rapidly extending, securing to it the counsels of wisdom, the donations of wealth, and the prayers of religion."*

In the year 1825, the expressions of public opinion in favour of the Colonization Society, both from distinguished individuals and public bodies, became more explicit and decided than ever before. The Baptist Board of Foreign Missions passed a resolution, in which they declared their cordial approbation of the objects of the American Colonization Society; expressed their pleasure at the success which had attended the effort to establish a colony at Liberia, in Africa; and earnestly recommended it to their brethren to patronize it; and when practicable, make collections for its funds. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, at their annual meeting, expressed their "high gratification at the progress of the American Colonization Society," which they call, "a great work of humanity and religion." They did not hesitate to say, that they believed, "that the temporal prosperity and moral interests of an extensive section of our country, of a numerous, degraded, and miserable class of men in the midst of us, and of the vast continent of Africa, uncivilized and unchristianized, are ultimately connected with the success of this institution. They therefore resolved, unanimously, to recommend to the churches under their care, to patronize the objects of the American Colonization Society, and particularly, that they take up collections in aid of its funds, on the fourth of July, or on the Sabbath immediately preceding or succeeding that day: and where that might be thought inexpedient, to give their assistance, in such manner as might be most conducive to the interests of the society."

The General Synod of the Protestant Reformed Dutch Church, resolved to recommend to the churches under their care, the American Colonization Society; and also, wherever meetings should be held on the fourth day of July, they earnestly recommended that collections be made in behalf of this institution.

At the annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Virginia, a resolution was passed, declaring, that the Convention had witnessed with the deepest emotions of gratitude to God, the success with which it hath pleased him to bless the efforts of the American Colonization Society; that they observe with

* Seventh Report, page 23.

pleasure an increasing interest in its prosperity every where manifested, throughout the Union. They, therefore, recommended continued and increasing exertions in its favour, and that collections be made in the respective churches under their care, on the fourth of July, or on the Sabbath immediately preceding that day.

A flourishing colonization society had been formed in New Hampshire, embracing some of the most considerable men in the State, both lay and clerical. At the anniversary of this auxiliary, the Rev. Dr. Daniel Dana delivered an elegant address, which was published. The sentiments which it contains are in perfect harmony with the principles on which the American Colonization Society was founded.

In this same year the Rev. Dr. Meade delivered an animated address to a crowded audience in Winchester, Virginia. This gentleman has already received honourable mention, as one of the earliest and most efficient friends of the American Colonization Society; to which we may now add, that his whole family participate in his zeal and benevolence in promoting this good cause, of which they have given to the world the most substantial evidence.

The society found another able, zealous, and eloquent advocate, in the Rev. Leonard Bacon, of New Haven. This gentleman first distinguished himself as the enlightened and cordial friend of colonization, in a review of the Reports of the Society, which embodied in an eloquent style the principal transactions of the society, up to the time when it was written. This able review was first published in the Christian Spectator, but was copied from that work into various other periodicals, and was read every where by the friends of colonization, with peculiar interest and pleasure. During the current year, (1825) Mr. Bacon came forward again with "A Plea for Africa." This work, though not comprehending so much information as his "Review," yet is written with more animation and elegance. Some passages, in which he describes the miseries of Africa, are truly touching, and eloquent. Among his concluding sentences are these: "The voice of public opinion in favour of this enterprise is becoming louder and louder. In every section of our country the ministers of Jesus have been pleading for it to-day. From hundreds of churches the cry of supplication has gone up in its behalf. And not a few are the freemen

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

XIV. Books

3.

A History of Colonization on the West Coast of Africa

by Archibald Alexander, Philadelphia, 1846