(From the African Repository.)

We have the pleasure of laying before our readers the able report of the New York Colonization Society. They cannot fail to perceive in it sound judgment, forcible reasoning and unanswerable argument. It is written in Dr. Carroll's most felicitous style and with his usual point and pungency. We need not therefore ask for it a perusal by the friends of colonization. They will find in it a rich treat for both intellect and heart. But we will ask them when they have read it to hand it to their friends and ask them to read —and to give it a general circulation.

REPORT.

In presenting to the Society this their Annual Report, the Board of Managers regard it as alike their duty and their privilege to acknowledge with profound gratitude the fostering care of God, and to recognize his benignant hand in the blessings which the officers and members of the Society have enjoyed during the past year. No accents of sorrow over the decease of any of our officers need mingle in the joyous sounds of congratulation with which we hail the Society and its friends on the recurrence of this twelfth anniversary. True, the past year has not been characterized by the extended, permanent, energetic, and efficient exertions which the exigencies of the Society demanded. This resulted mainly from the want of a Corresponding Secretary and General Agent; that office having been vacant the greater part of the year. This Society, in common with other benevolent associations for the spread of the Gospel and the furtherance of human happiness, has felt that disastrous curtailment of charitable contributions, resulting from the unexampled pecuniary perplexities of this country for some time past. But we believe that the past year has been strikingly characterized by returning confidence, and rekindling hopes in respect to the great scheme of African colonization. The friends of this scheme have had their faith and patience tried. A spirit of fierce and uncompromising hostility has persecuted this blessed cause through a course of years, and employed against it with untiring zeal, every weapon which the subtlety and ingenuity of opponents could invent. This has led many Christian minds to a re-examination of the whole enterprise of African colonization—to inquire into its origin, ascertain its genius, and examine its results, as far as its progress has developed them; and the consequence has been, a re-established confidence in it and renovated hopes of its ultimate success and triumph. Notwithstanding all the opprobrium so gratuitously thrown upon it, the friends of this cause can find ground of confidence in the stability and success of the colonization enterprise from the very spirit in which it originated. It was not prejudice against colour—it was not the desire that slaves might be held more securely, by the removal of the free blacks from amongst them; nor that the price of those in bondage might be enhanced by the emancipation of some of their number. It was not for political or commercial purposes. These were not the motives; this was not the spirit in which the enterprise of African colonization originated. The first great conception of this scheme was formed by the benevolent, devout Dr. Finley; and no one can contemplate the workings of his holy mind, when originating this plan, without a subduing, an almost sublime impression of the purity of his motives, of the exalted sympathies, and the lofty and expansive philanthropy that swayed him. He yearned in Christ-like compassion over the hapless coloured man, and groaned and travailed for his social, political, and religious redemption. The fire that burned in his own bosom soon caught and kindled in others, and he drew to his aid kindred high-born spirits. The cries of S. J. Mills ascended to heaven for this cause, and his heart beat

high in aspirations for its success just before he retired from this world to his rest in glory. Colonization *originated* in the counsels, the prayers, the tears, the hopes, and holy desires of a group of patriotic, humane, philanthropic *Christian* minds, that would add dignity to any nation that could claim them as her citizens and her sons. In its very commencement this work seems to have been of God, and it is not to be overthrown by the capricious jostlings of every wind of doctrine or wayward burst of popular feeling. Faith and prayer, confidence and hope in God, have grafted it from the first "into the good olive tree"—have rooted and grounded it in those immutable and eternal principles of truth and right, which will secure its vitality and growth when exotics by its side shall have withered and passed away.

The friends of this cause find a ground of confidence in its stability and success, from *the great principles of our nature to which it appeals.*

Had the cause of African colonization addressed the unworthy motives, the prejudices, and base passions of our nature, as it has been slanderously affirmed to have done, the lapse of a quarter of a century would not have been necessary to have bereft it of all the interest and sympathies of a Christian community, and consigned it to an ignominious oblivion. Indeed this was the destiny confidently predicted of it ten years ago. But this cause has shown a *tenacity* of life invincible by all the destructive elements let loose upon it in the infancy and feebleness of its existence. And it has maintained a successful struggle against the most fearful odds, simply because this scheme from the first has appealed to the calmer, loftier, and more enduring principles of our nature, and has anchored its convictions in *reason* and *conscience*, instead of enlisting fancy and fanatical excitability. It appeals to our *natural sense of justice.* The colored man, whom it aims to benefit, has been grievously wronged. His fathers have been torn from a country fitted by Providence to be the congenial home of the African, and there is not one of that race in this country now, but is suffering innumerable evils as the consequence of the bondage to which his ancestry have been subjected. Our fathers participated in the crime of enslaving them, enjoyed the fruits of their cheerless industry, and died without doing justice to them. We, their sons, have succeeded to their inheritance and their responsibilities. We too, even in the North, enjoy at this moment the results of the toil and tears, the exile and bondage, of the colored man. We owe a debt of *justice* to him. He has obtained a judgment against us in heaven's high chancery. We must cancel this by kind returns to him in *this* world, or take the penal consequences of our delinquency in the future.

This scheme of African Colonization proposes to make some reparation for his wrongs. It aims to restore him to his father-land, where his freedom will be something more to him than a mere *tantalizing name* for his *practical* disfranchisement of the rights—social, civil, and political—that belong to him by nature as a man. It aims to elevate him, and to do all at present possible to reinstate him in the dignity and secure to him the privileges of a freeman! Hence this cause appeals to our *instinctive sense of justice*, and brings the strong convictions of *right* to sustain its claims.

It appeals to our HUMANITY. Without strangely perverting the constitution which God has given us, we cannot avoid feeling a deep, and sometimes even a tragic, interest in the sorrows and sufferings of our fellow men. It is on the supposition that the human mind naturally possesses the susceptibility of pity and kindred tender emotions, that we can account for the existence of the drama, and the influence which the representation of *fictitious* distress exerts on the populace. And perhaps it is the misfortune of the Colonization cause in these days of *morbid* sensibility that it makes its appeal to our

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XII. Newspapers
A. Maryland Colonization Journal

2. June 1841 (n.s. I, 1)--May 1861 (n.s. X, 24)

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