutionize the civil and political conditions of all the Nations of the earth, it would indeed be passing strange if the Free Colored man in this country, which gave birth to those elevated and sublime sentiments, should feel nothing of the force of their mighty import, and with anxious eye and panting heart, endeavor in this or some other county, to realize the blessings so freely enjoyed by the white citizens of this land. Actuated by these feelings we have presumed to address our brethren of our native State, and we do hereby respectfully solicit them to assemble with us in this city, on the 25th of next month, (July,) to take into serious consideration our present condition and future prospects in this country and contrast them with the inducements and prospects opened to us in Liberia, or any other country. In conformity with a resolution passed at the meeting held on the 24th ultimo, the Committee do hereby respectfully

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VIII. Commissions and Reports

D. Reports of the Board of Managers 1852-53