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THE

COLONIZATIONIST

AND

JOURNAL OF FREEDOM.

BOSTON:
PUBLISHED BY GEO. W. LIGHT,
Lyceum Depository, 3 Cornhill.
1834.
A.—We are under no apprehensions of difficulty with the natives. They are amicable, and bring their children among us. There have been about fifty marriages between the emigrants and recaptured Africans and the natives. The latter are much better looking than the blacks in this country—and no repugnance whatever is felt to forming intermarriages. Marriages are all recorded, and the natives fall particularly easy into the white man’s fashions, as they call them. The fame of the colony has spread far into the interior, and they come fourteen days journey to visit and trade with us.

Q.—Is there any discontent at the colony?

A.—They are generally satisfied. The colonists wish to remain under the management of the Society. I know of three only who came back—one in the Hilarity, one in the Jupiter, and one in the Roanoke.

Q.—Is it true that any of the colonists have been engaged in the slave-trade?

A.—Never. The law imposes a fine of a thousand dollars for the first offence; and for the second offence death. A violation of the law would be rigidly enforced.

G. P. DISGOSWAY,
THOMAS BELL,
H. V. GARRETSON,
Committee.

ANSWER TO THE WILBERFORCE PROTEST.

The Protest exacted from the lamented Wilberforce, almost in his last moments, with the added names of others, with many of whom that venerated philanthropist had not been wont to associate, has been bruited forth (says the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser) with great parade by the enemies of the American Colonization Society. The following reply, valuable for its intrinsic excellence, derives increased importance from its being the production of a foreign writer, an eminent divine, who could have had no conceivable object in making the worse appear the better reason.

AMERICAN Colonization Society.

To the Editor of the Dumfries and Galloway Courier.

Dear Sir,—In your number of the 28th ult., I observed inserted a copy of a protest, subscribed by some leading members of the Anti-Slavery Society against the American Colonization Society, to which, however, I was glad to find you abstain from giving your own direct sanction, on the ground that you are not at
present prepared to give a decided opinion on the subject. The highly respectable names attached to that protest bestow upon it an importance which assuredly would not otherwise belong to it; and as I do not remember to have read in your columns a single statement on the other side of the question, I think it due to the cause of truth and of humanity, that your numerous readers should be put in possession of some facts, which may serve to counteract the effects of that imposing *ex parte* document.

Of the names attached to the protest in question, those which will carry the greatest weight with unprejudiced men, are Wm. Wilberforce, Wm. Smith, Wm. Allen, and perhaps S. Lushima-ton. Almost all the rest, such as T. F. Buxton, Wm. Evans, T. Macauley, &c., are men wedded to a party, and strongly biassed by exclusive zeal for one great cause; while at least one of them has a deep pecuniary interest in the colony of Sierra Leone, which cannot fail to influence him in resisting any change in the system of African colonization. Now it is worthy of remark, that two of the most influential of the individuals mentioned, namely, William Allen and William Smith, becoming ashamed of their ill-judged rashness, have had the manliness publicly to withdraw their names from the protest, and have been joined in this act of retraction by Daniel O'Connel, to whose signature, however, on whatever side it appears, I cannot attach much weight. As to the revered name of William Wilberforce, it must have been procured by the solicitations and partial representations of the Anti-Slavery party while he lay upon his death-bed; and I can scarcely doubt that, had it pleased Providence to prolong his valuable life but for a few days, he too would have been disabused, and would have joined his benevolent and candid friends in publicly disavowing the protest. But alas! the hand which subscribed that name is powerless in the grave.

So much for the authority of the document. And now as to its truth. The principal objections which it states against the American Colonization Society, are,—1st, That it *obstructs* the extinction of slavery,—2d, That it fosters and increases the spirit of *caste,* or the dislike which exists between the white and colored population in America,—and 3d, That it exposes the colored race to great persecution in order to *force* them to emigrate. Now these are heavy charges, which, could they be substantiated, would bring down on the Society the execration, instead of the blessings, of every friend of humanity. But after carefully perusing the various publications which have appeared on both sides, not a doubt remains on my mind that such objections are altogether destitute of any solid foundation.
1st, The Colonization Society is said to obstruct the extinction of slavery. Now, the only ground for this allegation seems to be that it is not an Anti-Slavery Society. It lays down a fundamental rule that it will not embarrass itself with this difficult question, with which the constitution of the American Government renders it a matter of more than ordinary delicacy to meddle. On the propriety of such a rule, I shall not at present comment; but it does seem to say much for the perfect impartiality of the Society in acting up to it, that it has been assailed with equal virulence by the partisans on both sides. If the ultra supporters of immediate emancipation in this country denounce it as retarding the destruction of slavery, the slave-owners, in America, on the other hand, accuse it still more bitterly of accelerating that consummation. This is no gratuitous statement, for I have ample documents to prove it. One extract may suffice:—

