constantly increasing with an unexhaustible supply, for the palm-tree is in all parts of Africa, we cannot tell how extensive the trade may become. But cotton, perhaps, some day may surpass it, and be more important not only to Africa, but as affecting the interest of the whole world. Cotton is a native of the African soil, and grows wild in large quantities, yielding two crops a year. It is fully equal to the Georgia cotton, and at the present prices of labor in Africa can be furnished to Europe at two thirds the cost. In 1852 Liberia exported 1810 pounds; but in 1858 the export had increased to 220,000 pounds, and so great was the success and desire of the people along the coast to go into the business, that the Manchester Cotton Supply Association sent out $15,000 worth of machinery to establish new cotton stations. England consumes eight hundred million pounds of cotton annually, and when we name that a quarter of a million pounds are supplied by Africa, it seems hardly worthy of consideration, but seventy years ago the total from the United States was less than 140,000 pounds, or only half of what Liberia now exports.

For sugar, Liberia can produce the cane as profitably as Cuba, and much more so than Louisiana. The coffee of Liberia is of the first quality, (in England called the Liberian Mocha,) and commands the highest price. Many other articles of export are there—such as camwood, cloves, hides, ginger, pepper, rice, dates, ivory, and all the varieties of fruit known in tropical climes. For commercial enterprise there is not a section of earth that can be better colonized than Western Africa, and hereafter it is to afford as extensive a commerce as India. When it holds out to the African freedom, equality, and right, with the opportunity of amassing wealth and possessing power, and at the same time enlightening his fatherland, and overthrowing chattel slavery wherever it now obtains—we know of no reason why the colored people of this country should hesitate one moment.

It is objected that Liberia is unhealthy. Very likely: no new country is healthy like an old one, and, removing in any direction, the person must become acclimated; but it is more healthy for blacks to-day than New-England was for whites two centuries ago, or than many parts of the western country are to the stranger now. All new settlements show long dark lines of mortality. One-half the Plymouth settlers died the first year; New York from the Hudson to Niagara Falls, was a great graveyard before the cities grew to be populous; and the valleys of the Ohio and Mississippi devoured the first comers by thousands. They are all more healthy now, and Liberia is becoming so quite as fast. The whole west coast of Africa is as healthy as the West India Islands were thirty years ago, as the mortality of seamen in the two cases will prove.

But if they don't like the sea coast, let them up upon the table lands—vast prairies of unrivalled beauty and fertility that have been unknown till within a few years, but where large cities and populous kingdoms are found. The doors are fast opening to the lands explored by Barth in the north, and Livingstone in the south.—*Journal of Commerce.*

ANNIVERSARY MEETING OF THE NEW YORK COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

Notwithstanding a rainy evening, a very respectable audience assembled in the Reformed Dutch Church, corner of Lafayette Place and Fourth street, Tuesday evening, May 11th, on occasion of the Anniversary of the New York State Colonization Society.

The Rev. Gardner Spring, D. D., long first Vice President of the Society, took the chair, and was subsequently chosen President of the Society. A full report of the proceedings will be found on the first page of the Journal.

The presence of the venerable chairman, and of the Rev. Dr. Burgess, of Dedham, Massachusetts, who had accompanied Samuel Mills to Sierra Leone and Sherbro, in Africa, as the first step in the Colonization enterprise; and of Rev. Martin Gale, who had united with Mills and others in a Society, to consider, and alleviate, if possible, the condition of colored men in America while a student at Andover Theological Seminary in 1815, and who produced a copy of an essay read, in September, 1815, before that Society, discussing and advocating Colonization, seemed to carry us back forty years, to commune with the noble patriots and Christian philanthropists who first originated the enterprise.

We could not doubt that its inception was in the love of God and man, as its support has ever been; and that its results tend to promote both.

The presence of a delegation from the New Jersey Colonization Society, and the speech of one of them, J. P. Jackson, Esq., added zest to the meeting.

An able *resume* of the early trials and perils of Colonization in Africa, was given in the opening address of J. B. Wedgewood, Esq., of New York. He very happily introduced the glowing testimony of the Hon. John D. Johnson, of Liberia, who after several years experience of the privileges attainable in Liberia, gave the highest testimony to their reality and value. We think no one could have listened to this address, without appreciating the enobling influence of real social and political freedom upon the sentiments and ideas of the speaker, as well as their effect in developing latent talent.

It was a subject of regret to all, that the time appropriated for such a meeting did not allow Rev. Martin Gale and Rev M. Bird time to do justice to their very interesting themes.

Few meetings of the Society have left a more favorable influence on the minds of the audience than this; and if any had before doubted the possibility of success, we think their doubts vanished before the meeting adjourned.

After the public meeting adjourned, the Society was called to transact business, and proceeded to an election of officers for the ensuing year, which appear in the usual place at the head of the *Journal*, and then adjourned.

THE BARK MENDI AND HER EMIGRANTS.

On several occasions within eight years past, companies of emigrants, varying in number from eight or ten to thirty-five, have left the port of New York, for Liberia.

A small portion of these were New Yorkers—the others coming from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Massachusetts.

The bark Mendi, which sailed from New York on Tuesday, May 24th, had a total company of forty-five colored persons destined for an African home. Among these were merchants, mechanics, farmers, and nearly all were of New York, several among the most respectable class of New York's colored population.

They did not go as exiles—nor as yielding to any oppression—but as seekers after personal advantages, or after opportunities of Christian usefulness. The interest manifested in them by relatives and friends, attested to their high worth. We never witnessed more tenderness between separating friends, nor deeper enthusiasm among a company of adventurers.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

XII. Newspapers
A. Maryland Colonization Journal

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

1859