with her vast majority of citizens, who do not know a letter in the Alphabet, could sustain herself, and steadily maintain the purity of wholesome laws. What is at present Liberia's security? The reverence which all classes pay to the Sabbath, and to the Christian religion. Let the man be what he may—he may ridicule the Church, but he knows well that if he openly violates the Sabbath, he is no gainer in a worldly point of view—his interests would be in jeopardy. Therefore, the people of Liberia are orderly, and we confess it, that it is through the influence of missionary operations. If such was not the case, what security would there be for the permanency of our government?

Now as we have tried to be plain and explicit, without wounding the feelings of any, we may be permitted to give full vent to our own views. It is no secret that ten out of every twelve immigrants who come to Liberia, are in the strict sense of the word, ignorant, and scarcely fit for any service, but that of being "hewers of wood and drawers of water"—their children, in many instances, do not know what a Bible is:—now we ask, can such description of persons do much to raise Liberia to that position which she should to reach? Can it be said that missionary schools are likely to send forth men capable of taking charge of the government—to carry it on as it should be? We unhesitatingly reply in the negative—and it is with fear and trembling that we are compelled to come to this conclusion. Our government are not insensible to this fact—but its resources must for the present be turned into other channels. It has made stringent laws to force parents to send their children to school, but the government have no schools of its own to receive them. What is to be done under these circumstances? Can Liberia continue to exist, in the absence of the necessary schools to educate the rising generation? What security have we, that our republican form of government will be sustained? Can ignorance maintain a republic? We say, no!! What then is to be done? Tax the people—tax their houses—lands—vessels and every other description of property they may possess, and let this tax be for the express purpose of establishing schools for the education of our children—under no consideration must the revenue derived from this tax be used for other purposes, whatever contingency may arise. The rising generation must be educated, or the republic, which the people so loudly boasts of, will in the natural course of things become a monarchy. And what then? Will this be done without bloodshed? Will not tyranny hold up its cursed head? If the people are not educated, Liberia as a republic cannot stand. Missionary schools, such as we now have, cannot furnish men to take care of our country. Every body knows this, who have given themselves the trouble to examine into the matter.

The people of Liberia must help themselves, and stop looking for aid, in this particular, from abroad.

The people of Liberia must be educated or the republic cannot stand!!

MONROVIA, *July* 10, 1854.

MR. HERALD—Will you allow us a space in your columns to make a few remarks in relation to certain opinions advanced in an editorial of your last number?

The article in question discusses a very important subject, viz: "Education as indispensably necessary to the Stability of the Republic." This is a fact so obvious that a blind man will not dispute it, though he may not *see* it—he will certainly stumble against it. But Mr. Herald how does it happen that you object to the idea that Missionary Schools such as are now in operation in Liberia are adequate to raise men competent to uphold and conduct

the government? You ask. "*Can it be said that Missionary Schools are likely to send forth men capable of taking charge of the government—to carry it on as it should be?*" And then you remark. "*We unhesitatingly reply in the negative—and it is with fear and trembling that we are compelled to come to this conclusion.*" Well may you have to come to this conclusion in such a manner, for it is, according to our impression, rather a hasty one.

We are decidedly of the opinion that the schools now in the Republic will send forth men qualified in a very respectable degree to take charge of the government in all its departments. It is not a fact that in all the schools the young men are educated exclusively with a view to missionary operation. We do not believe that all the young men in the Alex. High School—(of which we know more than we do of any other)—are being trained for the ministry.

We are acquainted with two of the students who are studying with a view to the practice of law—with another studying with reference to medical pursuits. We know of but two who have the ministry in view. Though the fact cannot be concealed and should not be, that the Liberian Church is just as much in need of educated men as the State.

You ask further Mr. Herald, "*What is to be done under these circumstances? Can Liberia continue to exist in the absence of necessary schools to educate the rising generation?*" By these interrogations, it appears Sir, you leave the impression that there are no "*necessary schools*" in the Republic. But is this the fact? Are not the schools now existing or some of them at least as good and fully as adequate to produce educated men as any the government might establish had it the means to do so? Surely they are. But the objection seems to be—they are *Missionary Schools.* Well supposing they are. Are not Liberians, strictly speaking a missionary community! Was it not a part of the avowed object of the founders of this nation that it should be the means of introducing christainity and civilization into this continent? and is not this now strenuously urged as one of the greatest pleas in behalf of Liberia by her friends abroad? Is it not right therefore—is it not sure to found the education of those who in future are to come forward and sustain the government, upon the holy principles of the Bible? Is it not proper to inspire them with high regard for those truths which are a nation's safe guard—and under the influence of which alone true national prosperity and greatness are promoted?

The perplexity with us, Mr. Herald, has always been, not so much that the means of education are lacking as that there are so few who appreciate the facilities within their reach, some there are who indulging a foolish pride, —(and ignorance and pride go together) despise the idea of being educated by missionary societies and are therefore remaining in ignorance—satisfied with merely earning sufficient to keep themselves from pauperism. We know some young men in this community of fine natural talents who, if they would practice a little self denial—and embrace the advantages held out to them in some of these schools might become brilliant ornaments and efficient supporters of our Republic: but they look only to the present, they regard not the future. This being the state of things then—if instruction is now despised when it may be obtained under circumstances so favorable, is it likely that it would be appreciated, if schools were established by the government entirely detached from missionary operations? We cannot assure ourselves that it would. Yet it is certain that if the people are not educated, "*Liberia as a Republic cannot stand*" for such is the increase and such the character of immigration that in a few years the country will be deluged in a flood of ignorance which will, in its powerful flow, unless there be a sufficient counteracting influence bear away our free institutions, arrest

Maryland Historical Society

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