pains to come here and see for himself will deny this, unless he resolutely closes his eyes against facts and his mind against evidence. I honestly believe they have redeemed the pledge they gave the public, when, in 1816, they first met at Washington. They have led the colony along, and fostered it, until its bulk has grown too unwieldy for their unaided arm. From late developments—from attentively regarding scenes and movements around and in the midst of us, I am persuaded the elements, not only of future existence, but of future prosperity, exist within us. They are arousing into life, and will, not long hence, spring forth into vigorous and profitable exertion. That irresolution which has so long chained us down to our seats and to our poverty is rapidly melting from around us, and many of our people seem to be girding on their armor for a vigorous combat with poverty and dependence."

To the same gentleman, the Rev. J. B. Pinney, under date of October 12, Governor Roberts writes:

"I received communications from Washington, with the June number of the Repository, by which I find the cause of colonization is progressing rapidly. The colonization convention, I think, will have a good effect; and if the General Government can be induced to give some efficient aid, Liberia will soon rise triumphant above the scoffs of her bitterest foes. This she is destined to do, through the providence of God, as is shown by the signs of the times. He is manifesting himself in the affairs of these colonies, and by the great work of religion that is going on among the native tribes in our vicinity. It is manifest that Liberia is to be the centre, from which light and knowledge and the gospel of Christ are to make their way into the interior of this dark continent. If nothing more was to be gained by the establishing of colonies along this coast, but the spread of the gospel of peace among a barbarous and heathen people, it would be a sufficient motive for the friends of colonization to persevere in the scheme, and would more than compensate them for the great expense and trouble they have been subjected to. But, sir, colonization is doing more than this: it is establishing a permanent home for the oppressed in other countries, (especially in the United States,) where they may remove and enjoy that civil and religious liberty that some in vain are expecting to enjoy some day in the United States. Their hope, however, is visionary—the thing is impossible, except by the intervention of the miraculous power of God. There are prejudices existing in the United States against the people of color, that in all probability will exist for centuries.

"Let them remove to Liberia or elsewhere, *at once*, and establish themselves as a separate and independent people. By the means of commerce, they will become acquainted with the world, and the world with them. They will form foreign connexions that will bring interest in contact with prejudice—when the latter must give way, and they will be brought more speedily into notice, and soon acquire a reputation and standing that will make them equal in every respect with the people of other countries. This appears to me to be the quickest and only feasible way to bring about that equality so strongly contended for by some in your country. The prejudices against Liberia, I think, will soon begin to vanish. The health of the colony (which has been the great scarecrow) has improved so much within the last few years, (owing, no doubt, to the clearing away of the forest, and cultivating the lands in the vicinity of the settlements,) that Liberians themselves are astonished. The mortality among newly arrived

emigrants has decreased within the last ten years, at least thirty-three per cent. This will continue to be the case, as the lands are cultivated and the country opened. It is my serious opinion, sir, that in a few years people may remove to Liberia with as little apprehension about the coast fever as if they were removing to any of the West India islands. The colony, too, is acquiring a reputation, and beginning to be known abroad. Our merchants are already visiting foreign countries, where they are received courteously, and treated with that respect due to their standing at home. Could our colored friends in America properly understand and appreciate the blessings of 'liberty and equality,' (as enjoyed by the people of these colonies,) they would rather live in Liberia (with all its imaginary evils) than to remain in any country (with all its luxuries) where they are cast out and degraded. And such men only as are fully convinced of their condition in the United States, and who are determined to enjoy freedom at all hazards, *somewhere*, do we wish to come to Liberia. I will warrant, sir, that ninety-nine out of a hundred of such men will never express even a wish to return."

A distinguished and generous friend of the society, John McDonogh, Esq., of New Orleans, expressed his desire, early in the year, of sending to the colony, on certain conditions, under the protection of the committee, eighty of his servants, who had long been in preparation, beneath his own eye, for the condition and advantages of liberty. Though permission sought by him of the State Legislature thoroughly to educate these people was denied, they had enjoyed through his kindness many and peculiar advantages, with a view to their participation in the rights, responsibilities, and duties of a free community. "I do not hesitate," (observes Mr. McDonogh, in offering them to the attention of the society,) "to say, (knowing them as I do, for the greater part have been born under my roof,) should they settle in Liberia, that they will be the most valuable acquisition for their number, which that colony has ever received into her bosom, and will tend, in a higher degree, to the advancement of her best interests, than ten times their number would do, taken from those of the same color generally through the United States. To say nothing of their moral and religious character, (which merits high commendation,) they have been reared to habits of order and industry; most of them read well, some write, and several among them, both male and female, are capable of becoming common school teachers. But, for their talents as artisans, mechanics, agriculturists, sugar makers, sugar-kettle setters, sugar-mill builders, builders of sugar-house chimneys, (each of which is a separate trade or profession,) blacksmiths, carpenters, masons, &c., they are emphatically the population which Liberia greatly needs, and who are formed to advance her interests. A few years after their arrival in the colony would see them in possession, I have no doubt, of fine sugar, cotton, and coffee estates. Some of them have pecuniary means, and all of them would have large means, (in such a country as that,) in their knowledge of agriculture and the arts of life."

Anxious to comply with the philanthropic views of this gentleman, as well as to aid many applicants for a passage from various sections of the Union, the ship Mariposa, was chartered and ordered to New Orleans, whence (after her outfit with all needful supplies, and the embarkation under the superintendance of the Rev. William McLain, the treasurer of the society, of seventy-nine persons, liberated by Mr. McDonogh, and one

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XIV. Books

2. Report of Mr. Kennedy, of Maryland
H.R. report no.283, 27th Congress
3rd session, Washington, D.C. 1843