which, when unable for a season to pay the interest on her public debt, never withheld for an instant her annual subsidy of ten thousand dollars to the feeble colony, that had been founded under her auspices on the coast of Africa.* All her legislation looks to the necessity of separation. Laws. already stringent, are sought to be made still more so; and the reasons given by men of high character, assembled in Convention on the Eastern Shore of the State, all resolve themselves into the "existence of the present immense number of free negroes."

Nor is Maryland alone in these views. A winter rarely passes without the introduction into State Legislatures of measures prejudicial to the free people of color? And even where there is no legislative action, there is an unwillingness to see their numbers multiply, which, year after year, is becoming more decided and demonstrative.† What then can be their

*The Colony at Cape Palmas, commenced in 1834 by the Maryland State Colonization Society, long known as Maryland in Liberia, now incorporated with the Republic of Liberia.

†The frequency of legislative enactments in regard to the free people of color, during the past winter, is startling in definiteness, and in their very stringent features. Thus, Arkansas has passed a law to expel its free colored population. It is further provided that, if they do not leave during the present year, they are liable to be seized and hired out, so as to procure the means of removing from the State. The lower House of the Legislature of Missouri has likewise passed a bill, by a vote of eighty-eight yeas to twenty-nine nays, in which it is declared that all "free negroes" residing in the State in 1860, shall become slaves. It also forbids emancipation within the limits of the State. Similar measures have been proposed in the Legislatures of Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, and doubtless in other States. The Legislature of Arkansas passed an act which prohibits, under severe penalties, the employment of "free negroes" on water crafts navigating the rivers of that State.

No slave, however worthy, can henceforth, in Louisiana and several other States, have freedom conferred upon him while in those States; neither is he permitted to return after being emancipated. The Supreme Judicial Tribunal of Virginia have decided, "that slaves have no civil or social rights, and that the slave cannot choose between freedom and slavery, if the offer be made him by his master; and that, consequently, a slave left by his master with freedom, if he choose to take it, can have no legal right to choose freedom, and must, therefore, still be a slave." It will thus be seen that the free colored man is likely to be driven from the Southern States by new legislative enactments; and that, where wills allowing the slave, at the death of his master, to elect freedom or continue in servitude, were once favored, now they are under the ban of law.

The constitutions of the recently admitted free States show that the colored man is not desired as an element of population. In the House of Representatives of Indiana a bill has been rejected, by a vote of sixty-five yeas to twenty nays, repealing the existing law, which makes "negroes and mulattoes" incompetent as witnesses. In the Legislature of Michigan, a proposed amendment to the constitution of that State, granting to "negroes" the right of suffrage on a property qualification, was defeated. Even in the generally received pro-African State of Ohio, a law has just passed its Legislature, which declares that no person having any African blood in his veins shall be permitted to exercise the elective franchise within that commonwealth. Petitions from citizens of Bucks and Philadelphia Counties, for a legal enactment to prevent "negroes" of other States from settling in Pennsylvania, have been presented to our State Legislature.—*Philadelphia Ledger, April* 1, 1859.

The Pittsburg Gazette says, that a company of colored People in that City desired to form a party to emigrate westward and settle upon and pre-empt public lands. Their counsel communicated with the Land Department at Washington, and received in reply a flat refusal:—it being the settled ruling of that office that colored persons are not citizens of the United States, as contemplated by the pre-emption law of 4th September, 1841, and are, therefore, not legally entitled to pre-empt public lands.—*Colonization Herald, March*, 1859, *Philadelphia.*

FREE NEGROES PRESENTED.—It will be seen by the following presentment of the Grand Jurors of this District, at the recent term of the Court of Common Pleas, that the evil of the presence of free negroes in this State has attracted their attention, and that they have taken the only means in their power to bring the subject before the Legislature of the State. We are pleased at this act of the Grand Jury, and hope other Grand Juries will follow the example, and thus impress the matter upon our law-makers until they shall be forced to abate the nuisance.

anticipations? Apprehensive, as the intelligent among them must be, of the future,—hopeless, surely, of bettering their condition where they are—whither can they look? They have already tried Hayti and found it wanting. Alike in color, unlike in all other respects, they have neither affinities nor sympathies with its people. They have no desire to be hewers of wood and drawers of water in the British Colonies of Trinidad and Demerara. They fully appreciate the motives of those who invite them to the West Indies. With no spot on the American Continent, not appropriated to the white man's use, and his exclusively, whither can they go, to avoid the throng of multiplying thousands now competing with them in all the avenues of labor? Whither, when the West, which, now, by absorbing the foreign immigration, relieves them from the pressure on the seaboard that would otherwise crush them against the wall,—whither, when the West, too, shall have a redundant population, whither shall they go? Whither, but to Africa,—to that Africa of the Tropics, where climate, genial and salubrious to the descendants of the soil, protects them, as with a wall of fire, against the encroachments of the white man,—guards the headland,—sentinels the mine,—and stays, even on the very border of the sea, on the river, and in the forest, that march of Empire, which pestilence alone can check.

There may be some who imagine we are false prophets of evil; some, who, in the sunshine of to-day, hope that the sky will never be obscured.

Only a portion of our story has been told, however. "Beholding the little cloud out of the sea, like a man's hand," pregnant with increasing evil to the free people of color, we would urge them to better their condition, by removal, "before the Heaven was dark with wind and rain." In doing so, we have dealt with the developments of to-day alone. Our calculations come up to the seventh census only. But what will be the shewing of the census of 1900. Judging from the past decades, our population will then exceed ninety-eight million. Many of my hearers will live to verify the estimate. In three score years and ten, the scriptural limit of a man's life, the fifteenth census will bring our numbers near to two hundred and forty million. Children are living who will be counted among these millions in 1930.* If then we are correct in attributing the

PRESENTMENT OF THE GRAND JURY, AT SPRING TERM, 1859.—We further present the free negroes of the District as a nuisance, and recommend that the Legislature pass some law that will have the effect of relieving the community of this troublesome population.—*Cherau* (*S. C.*) *Gazette.*

*The above results are obtained as follows. Table LXIII. of the Quarto Edition of the 7th Census gives the "ratio of increase in the United States of white, free colored, slaves and total population since 1790." Thus

	1800.	1810.	1820.	1830.	1840.	1850.
Whites,	35.68	36.18	34.12	34 03	34.72	37.74
Free Colored,	82.28	72.	25.25	33.86	20.87	12.47
Slaves,	28.1	33.4	29.10	30.62	23.31	28.82
Aggregate,	35.01	36.44	33.35	33.26	32.74	35.86

Averaging the decades, and we have for the decennial increase of the whites, 35.41; of the free colored, 41.62; of the slaves, 28.74; and of the aggregate of population, 34.44 per cent.

The above proportion of the increase of the *aggregate* is not given in Table LXIII., but has been calculated from its data. The calculations of the Table refer to the aggregate of the free and the aggregate of the colored only.

Table LX. gives the proportion of the white, free colored and slaves, for the above periods, as follows:

	1790.	1800.	1810.	1820.	1830.	1840.	1850.
Whites,	80.73	81.13	80.97	81.57	81.90	83.17	84.31
Free Colored,	1.57	2.04	2.57	2.47	2.48	2.26	1.87
Slaves,	17.76	16.83	16.46	15 96	15.62	14.57	13.82

The foregoing tables shew sufficient uniformity in the past seven decades to authorize an average in estimating the population at future decades; and the average of the aggregate, or 34.44 per cent. has accordingly been assumed, with the following results:

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

XII. Newspapers
A. Maryland Colonization Journal

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