The Board then took a recess in order to attend the anniversary celebration of the Society.

The Board re-assembled, after public exercise in Wesley Chapel.

On motion of Rev. J. B. Pinney, it was

Resolved, That this Board recognise in the liberal contributions to aid and develope the culture and manufacture of sugar in Liberia made by H. M. Scheiffelin, Esq. of New York, to whom Liberia is chiefly indebted for the first steam sugar mill, and for many articles for farming purposes, such as waggons, carts, yokes, chains, &c. shipped by him to Liberia in 1856, as an instance of the highest beneficence towards Liberia and in a direction of the very first importance.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the Board be presented to the Secretaries of the Society and the Executive Committee, for their valuable and efficient services.

The resolution offered by the Rev. Mr. Gurley, this morning, proposing a communication to the Secretary of the Navy, in reference to explorations in Africa, was called up, and adopted; and the Executive Committee were instructed to take the necessary steps for carrying it into effect.

A report from Capt. George Barker, an agent of the Society, was presented, and referred to the Executive Committee.

The minutes of this evening's session were then read and approved.

After prayer, offered by Rev. Mr. Pinney, the Board adjourned *sine die*.

JOHN H. B. LATROBE, *President*.

BENJ. J. HAIGHT, *Secretary*.

It becomes our painful duty to record the death of "Moses Sheppard," a member of the Society of Friends, and a long and well tried friend of Colonization. He died at his residence in this city on the 1st inst. at the advanced age of 84 years. We copy from the "Baltimore American" of the 2d inst. an outline sketch of his life. We feel compelled however, in justice to those now living and to this Society, to say that the writer erred as to the amount of pecuniary aid extended to Dr. McGill by him. But that he was ever a kind and generous friend there can be no better evidence than the following paragraph, which we take the liberty of quoting from a private letter from Dr. McGill to ourselves, and dated at Monrovia, Jan. 5th, 1857.

"Your report of the condition of my venerable friend, grieves me—he is old and must die, but I really hate to dwell upon the certainty of it—nineteen years of unceasing correspondence between a venerable gentleman like him, and a flighty nondescript like myself, has produced on this side very strong feelings of friendship, love and gratitude. When he leaves this world crape will not be needed as an expression of my profound grief, a sable pall will be felt on my very heart—there are but few men like him in the world." "I did not say anything to him about naming our Schooner after him—if he has presented her with a set of flags, it will be adding another to the many obligations I am under for unsolicited favors."

From the Baltimore American.

"His earlier years were marked by great business energy, a prudent thrift, and undeviating recitude. The son of parents in humble circumstances, he was the architect of his own fortune. In the year 1800, he left his father's home, in the vicinity of Baltimore—a log hut with an earthen floor—and engaged himself as an errand boy in a grocery store, kept by John Mitchell, in Cheapside, from which station he was elevated by his employer to that of clerk, and after being a partner in the establishment for some years, continued subsequently the business on his own account. With the handsome fortune thus won by patience and unwearied industry, he retired to private life, in the full vigor of manhood.

How soon after this he began to devote a portion of his income to philanthropic purposes we have not yet been able to learn; nor do we imagine, from the secresy he imposed upon those whom he selected as his almoners, it would be impossible to ascertain correctly. An utter enemy to show, parade and ostentation, he pursued the noiseless tenor of his way, "doing good by stealth," and rigidly enjoining that his acts of benevolence should remain unknown not only to the world at large, but to the recipients of his bounty. Many orphan children and young girls, thrown early upon the world for the means of obtaining a livelihood, have reason to bless their secret protector and benefactor. Some he educated and supported, wholly or in part, until they were capable of maintaining themselves. To others he advanced sums sufficient to enable them to engage in business in a moderate way, but almost invariably dispensed his charities through a medium which left those who were thus relieved in entire ignorance of the benevolent donor.

Moses Sheppard was a man who abhorred shams. He was a plain, blunt man; quiet in his habits, vigorous in thought and speech, but yet concealing beneath a calm, passionless exterior, the sweetest and tenderest sympathies. He was a true friend to the colored race, and though adverse to Abolitionism in the acrid and dangerous form it has assumed of late years at the North, was ever ready, with his purse and his counsel, to aid the Colonization cause, of which association he was for many years a prominent, active, and useful member. One of those who partook of his bounty was young McGill, the son of a former teacher in the African Church, in Sharp Street. This young man he sent to Vermont to study the science of medicine, and subsequently aided in emigrating to Liberia, where he has since become a prominent merchant. A vessel, lately built at this port for Dr. McGill, bears the name of "Moses Sheppard," in commemoration of the generous patron to whom he owed his education and advance in life.

Moses Sheppard was never married. But though a bachelor, he took much more pleasure than he was accustomed to express in gathering his friends about him in a social, unobtrusive way, and in listening to and participating in, their conversation. Self-educated himself, he was yet a profound and vigorous thinker and terse writer. His literary acquisitions were extensive, but he was best acquainted with the works of those authors whose writings most closely accorded with his own metaphysical turn of mind.

But the crowning act of his long and useful life, is the bequest he has made for the founding of an Insane Asylum, in the vicinity of Baltimore; a charter for which, skillfully drawn up by J. V. L. McMahon, Esq., was granted by the Legislature of Maryland some four years ago. To this object, after the payment of certain sums to his relations and friends, he has bequeathed the larger proportion of a fortune, estimated at $600,000, and constituted the following gentlemen trustees under the act of incorporation:—John Saurin Norris, President of the Board, David M. Perine, Dr. Riley, Richard H. Townsend, Gerard H. Reese, and Gerard T.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

XII. Newspapers
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