that action was taken by the Legislature and Governor of Virginia to obtain through the United States Government some outlet in Sierra Leone or Brazil, for what was considered a dangerous population, and a class difficult to deal with. At the termination of our war with England, in 1815, the subject was again acted upon by the Legislature of Virginia, on a much nobler and more interesting basis. The resolutions then passed called for a place to colonize, not only the free, but as many as might become free. To the candid reader, it is manifest that at that time an honest purpose existed to prepare for gradual and general emancipation. But few leading statesmen ever arose to a conviction that such colonies could become self-governing, and therefore no cordial national effort was ever made. The general success which attended the first ten years of Colonization, carried forward by the American Colonization Society, protected and aided by President Monroe heartily, and by President Adams, and his successor less ardently, had almost made a public sentiment to have secured action by the Government, when four causes co-operated to arrest farther progress, to weaken, and finally to destroy all prospect of early political action.

The violent and unwise action of hot-headed abolitionists was the first of these causes; the graduated traiff of 1832 was the second; the decided opposition of President Jackson was the third; and the heavy mortality among the numerous emigrants of 1831, 1832 and 1833, the fourth. Since then, the growing intensity of political strife, and the constant increase of slaves in value, have revolutionized Southern sentiment from moderate anti-slavery to very intense pro-slavery, and consequently any Governmental action is impossible. Colonization in Africa, politically considered, is dead, or in abeyance. At some future time it may be revived.

Colonization in Africa, as a religious and humanitary movement, has a different history. Finley, Caldwell, Mills, Burgess, Bacon, Ashmun, Alexander, Mead, names identified with religious enthusiasm and heroism—by their addresses, and letters, and acts, early enlisted in this work the hearty support of the churches of which they were members. Episcopal Conventions, Presbyterian Assemblies and Synods, Methodist Conferences, Synods of the Reformed Dutch Church, Associations of the Baptist and Congregational Churches of New England, united to recommend it to the cordial co-operation and liberal aid of their churches, as a scheme destined to assist in extirpating the heartless and inhuman slave trade, and by that means, as also in many other ways, work to the furthering of Christianity in heathen Africa.

These hopes have not been disappointed. Forty years of persevering though feeble effort exhibit results more extensive than could have been anticipated, except by the very sanguine.

A Christian Republic, embracing a sea-coast of six hundred miles, founding its system of government on a basis of liberty to all its inhabitants, forever excluding slavery and the slave trade, has protected a vast native population from intestine strife, and developed among them industry and commerce; and by its Sabbath, its churches, its Sabbath-schools, its good order, quiet and prosperity, weaned them from cruel superstitions, to embrace the customs of a Christian people.

There have been planted by the churches their mission stations, which, finding all the advantage of just and friendly laws, a sympathizing people, and men to be employed as needful assistants, are convinced that as a wise movement for Christianity, none better could have been devised.

These facts are undeniable. Why, then, are the churches to abandon them? Why does not the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church stand by and reiterate its oft repeated convictions? Why do the churches so generally neglect annual contributions?

Is it that the poor African is to be abandoned and neglected, in obedience to the infidel theory in some places received, that the negro is not of our race, has no interest in the blood of Christ which was shed for man? Far be such a thought from the Church. May He who inspires with truth, dispel the fallacy wherever it now rests upon any mind, and enable all to realize that Africa and her millions are embraced in the command, "Go, ye disciples, all nations."

In our present number is a letter from Bishop Payne, who, as head of the Episcopal mission in Liberia, is now returning to a field he has labored in for twenty-four years, which we commend to the attention of all who doubt the great value of Liberia in an evangelizing aspect.

If the churches which gave vitality to the Colonization Society are weary of the work, and unwilling to sustain it longer, they should so resolve. If, on the contrary, they adhere to former convictions, and believe the Society ought to be sustained and receive aid, let them so resolve. The time has come when honest, manly action is a duty, and we hope it will be taken.

The late discoveries in tropical Africa, the increasing commerce and the evident prosperity of Liberia, combine to vanquish the prejudice of many of the free colored population; and now that their future in this country is overclouded, a disposition is spreading among them to carry forward the work of African nationality. More free colored men are now favorably contemplating emigration than ever before. Is this a time for the churches to withold from the Society the aid so long extended?

Our object in the above remarks is to awaken attention to the present crisis of our affairs, and if possible, secure such action as shall avert threatening danger.—*N. Y. Col. Jour.*

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 part of the months of March and April, with the names of the respective donors:

BALTIMORE CITY.

Ward & Bro., Anderson & Bro., Dr. B. H. D. Ball, James Beatty, James Armstrong, Richard Colvin, Wm. Gray & Son, Smith & Curlett, D. M. Gibbons & Co., A. Stirling, each $5.00; Geo. A. Rheinaker, $2.00	$52 00

DORCHESTER COUNTY.

Levin Jones, $5.00; Wm. B. Dale, $1.00; Chas. W. Breward, $1.00; Cash, 60 cents	7 60
Cambridge.—Chas. F. Goldsborough, Wm. Rea, each $5.00; Thos. W. Anderson, $3.50; Dr. Thompson, $2.00; Jas. Wallace, Dr. Francis P. Phelps, T. T. Cornwell, each $1.00; Rev. T. P. Barber, 50 cents; Mr. Foble, 25 cents	19 25

BALTIMORE COUNTY.

Jno. Ridgely, of H., $10.00; C. Ridgely, of H., $5.00	15 00
Total	$93 85

Respectfully submitted,

BALTIMORE, April 27, 1860. J. W. CULLUM, *Travelling Agent.*

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)

1860