cursed trade driven from a region of coast extending, by the inclusion of Sierra Leone, over a space of five hundred miles in length. "Liberia," says the editor of the Liberia Herald, "is a standing evidence, that slavers cannot breathe in a moral atmosphere. Their detestable traffic shuns the abodes of fair and legitimate trade, and one colony, established on the principles of temperance and peace, sustaining in their purity the moral and religious institutions of the mother country, is worth a dozen scores of men of war." In this connexion, we shall quote from a letter of Mr. Wyncoop to the editor of the New York Evangelist, dated Princeton, April 6, 1835: "About a year since, I explored the western coast from Grand Cape Mount to Cape Palmas, for the purpose of learning the most favourable points for the establishment of missions. I availed myself of every opportunity of ascertaining the condition of the colonies, their extent, &c. I learned the following facts touching the slave trade—they are unquestionably true. The river Gallinas is the most extensive slave mart on the western coast. It is not within the limits of Liberia.

"Grand Cape Mount was for many years an extensive slave mart. About two months previous to my visit, the natives had resolved to abandon the slave trade for ever. They were led to take this noble step, partly by their own convictions, and partly by the persuasions of the governor and citizens of Monrovia.

"Cape Mesurado was a slave mart at the time it was purchased by the agents of the Colonization Society. The establishment of the colony broke up the slave trade entirely.

"Little Bassa was a slave mart up to January, 1834. Two tribes, the Fishmen and Kroomen, combined their forces, demolished the factory, and drove off the traders. This place is between Monrovia and Grand Bassa. It is still owned by the natives.

"Grand Bassa was a slave mart. There were two factories, one on each side of the river. The first was destroyed when the American Colonization Society obtained the north-western section, and the other when the Young Men's Society, by their agent, purchased the south-western section.

"It was thought by some that Young Sesters was a slave mart, but no evidence of it could be obtained. The slave trade has never been tolerated between Young Sesters and Cape Palmas, and for some distance beyond. If there is no slave mart

at Young Sesters, then indeed colonization has been the means of destroying that cursed traffic from Cape Mount to Trade Town."

The colony had now begun to feel the strength of their own resources. A generous spirit of self-reliance, and independence of the Board had become prevalent. They took a more active part in their own legislation—a new colonial court was established—the debates in the colonial council are those of a manly and thoughtful eloquence and wisdom—the action of this council, on the reception of the news of the Bassa Cove massacre, was as prompt, energetic, calm and parliamentary, as the example of the best consulting bodies could furnish. They were putting up public offices, and a stone light-house, to be at an elevation of two hundred and eighty feet from the sea, and were opening public roads, and had launched a new large schooner, at their own expense. The business of agriculture, and the introduction of domestic animals, were occupying general attention. During the year 1835 more than double an amount of agricultural produce had been brought to market, than ever in any previous year. The new Georgia and Caldwell settlements took the lead in this reformation. Working animals, oxen, &c., were introduced into the colony from Bassa, Cape de Verd Islands, and other places. By a resolution of the Colonial Council, corporate powers were this year bestowed upon each of the settlements. Liberia had by this time progressed to such a degree of civil establishment, that had the people left the colony in 1835, they would have left a city whose roads, and wharves, and stores would have remained for ages as memorials of a people of wonderful enterprise, and of a most respectable national power.

Several new schools were commenced in the colony and neighbourhood, this year. Those already established and supplied with teachers by the ladies of Richmond and Philadelphia, and by the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, continued prosperous. Two hundred and fifty-five children of the colonists were receiving regular and competent instruction in these schools. There were now ten schools, besides Bible classes and Sunday schools in the entire colony. But notwithstanding these encouraging particulars, the Board felt that the colonial schools were greatly inadequate to the wants of the citizens. And in their last report they do earnestly appeal to

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