ria was now prepared to receive many more colonists in a year, than had heretofore been sent. "They believe," says the report, "that there is no reason to apprehend that the resources of the society will ever exceed the demands for aid from those anxious to emigrate, or the capabilities of the colony to afford accommodation and subsistence to those who may choose it as their residence. Thus far the slowness of its growth may have been an advantage. But with a free government, well established upon the popular will; an extensive territory, easy of cultivation, and abundantly productive; a population, mostly sober, industrious, and enterprising, with schools and churches, courts of justice, and a periodical press; and in fine, with the ardour and resolution of a people alive to their privileges, and determined to improve and perpetuate them, this colony now invites all worthy, free persons of colour to seek an asylum within its limits. Thousands might be safely introduced in a single year, provided temporary buildings should be constructed, and some provision made for their accommodation and support, during a few months after their arrival; and for this object, an allowance of fifteen or twenty dollars to each emigrant would probably be sufficient. Were one, or even two hundred thousand dollars entrusted to the society, it might be well expended, before the close of the year, in removing emigrants, and in preparing for larger numbers to succeed them. The experiment of African colonization has been successfully tried, but it remains to be shown, whether this work, the practicableness and utility of which have been demonstrated, will be sustained by a liberality, and conducted forward by a boldness and energy corres ponding to its magnitude and importance. So great a work, it is true, is not to be done in a day. But if ever to be completed, it is time to engage in it with a comprehensiveness and vigour of measures, that shall throw into shade all the past aids and efforts of the society. Expediency dictates that this work should be progressive. The number of emigrants, doubtless, should increase, each succeeding year: and as much must depend upon the habits of the early settlers, some selection should be made among those who first offer; yet the Board cannot express too strongly, that no funds can be supplied either by individual charity, the States, or the nation, exceeding the amount required to execute this work, on a scale proportionable to its greatness and merits, whether viewed relatively to the interests of the country, or the still higher interests of humanity, which it is designed to promote."

After giving an account of the several expeditions which had been fitted out for Liberia, during the year, of which notice has already been given in this chapter, the managers go on to mention a second voyage of the ship Jupiter, which before carried out one hundred and seventy-two emigrants. This vessel received on board at Norfolk, thirty-eight emigrants, and sailed for the colony on the 9th of November. In this vessel embarked, the Rev. M. B. Cox, as missionary, under the authority of the Society for Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Although the number of emigrants sent out, within a year, was so large, yet such was the urgency of the application of others to be sent, that the Board, in reliance upon the public liberality, ventured to charter the brig Roanoke, which left Norfolk for Liberia, with one hundred and twenty-seven passengers; one hundred of whom were slaves manumitted in Virginia, for the express purpose of African colonization. These last were liberally supplied with the most useful articles by their late owners; and, in some cases, the entire expense of removal was defrayed by them. These emigrants were represented as possessing, generally, unexceptionable characters, and some had received their freedom in consideration of their high moral and religious worth. In this vessel sailed the Rev. Mr. Pinney, a missionary under the patronage of the Western Presbyterian Board of Missions. This young man went away under circumstances well adapted to depress his spirits. While in the theological seminary, at Princeton, he and another pious, talented, and enterprising young man, whose name was Jos. W. Barr, formed the purpose of devoting themselves to the benefit of Africa. They were accordingly adopted by the above mentioned Board, and were both ordained the same evening, by the laying on the hands of the Presbytery of Philadelphia. All things being nearly ready, these two devoted brethren made use of the time allowed, before sailing, to visit several of our cities, and endeavour to stir up the dormant energies and liberality of the friends of African missions. They had no connexion with the Colonization Society except that they intended to make the colony, in the commencement, the centre of their operations. But O! how uncertain are human hopes!

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