"Whereas, the Society have resolved to establish a settlement at some suitable point on the coast of Africa, and to take measures to procure both within and without the State the necessary pecuniary aid; and whereas Cape Palmas, or its vicinity, has been recommended as affording advantages for such a settlement, which justify steps for its more particular exploration and purchase; and whereas it is proper, before proceeding to make the application for the aid contemplated, that the principles upon which it is intended to establish the settlement should be distinctly stated for the information of those who may be willing

adopting the resolutions of the text. But, half a century ago, slavery was regarded in the States where it existed as an institution upon whose permanence the wealth and prosperity of so many were dependent, that anything which, by possibility, might interfere with it, was looked upon with jealousy and distrust. So fixed, indeed, did it seem to be, that even those who deplored its existence, seeing no way to get rid of it, and never dreaming of the civil war which closed with its destruction, were disposed to consider it as a necessary evil, and to leave it with the future to be dealt with. The Constitution of the American Colonization Society had carefully avoided all reference to it, when it declared the object to be "the removal of the *free* people of color, with their own consent, to Africa," and the Maryland law of 1831 found supporters in the belief that, by such removal, the property in slaves would be enhanced in value or made more secure. The action of the State Society, therefore, which frankly declared that the extirpation of slavery in Maryland was its ultimate object, was far in advance of anything that had been done in this connection in the slave-holding States, and the discussion of the resolutions was naturally careful and deliberate. Not only was the principle involved to be considered, but the effect of the resolutions upon the public, and especially their effect on the Legislature, upon which the Act of 1831 made the Society practically dependent for the means of accomplishing its purposes.

to lend their assistance to the cause of colonization as advocated by this Society; therefore it is resolved:

"*First.* That the Maryland State Colonization Society look forward to the extirpation of slavery in Maryland, by proper and gradual efforts addressed to the understanding and experience of the people of the State, as the peculiar object of their labors.

"*Second.* That the Society believe that this can best be accomplished, under existing circumstances, by advocating and assisting the cause of colonization.

"*Third.* That the colonization of the free people of color, of the United States, on the coast of Africa, will not only promote their own temporal freedom and happiness, but be the means of spreading the light of civilization and the Gospel in Africa.

"*Fourth.* And whereas it is desired that the settlement about to be made should, as far as practicable, become a moral and temperate community, which is to be effected in a great degree by the character of the emigrants who may leave America for a new home in Africa; and whereas the sad experience of this country has shown the demoralizing effect of the use of ardent spirits; be it resolved that no emigrant shall be permitted to go from America to a settlement of this Society,

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XV. Pamphlets (not in original collection)
16. Maryland in Liberia, by J.H.B.Latrobe, March 9, 1885, Baltimore