tion of these joint evils, not inconsistent with other paramount considerations, would be worthy the attention and deliberation of the representatives of a free, liberal-minded, and enlightened people; therefore,

"*Resolved*, That we consider the colonization of the free people of colour in Africa, as the commencement of a system, by which, if judicious encouragement be afforded, these evils may be measurably diminished, so that, in process of time, the relative proportion of the black to the white population, will hardly be matter for serious or unpleasant consideration.

"Ordered, therefore, that a committee of five members be appointed by the chair, with instructions to report a bill, based, as nearly as may be, upon the principles contained in the foregoing resolutions."

These resolutions were adopted, and the committee appointed.

In order that we may form a correct opinion of the state of the colony, it is desirable to have the testimony not only of friends, and residents, but also of impartial travellers and visiters. The favourable report of Captain Sherman has already been laid before the reader; we will now add that of Captain Woodside. In a letter, dated the 2d of April, 1831, he says, "I returned from Mesurado, via Philadelphia, in November last, and I must say this visit afforded me more real satisfaction, than any I had hitherto made to Africa. Being in a great measure untrammelled with business, I had leisure to visit Caldwell and King Bromley's town, and was much pleased, I assure you, with my excursion. The beauty of the situation of Caldwell, the fertility of the soil, and the air of comfort and happiness, which reigns throughout, will, I hope, remain an everlasting evidence of the unceasing exertions of our friend Ashmun. I dined with King Bromley, and had a long conversation with him on the affairs of the colony—he frankly admitted to me that he believed no white man but Ashmun, could have reconciled him to the loss of the beach trade—that Ashmun had been a father to him and to his people, and that he had convinced him satisfactorily, that trading in his fellow men was criminal and wrong."

During this year, (1831,) a considerable movement took place in Kentucky, respecting the gradual emancipation of slaves. A number of slaveholders, convinced that immediate emancipation was not practicable nor desirable, formed a society, the object of which was, to promote the gradual abolition of slavery; and any person by becoming a member of this society, pledged himself to provide for the freedom of all the posterity of his slaves, which should be born after a certain day; in this, setting an example of the course which they supposed the legislature of the State might safely pursue.

The colonization scheme was generally approved in this State; its most distinguished cities having patronized it from the beginning; and the ministers of the gospel, of all denominations, being found amongst its zealous advocates. The Rev. Mr. Bascom had already traversed the State; but now Mr. Robert S. Finley, being appointed permanent agent for the west, held many meetings, and by his powerful addresses gave a new impetus to the cause.

Mr. Finley, in his report to the Board, observes, "that there is no law in Kentucky prohibiting the instruction of slaves to read and write, and that great efforts are making to encourage and assist them in doing so. After delivering an address to a large and respectable audience in this place, (Lexington,) a venerable clergyman, who had lived here ever since the early settlement of the country, arose, and in a solemn and impressive manner, urged the necessity and duty of having a Sunday-school established in every kitchen where there were slaves, to instruct them to read the Bible; having especially in view, the object of preparing them to be useful and respectable citizens of Liberia. This gentleman has a Sunday-school taught in his kitchen, by a very respectable and intelligent man, his slave, where from fifty to a hundred, mostly slaves, are weekly instructed. I visited his school last Sunday, and found it remarkably well ordered, and was informed by the teacher, that about thirty of his scholars could read in the New Testament."

The cause of colonization found also a zealous and able advocate in Illinois, in the person of Cyrus Edwards, Esq. An address of this gentleman, delivered in Vandalia, may be read in the number of the African Repository for the month of June, 1831. It is lucid and convincing, and will well repay the perusal.

We have another very satisfactory testimony in favour of the colony of Liberia, from Captain Kennedy, a distinguished naval officer, the late commander of the Java. This testimony

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XIV. Books
3.
A History of Colonization on the West Coast of Africa
by Archibald Alexander, Philadelphia, 1846