and the meeting commenced with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Blagden. Mr. Ropes made some opening remarks to the effect that the establishment of a nation was not the work of a day, and speedy progress could not be expected. A spirit of enterprise has greatly increased among the people of Monrovia and its neighborhood, which promises well for the future. Patience and perseverance would fulfill all our expectations.

The Secretary read an abstract of the annual report. The amount contributed to the general cause of Colonization, in consequence of the Society's labors, as officially made known to its managers, is $15,502.76. Of this, $11,562.39 has been safely invested as permanent funds, yielding a regular income for education and other purposes, without passing through the treasury; so that the Treasurer's books show only receipts of $3940.37, and disbursements of $4028.02.

Mr. J. H. B. Latrobe, of Baltimore, was announced, and delivered the address. Forty-two years ago, he said, was the Colonization scheme commenced in the city of Baltimore, and in 1816 it was organized. We are here to day to report progress on Finley's plan. The free colored population is now probably half a million in the United States, and has more than doubled in forty years. Yet only twelve thousand souls were found in the colony. We admit that it is vain to think of sending all thither. That would be impossible and impolitic. Money cannot sever the ties that bind to heart and to hearth stone, to strengthen the weak and assure the timid. Colonization rests solely on the desire to better one's condition. It is that which causes emigration to and from every land. It was that which would take every free colored person to Africa, in the course of time. When they go, it will be at their own expense, to better their condition. All that the Colonization Society has to do, is to direct this free emigration, and to aid it. Such emigration had precedents everywhere, in all countries, and from the earliest age down to the last departure of gold-seekers for California. Time and circumstances are competent to the result. Circumstances beyond human control time renders irresistible.

We have in this country slaves and free colored men. The condition of free colored people has long been appreciated. Seventy years ago, a friend spoke of them as deprived of all hope of bettering their condition against the circumstances around them; Lafayette in 1824, acknowledged their position was far worse than in the Revolution; and yet the days of 1816-24 were halcyon days for them, compared with these. Work was plenty, and the white laborer had not come to compete with them in every department of labor. Excluded from every practical calling in New York, from the docks and coal wharves of Baltimore, disappearing from the Western steamboats, their places in families supplied by white girls, prejudice closing in on every hand, they find that in the struggle for bread, the white man has the advantage. Better educated, with greater ambition, and often with wealth, the race had been giving proof of its ability to act for itself, as if it had been preparing itself for Liberian rule.

All this change in circumstances had been the result of a closer contest and conflict between two races—a conflict which always takes place where two races that cannot amalgamate, live in the same land. The weaker must stand aside. The free colored population of Massachusetts is less than one per cent. of her whole population, of Connecticut, less than two per cent. of Ohio, one and a half per cent. while that of Maryland, the colored people were fourteen per cent., or one seventh of the whole. Maryland had always been forward in expending her money for



colonization. Every year new legislation is had inimical to the rights of free people of color. Every year in those states where they are so numerous, the antipathy to their increase is strengthened.

When this whole land is crowded with a redundant white population, and the waves roll back again, where can they go, crushed to the wall as they will be? Hayti they have tried, and their intelligence and their American habits could not fraternize with the uneducated Haytiens. Africa alone could welcome them to a home fitting for them. At the rate we have progressed, our country will contain over two hundred millions of whites, and where then will the blacks be? Wisdom, all the hopes of their posterity, called them to Liberia. They are hastening the result themselves, by their resolutions in Ohio, where they recommend combinations of wealth and numbers for the colored man, not seeing that they enter there upon a contest for power with the white race which they cannot work out. They cannot stop the grand progress of the English race. In all this they are but unwittingly preparing the way for the day when they will proclaim to the enterprising, the energetic, and the brave, the value of that land beyond the sea, where their progressive souls can find a fit theatre for development. Theirs will it be to build up a great empire in Africa, theirs to send Christianity into that mighty continent. To the free colored men, Liberia is the day-star of hope, the promise of a glorious day for all who will seek it. Without Liberia, without the work of the Colonization Society, their lot would be dark indeed, and who can tell the lot of those poor Africans, who are awaiting at Key West transportation back to Africa.

The growth and prosperity of the colony of Liberia into a great empire would be the surest guarantee of the suppression of the slave trade; it would give civilization, intelligence, and religion to that vast continent; and the researches and the interest taken in Africa within a few years were significant of its important future. The only people competent and qualified for the great task is the free colored people of America. They will be instruments in the hands of Providence to carry out its grand designs, which are not fulfilled in a day, but stride over ages to the certain and undoubted accomplishment of its purposes. A new nation has not in vain been created on the African coast, and thither with songs like those of Miriam shall go the march to glory and grandeur of the free colored people.

B. C. Clark, Esq. was next announced. He made a very short address on account of the lateness of the hour. He met the arguments of Beecher against colonization in brief, and showed how little real sympathy there was among the friends of colored men, even in Massachusetts—that is, that practical sympathy which will really benefit the colored man.

The officers of last year were re-elected, except that Thomas S. Williams was elected a manager, in place of John Akin, resigned.

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## TRAVELS IN THE PESSAH AND BARLAIN COUNTRIES.

*By* Mr. Sims, *a Liberian.*

We have omitted publishing most of the journals of Messrs. Seymour & Sims as they have appeared in the Liberia papers, not from any lack of interest or instruction they contain—but mainly on account of the contracted limits of our little sheet. These journals are very interesting, but with a little trouble, they might have been made much more so, and more useful. From the numbers we have seen and carefully perused, we

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)

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