as happy and respectable as benevolence would wish to see him; and *there* certainly, a rightly applied morality and religion would sanction his being placed."

The author of this excellent discourse, admits that very untoward and disastrous events had occurred in the commencement of this great enterprise; and that among the first colonists, the mortality had been considerable; but he makes it appear very clearly, by a statement of facts, that the colonization of America by Europeans was attended with far greater disasters and mortality of the first colonists, than has occurred in Africa. "Their early history," says he, "presents an uniform aspect, one unvarying page: it is marked by disappointment and disaster, by discouragement and mortality. The parent and nurse of all the Spanish establishments in America, proved a certain burying place to most of the primitive adventurers. Of the thirty-eight persons left in Hispaniola by Columbus, as the seed of a colony, all had perished in ten months after, on his return from Spain. The armament which Ovaredo conducted thither in 1502, consisted of two thousand five hundred colonists. One thousand of these fell victims to disease. . . . Of the colonists conducted by Sir Walter Raleigh to the coast now forming a constituent part of North Carolina, and of others who subsequently followed, not one survived to tell the story of their melancholy fate. The settlement at Jamestown, narrowly escaped a similar miscarriage. One-half of the original emigrants were swept off, in a few months, by famine and distempers. Of five hundred settlers, whom the chivalrous Smith left in Virginia, but sixty were in being a few months afterwards; and they, enfeebled by famine, and dejected by various misfortunes, were projecting a speedy departure from the land of their sufferings and their hardships. The colony at New Plymouth experienced like embarrassments. In six months after the landing of the pilgrims, owing to the unaccustomed rigours of an eastern winter, and the fatigue and hardships inseparable from a new settlement, nearly half the adventurers had died. A great pestilence, they were informed by the Indian chief, Samoset, had raged four years before, and swept the populous region of Patuxet. To their other calamities, was added the sterility of a rocky and stubborn soil, the productions of which, after untiring and laborious cultivation, were always uncertain. The distresses of famine threatened them at every step. They subsisted upon fish, with precarious supplies of corn and beans, procured from the Indians. It is not necessary to remind *Pennsylvanians* of the hardships encountered by those worthy pioneers of the wilderness, who landed on the shores of the Delaware, on this day one hundred and fifty-two years ago. It is not necessary to recount the perplexities and trials which their situation imposed—their disappointment and consternation in finding caves for their dwelling places, and impenetrable tracts of forest in the promised land! With such lights and examples, let Liberia be viewed, and with other lights which history sheds, and it will be seen that less hardship and disaster, less mortality and discontent, cannot be found in any settlement which the long narrative of colonial annals records. The concurring testimonies of Captain Stockton, and Captain Nicholson, who visited Liberia in 1828; of Captain Sherman, in 1830; of Captain Kennedy and Captain Abels, in 1831; of Hannah Kilham, in 1832; and of Captain Voorhees, towards the close of the past year, establish, beyond the possibility of question, its striking fitness for its destined object. In confirmation of these distinterested and respectable travellers, are the reports of agents, the letters of the colonists, and the evidence of British and French naval officers, who have occasionally visited the settlement. They unite in representing it as the abode of peaceful content and smiling plenty. The preposterous and unfounded statements of one or two unknown and discredited witnesses, are entitled to no respect from the honest inquirer."*



* The author refers here particularly to an account of Liberia given in a letter of Mr. Birney, from a person styled, the *Rev. Samuel Jones.* To show how the most knowing of the abolitionists suffered themselves to be imposed upon by false statements, the following extract from this letter is here given:

"On the fourth day, Mr. King (agent of the Tennessee Colonization Society,) suggested that we ought now to visit the *poor.* We accordingly did so, and of all misery and poverty, and all repining that my imagination had ever conceived, it had never reached what my eyes now saw, and my ears heard. Hundreds of poor creatures, squalid, ragged, hungry, without employment—some actually starving to death, and all praying most fervently that they might get home to America once more. Even the emancipated slave craved the boon of returning again to bondage, that he might once more have the pains of hunger satisfied. There are hundreds there who say they would rather come back and be slaves than stay in Liberia. They would sit down and tell us their tale of suffering and of sorrow, with such a dejected and wo begone aspect, that it would almost break our hearts. They would weep as they would talk of their sorrows here, and their joys in America—and we mingled our tears freely with theirs. This part of the population included, as near as we could judge, *two-thirds* of the inhabitants of Monrovia."

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