constant attendant on divine service, and appears desirous of promoting the moral and religious welfare of the people. Most of the settlers appear to be rapidly acquiring property; and I have no doubt they are doing better for themselves and their children in Liberia, than they could do in any other part of the world. Could the free people of colour in this country but see the real condition of their brethren who have settled in Africa, I am persuaded they would require no other motive to induce them to emigrate. This is my decided and deliberate judgment. Very respectfully, sir, your friend and servant,

WILLIAM ABELS."

The animated and protracted debate in the legislature of Virginia, this winter, was, on many accounts, a very remarkable event. The principal speeches delivered, on this occasion, have been published; and it does not comport with the plan of our work to go into any details respecting this interesting transaction. After the close of the debate, Mr. Broadnax, from the select committee on slaves and free negroes, reported a bill, "devising the ways and means for deporting free negroes, and such as may become free, to Liberia." The bill, as modified and amended, proposed an appropriation of $35,000 for the present year, and $90,000 for the next, to be expended in colonizing the free people of colour; and it passed the House of Delegates, but failed in the Senate.

On the 30th of January, the following resolution was reported from the select committee on coloured population, in the House of Delegates, and was concurred in:

"*Resolved*, That it is expedient to apply to the General Government to procure a territory or territories, beyond the limits of the United States, to which the several States may remove their free coloured population."

At the same time the legislature of Maryland had this subject under consideration, and adopted measures, of which a full account will be given in its proper place.

Even in congress there was a movement beyond that to which the caution of the national legislature had permitted them to go before. The following resolution offered by Mr. Jenifer, of Maryland, with some other colonization papers, was referred to a select committee.

"*Resolved*, That a select committee be appointed to inquire into the expediency of making an appropriation for the purpose



of removing from the United States the free people of colour, and colonizing them on the coast of Africa, or elsewhere."

About this time, occurred one of the most horrid instances of merciless barbarity, which can be found, even in the blood stained annals of the slave trade. It appeared sufficiently attested, that a slaver when pursued by the Fair Rosamond and Black Joke, tenders to the frigate Dryade, actually threw overboard one hundred and eighty slaves, manacled together: four of whom only were picked up!!

Information of a pleasing kind was received early in the year, from that intrepid and devoted friend of colonization, Elliott Cresson, Esq., who had paid a visit to England, to promote those just views in regard to the scheme of colonization which were entertained in America. It appeared that he had been very successful in awaking the attention and sympathies of the English nation to the importance of the great scheme of philanthropy, in which the society is engaged. This visit of Mr. Cresson originated in the impulse of his own benevolent feelings, and was entirely at his own expense.

The return of the James Perkins, brought favourable accounts from Liberia. Captain Crowell arrived there after a quick passage of thirty-five days, and landed three hundred and forty-five emigrants, all in good health. The captain states, that he had far less trouble with them on the passage than he expected, and that they were during the voyage, almost perfectly exempt from disease. They were immediately transferred to Caldwell, and appeared well satisfied with their own accommodations, and with all that they saw in the colony. The favourable impressions, relative to the colony, made on the minds of the natives, appeared to be increasing daily. Applications were continually received requesting settlements to be made on different points on the coast.

At the close of the last year, a small expedition for Liberia, was set on foot, in the western States, under the auspices and direction of Mr. R. S. Finley, the society's indefatigable agent. The vessel chartered was the schooner Crawford, Captain Taylor, which sailed from New Orleans, and arrived at Monrovia, after a long passage of sixty days, carrying out twenty-three emigrants, under the care of Dr. Shane of Cincinnati.

Dr. Todsen, the colonial physician, gave a very favourable account of his success in the treatment of the fever, and concluded by saying, "that it was as much under the control of

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XIV. Books

3.

A History of Colonization on the West Coast of Africa

by Archibald Alexander, Philadelphia, 1846