heathens at Krootown, also in the settlements along the Saint Paul's River. Although the vast majority of your patients are very poor, not one, to my knowledge, has ever been refused treatment. I wish you much success. God bless, preserve and keep you, and return you safe to us when you shall have accomplished the objects which now take you abroad.

Faithfully yours,
S. T. PROUT,
Pastor M. E. Church,
MONROVIA.

TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE GIRLS' CHURCH TRAINING SCHOOL.

By the grace of God, after years of patient, strenuous labor, not only have we founded a school, but have maintained it since 1896.

The former report which I sent to your honorable body before leaving the country could not be as full because many details of the work had to be gathered after my recent trip to America, especially as the enitre operation depended on my personal efforts and influence.

It has been a wonder to me that I was permitted to begin such a work, ponderous as it is, in the face of so many difficulties and oppositions, particularly from sources from which I had a right to expect assistance.

Notwithstanding the difficulties which have attended our efforts we are glad to be able to make this report.

To go at length to lay the object of our work before you, would only be a repetition of facts with which you are already familiar; hence we present for your examination papers showing amount of funds in hand, collections, &c.

The five hundred acres of land granted by the government, would, if cleared, furnish an abundant supply of provision for the maintenance of a large number of children, but it has not been surveyed and means are needed for that purpose. The school is in possession of some furnishings, including piano, bedsteads, stoves, sewing machine, books, and a number of small necessaries for the house, of which we have itemized lists. A report of scholars, clothing, &c., will be given by my wife.

The amount of funds in the bank, as can be seen by the collection book will amount to about eleven hundred dollars.

We have the nucleus for a large and aggressive work in hand and

one so sadly needed that we feel that any sacrifice is not too great to be made.

The plan of the school building on our circular was given by my late friend and patron Hon. O. B. Potter, who, upon hearing my desire for the betterment of the condition of women in this Republic, told me to go ahead and start the school, that when sufficient evidence was gathered to warrant the building of such an institution he would give it. He accordingly called his architect and together they planned the building referred to above. Before I left America, however, Mr. Potter died and having left no provision for these plans I was thus thrown upon my own resources, hence, my great anxieties concerning proper accommodations for our work, which has now reached a point where our space is inadequate for its expansion or even present needs.

That a good and effective work is being carried on in this portion of the jurisdiction every unprejudiced mind knowing the facts must concede, hence it is no surprise that the Board of Trustees have placed such unlimited confidence in the founder.

The fact must be noted that this training school has not only increased the attendance at Trinity Church but has made a decided change in the general churchmanship of the congregation.

Since the beginning of our effort we have had in our school eighteen girls, four of whom left us voluntarily, and one was lost to us by death. Very little illness has visited us, and that, with one exception of light character.

The circular gives the amount as necessary for the yearly maintenance of one girl which sum covers books, dress and other incidentals, at sixty dollars.

You will see, therefore, what I have been endeavoring to accomplish, since, with the exception of a few contributions elsewhere noted, the entire expense of the girls has been met with my own stipend and efforts, from the beginning.

I would say here, that this work has been a labor of love from its incipiency. Indeed, there have been no inducements offered me, but instead, I have met oppositions in every form, but feeling sure that the work could be done and ought to be done, I have pressed forward until this very moment.

I have ever held, that if we black men do not sacrifice for the upbuilding and advancement of our own people, we cannot consistently expect people of other races to help us, which fact is especially true of present gigantic tasks of Church and educational work in the Republic of Liberia.

I feel encouraged, however, that, as Rector of Trinity Church and founder of the Girls' Church Training School, I have had the co-opera-

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

XV. Pamphlets (not in original collection)
17. The First Report of the Girls' Graded Church School, Monrovia, Liberia
Monrovia