Holy Scriptures have been distributed through the world, in one hundred and sixty languages and dialects, by the instrumentality of about four thousand five hundred organized societies. Forty-five missionary presses have been established; forty missionary colleges put in operation; and six hundred and fifty ordained missionaries, aided by about three thousand assistants, are operating throughout the world, at more than five hundred and forty foreign stations. There are three hundred thousand children in the missionary schools. Fifty thousand persons converted from paganism, are members of the christian churches, and it is computed that more than five thousand are annually converted to the service of the living God. Four hundred thousand heathens have renounced idolatry; and in ten years the Gospel has been preached, at the various missions, to not less than four millions of adult persons. One hundred and sixty millions of tracts have been thrown into circulation; and there are over two millions of Sabbath scholars under training throughout the world. It is an era of vast and magnificent christian enterprise. Every engine which the most ardent and intrepid piety could put in requisition, is wielded against the kingdom of darkness, and it already totters to its predestinated overthrow. Africa is partaking of this noble work; and she will partake still more largely. The little band at Liberia, who are spreading over the wilderness around them, a strange aspect of life and beauty, are in every sense a missionary station. Every ship freighted from our shores with their suffering kindred, will be freighted also with the heralds of the cross. You will see the light breaking in upon one and another dark habitation of cruelty. The night of heathenism will depart. One tribe after another will come to the light of Zion, and to the brightness of her rising. Ethiopia will awake, and rise from the dust, and look abroad on the day, and stretch her hands out to God. The light will still spread, and kindle, and brighten, till all the fifty millions of Africa are brought to the glorious liberty of the sons of God!

The civil, intellectual and religious cultivation of a people, carries with it the possession of all the indispensable ingredients to high national happiness and virtue; and is scarcely consistant with the prevalence of those brutal and inhuman practices which exist among savage and heathen nations. Amongst the present crimes of Africa, there is one encouraged and shared by nations calling themselves civilized, so horrible and atrocious, that its certain extirpation, by the means we have been noticing, would alone be sufficient to commend the American Colonization Society to the support of every enlightened man. I have already presented you with a brief account of the origin of the slave trade, so far as it was connected with our subject. There are some crimes so revolting in their nature, that the just observance of the decencies of speech deprive us of the only epithets which are capable of depicting their enormity. Every well regulated heart is smitten with horror at the bare idea of their perpetration; and we are uncertain whether most to loathe at the claim of those who habitually commit them to companionship with human nature, or to marvel that the unutterable wrath of heaven doth not scathe and blast them in the midst of their enormities. Let the father look upon the dawning intelligence of the boy that prattles around his knee, the pride of his fond heart, and the hope and stay of his honest name; and then, if he can, let him picture him in distant bondage, the fountain of his affections dried up, the light of knowledge extinguished in his mind, his manly and upright spirit broken by oppression, and his free person and just proportions marred and lacerated by the incessant scourge. Let the husband look upon the object in whose sacred care he has 'garnered up his heart,' and on the little innocent who draws the fountain of its life from her pure breast, recalling, as he gazes on one and the other, the freshness and

the strength of his early and ardent love; and then, if he be able, let him picture those objects in comparison with which all that earth has to give is valueless in his eyes, torn from him by violence, basely exchanged for gold, like beasts at the shambles, bent down under unpitied sorrows, their persons polluted, and their pure hearts corrupted—hopeless and unpitied slaves, to the rude caprice and brutal passions of those we blush to call men. Let him turn from these spectacles, and look abroad on the heritage where his lot has been cast, glad and smiling under the profuse blessings which heaven has poured on it; let him look back on the even current of a life overflowing with countless enjoyments, and before him on a career full of anticipated triumphs, and lighted by the effulgence of noble and virtuous deeds, the very close of which looks placid, under the weight of years made venerable by generous and useful actions, and covered by the gratitude and applause of admiring friends; let the man-stealer come upon him, and behold the wreck of desolation! Shame, disgrace, infamy; the blighting of all hopes, the withering of all joys; long unnoticed wo, untended poverty, a dishonoured name, an unwept death, a forgotton grave; all, and more than all, are in these words, *he is a slave!* He who can preserve the even current of his thoughts in the midst of such reflections, may have some faint conception of the miseries which the slave trade has inflicted on mankind. I am unable to state with accuracy, the number of the victims of this horrible traffic; but if the least dependence can be placed on the statements of those persons, who have given the most attention to the subject, with the best means of information, it unquestionably exceeds ten millions of human beings exported by violence and fraud from Africa. This appalling mass of crime and suffering has every atom of it been heaped up before the presence of enlightened men, and in the face of a Holy God, by nations boasting of their civilization, and pretending to respect the dictates of christianity. The mind is overwhelmed at the magnitude of such atrocity, and the heart sickens at the contemplation of such an amount of human anguish and despair.

This trade has been abolished by the laws of every civilized nation, except Portugal and Brazil. Our own national act for that purpose, passed on the 2nd day of March, 1807, and preceded by twenty-three days, a similar act by Great Britian, achieved by the friends of humanity in that realm, after a struggle of twenty years. Acts of mere prohibition, however, were found unequal to the suppression of crimes which had been maturing for more than three hundred years. After several amendments to the law of 1807, it was enacted on the 15th of May, 1820, that every person proved to be engaged in the slave trade, should be adjudged guilty of piracy, and punished with death. Here, also, our country was in the van of nations. The glory of vindicating the rights of man, on the broad principles of truth and nature, and of first assuming this noble stand against the long cherished and guilty customs of the whole world, is due to the Congress of the United States. Nor should it be forgotten that the recommendation for the passage of this law, came from a committee acting on a memorial of the American Colonization Society. Such acts unquestionably exercise a very salutary influence over those persons who might be disposed to engage in the slave trade; and are exceedingly valuable as high indications of public sentiment, and as imperishable monuments, erected by the highest authorities among men, to clear and noble principles of right. But they cannot, of themselves, effect their own benevolent purposes. After the passage of the act of 1820, it was stated on the floor of Congress, by gentlemen representing several slave-holding states, that no fewer than thirteen thousand slaves were annually smuggled into the United States. And we have undoubted authority for believing, that at least sixty thousand negroes are yearly transported

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A. Maryland Colonization Journal

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

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