REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF MANAGERS

OF THE

Maryland State Colonization Society.

THE friends of the great enterprise of colonizing in the land of their forefathers, such of the colored population of the United States now free, or hereafter to become so, as may desire, by such means, to elevate themselves and their race to a respectable standing among the nations of the earth, have from time to time been kept advised by the different colonization periodical journals, of the interesting events which have marked the various stages of this important work. It has however been customary for the Board of Managers of the Maryland Society, in successive reports to give a condensed account of their operations,—of the history of the colony established by them at Cape Palmas,—and of its progress. In conformity with this usage, the Board respectfully submit the following report.

The last published Report of the Board, was that of January 1st, 1856. It was there stated, that in compliance with the wishes of the colonists, the Board of Managers had relinquished the political supremacy and control which the Maryland State Society had previously exercised over the local government of Maryland in Liberia; and that the latter had become clothed with all the attributes of an independent state. Little doubt was then felt, that time would, before long, bring about closer relations, and a union of a more or less intimate character, between the new State, and her more advanced neighbor, the Republic of Liberia; and circumstances soon occurred which hastened this result.

In December 1856, the people of Maryland in Liberia, became involved in war with the Grebo tribes of natives. Without entering into details of the origin and progress of these hostilities, the Board would remark that it seems rather surprising that though before repeatedly threatened, they were the first which had actually occurred since the original settlement of the colony, a period of

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

VIII. Commissions and Reports

D. Reports of the Board of Managers
1858