the colony an ordinance "to raise a revenue for the support of government in the colony of Maryland in Liberia, and for other purposes." This, before going into operation, was submitted to Governor Russwurm and its provisions were made known to the colonists. These desired that, "if any duty was to be levied," it should be upon sales and not upon imports. On this point the Board would not yield. Such a duty as the colonists preferred was essentially an excise, requiring for its enforcement a power to collectors to make searches, administer oaths, and exercise authority inconsistent with liberty.

The time spent in these discussions, however, was not wasted. A tariff of duties was at last fixed which was satisfactory, when accompanied with a warehouse system, which obviated the objection that only those who could afford to advance the duties could engage in trade.

Finally, an ordinance was passed on the 9th of July, 1846. The forms were those in use in the United States, adapted to the circumstances of the colony. In the preparation of both ordinances the Board of Managers had the assistance of a member of the committee, Dr. James H. McCulloh, long deputy-collector in the Baltimore custom house, a gentleman distinguished not only for his moral worth, but for his great learning and

research. It is not necessary to enter into the details of a tariff which has long since ceased to exist, or to have other interest than as showing the nature of the duties of the Board of Managers while executing their sovereign powers in promoting the happiness and prosperity of a people which finally became an independent nation under their auspices.

The revenue from the tariff for the first seven months after it went into operation was $500, and the following year's estimate was $1,200.

In their report for 1845, the Board of Managers were able to announce that the Society was out of debt, awarding to Dr. Hall, the home and general agent, the credit due to the judicious economy on both sides of the Atlantic that had produced this result.

In 1845, the State of Maryland had not extricated herself from the condition in which she was placed by the failure, in 1837, to meet the interest on her public debt; and on the 18th of January, 1845, the chairman of the committee of ways and means, of the House of Delegates, wrote to the President of the Society to know, whether the annual contribution of $10,000 could not be dispensed with. "There is a disposition," the chairman says, "to convert it from that object to the

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