things have indirectly been mentioned in one or two places in this communication; but here I will notice them more particularly. You must be aware, sir, that our citizens are too generally disposed to mercantile pursuits, and that, too, to the almost total neglect of the soil; thus their dependence has been on foreign enterprise, which, of course, has had its fluctuations, both as it regards missions and commerce, and many of our people have been schooled so as to pay homage to the fountain, while they have in heart become considerably detached from their own country; and the consequence is that many good meaning men have become effeminate and weak about home interests and welfare; and this kind of influence is becoming the mould in which a young Liberian mind is impressed, and the result will be, of course, foreigners in sentiment (in a greater or less degree) in and among the body of our citizens. And do you inquire the reason the imprint is so easily made? I answer that the young have had so little to inspire their hopes, but left dependent upon a barter trade, they want means of beginning business, and little is accomplished by our best young men; which adds another regretted result, viz. the waning of our commercial interests in the estimation of our foreign friends; and this is about the state of things as it relates to commerce in the Republic, and the suffering must be in proportion to the time this state of things is continued; unless we go into the soil for relief, or into the interior to recover from the powerful back-set in commerce And shall I say too much if I add the remark, that the Colonization Society has it in her power to apply a remedy, a conclusion to which I arrive from the numerous facts, which show my opinion is not unfounded, and the prosperity of Liberia must for years to come rely mainly upon emigration, and directed to the interior, where necessity will act as the mother of invention, indeed, and they will be out of the influence of foreign competition, which is now creating distress on the sea-coast, simply because our citizens will not begin to produce for themselves, in some instances, and in others they are unable to meet the demands made on them.

Thus we may see the great importance of a road interior for the purpose of speedy transportation; and in the first place, let the present foot-path be selected, and run the road with it, making a cutting and clearing of about twelve to fifteen feet wide, and the co-operation of the various headmen on the road through whose dominions it would run, can be secured by establishing a family at the headmens' towns, and at the same place put a trading house, to monopolize the trade of the country, which, of course will aid in defraying expenses, if not wholly supporting the system; and in case of emigrants, each station will be a resting place, as also a lodging accommodation; as doubtless you would erect a comfortable dwelling at each depot, and furnish each depot with an ox or horse team, that luggage might be passed through the line with speed, and that, too, on the stage route plan; or, to speak more plainly, have a fresh team every day: therefore, of course, a deal of labor could be performed in a short time. Let every station be a mission residence; let your men cultivate the soil, and let them do all the good they can for the welfare of the heathen, and then they will secure the good will of the native inhabitants—secure peace to the surrounding country, give life to agriculture (as you will require a large quantity of rice), and also advance commerce. And why not each place, so begun, be the beginning of a flourishing settlement? I wish to inquire, if it is not possible to make a selection of a number of about twenty-five to thirty men with families, to engage expressly in this work, with and under a judicious leader, giving them an interest for a certain length of time, at a small salary a year, and per-centage on trade, perhaps; find

them in food and clothing; let them be furnished with implements and tools of every kind, for the purpose of prosecuting the work; and if they are distributed along the line for the term of service, and wish to go to the interior settlement, let others take their places. Thus keep up a line of operations for a few years, and the Society will begin to make Africa aid in the removal of her own children (for the work is great), and if the Society should adopt such a plan, it would be well to have the company of men chartered, with exclusive privileges, with a capital of fifty or a hundred thousand dollars, which capital may very soon appear in good dwellings and improvements at each station, upon which a proper estimate should be put. The character of the Society would assume a different aspect to the world, and commence a new era in its history; and this large amount can be secured in a very short space of time, if the proper kind of men can be employed; and who cannot see but that it must add to the strength of the Society, and also do for Liberia what she perhaps feels too weak to do for herself, yet, if the example is once set, she will soon follow —for Liberia's hope is interior and in the soil.

In the sixth, and last consideration, I will remark, that the supply of victims for the slave-trade goes from the interior, and every person must see that if any influence can be exerted to check it on the spot, that it will do best; and I know of no step to be taken so effectual as to substitute legitimate commerce for the dreadful traffic. Civilized settlements in the interior will have a lasting influence on the trade towards checking it; and I would, for that one thing alone, be willing to spend my days (if I had a hundred lives) in the interior of Africa, for it is the very work that calls forth all the tender sympathies of humanity. On its account I have lost sweat and blood, and now shall my prayers ascend the skies.

I have sketched off something which I am fearful will give you no adequate idea of what you seek after, and if it does not, please to be plain, and let me know, and I will renew the effort in futue.

And now, dear sir, I do not know that I can add more of the like rambling stuff; thus I close with a prayer and hope that a thought, an idea, or conception, may be the result of the perusal of these sheets and that you will make due allowances, pardon all mistakes, and feel free to give me your advice and good counsel.

I therefore subscribe myself your humble and obedient servant.

GEO. L. SEYMOUR,

REV. R. R. GURLEY. *Super't of the Interior Mission.*

REPORTS OF THE TRAVELLING AGENTS.

DR. JAMES HALL, *Dear Sir:*—I send you herewith an account of the contributions made to the funds of the Maryland State Colonization Society during the month of April, with the names of the respective donors:

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Cash, $10; Charles Baker, Dr. F. E. Chatard, Richard Thomas, Rev. Franklin Wilson, Whitely Bros. & Stone, Wm. Baker, each $5; Geo. A. Warder, C. Simon, Wm. Bridges, each $3; A. Gregg & Co. $2 50; James Getty, W. W. Watkins, each $2; J. C. Rau, B. Crane, Davis & Miller, Rev. N. J. B. Morgan, Rev. B. P. Brown, Rev. Jas. Sewell, Rev. W. B. Tudor, Rev. J. R. Effinger, Rev. W. T. D. Clemm, Rev. J. W. Hedges, Rev. Wm. Hirst, Richard Baker, Martin Suter, Edward B. Kelly, each $1; T. S. Godman, 50 cents, Cash 25 cents..... $70 25

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Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

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