The Colonization Society has found it necessary to defend itself against the hostility of the slave-owners in South Carolina. And a quotation from the African Repository, in which that defence appears, will, I think, at once set this part of the charge at rest, as it incontestably proves that practical men in America take a view of the moral influence of the society the very reverse of that which the protesters have adopted. 'It may be said,' says its defender against the slave-owners, 'that the society has expressed the opinion that slavery is a moral and political evil, and that it has regarded the scheme of colonization as presenting motives and exerting an influence at the south, favorable to gradual and voluntary emancipation. This is true. And is this society to be held up as odious and dangerous because it avows the opinion that slavery is an evil? Is not this a truth inscribed, as it were, upon the firmament of heaven, and the face of the world, and the heart of man? Would not the denial of it be a denial of the fundamental principle of all free Government? It is the success of the society,—it is the fulfilment of the hopes and predictions of its founders, that has awakened the desperate and malignant spirit which now comes forth to arrest its progress. Voluntary emancipation begins to follow in the train of colonization, and the advocates of perpetual slavery are indignant at witnessing, in effectual operation, a scheme which permits better men than themselves to exercise without restraint the purest and the noblest feeling of our nature.

'These strenuous asserters of the right to judge for themselves in regard to their domestic policy are alarmed at a state of things which secures the same right to every individual of their community. Do they apprehend that the system which they would perpetuate cannot continue unimpaired unless the privilege of emanci-
pating his slaves for the purpose of colonization shall be denied to
the master? Do they feel that in this country, and this age, the
influence of truth and freedom are becoming too active and pow-
erful, and that all their forces must be summoned to the contest
with these foes to their purposes and their doctrines? If so, their
defeat is inevitable. Such men have more to do than to counter-
act the efforts of our society. Few and feeble, even in the States
of the south, they must gird themselves for warfare against all the
friends of virtue and liberty, of man and God.—Vol. vi. p. 205,
206, and 208. Such is the line of defence which the friends of
the Colonization Society find it necessary to adopt in America.
There they nobly and indignantly contend against the supporters
of slavery, while in this country they discover themselves placed
in the unaccountable position of being forced to parry the attacks
of its enemies.

But it is said that the practical effect of the Colonization Society
has been found to be injurious to the interests of emancipation, and
an imposing statement has been brought forward by Mr. Garrison
and his friend Mr. Cropper, to prove, by public documents, that
since the establishment of the Colonization Society, the progress
of emancipation has decreased. I have examined this statement,
and find it to be altogether fallacious. Into the grounds of this con-
viction my desire to curtail my observations as much as possible
prevents me from at present entering in detail, and it may be suf-
ficient for my present object to state from an extract of public docu-
ments now before me, that in 1810, the number of free blacks in
the United States was 186,446, and in 1820, it was 233,530, mak-
ing an increase during these ten years of 47,084. It was about
the close of this period that the Colonization Society commenced
its operations, and at the end of the first ten years of its existence,
viz. in 1830, the number of free blacks was 319,599, making the
extraordinary increase of 86,069; the ratio of increase being con-
siderably more than doubled!

With what face then, can the enemies of the Colonization So-
ciety allege that its operation has been unfriendly to emancipation.
By a perverted use of arithmetic, Garrison falsely maintains that
the society has doomed ‘nearly 300,000 slaves to ruthless bond-
age,’ who but for ‘its withering influence,’ would have been eman-
cipated, whereas, so far is this from being true, that were we to
adopt his own basis of calculation, it would appear that the moral
power of this institution has, in ten years, actually broken the
chains of 51,754 victims of slavery. I do not say that this basis is
correct; because other causes have doubtless cooperated, and the
increase of the blacks, previously free, ought in fairness to be de-
The Colonization Society.

ducted. But the utter fallacy of Garrison’s position is sufficiently evident.

I shall find no difficulty in proving the other objections contained in the petition to be equally fallacious; but I must reserve what I have to say on these subjects for another letter.

I am, yours truly,

Henry Duncan.

Ruthwell Manor, 9th September, 1833.

[From the Brattleboro’, Vt. Inquirer.]

THE COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

‘Every emigrant to Africa is a Missionary, carrying out with him credentials in the holy cause of civilization.’—Henry Clay.

I am glad, Mr. Editor, to see the community at last awakening to the claims of the Colonization Society upon them. These claims are great and momentous. We should all heartily respond to the eloquent declaration of Mr. Cox—‘Let thousands fall before Africa be given up.’

Africa herself is neither reluctant nor passive; she is stretching out her arms to receive home her wanderers, who do not return, breathing out curses and vengeance on those who deprived them of liberty, but with the Bible in their hands, and peace upon their lips. The present age is wonderfully auspicious. It is a time of great results brought about by great concentration of mind and wealth. It is an age of wonderful moral efforts—to give knowledge, science, christianity to mankind. Masses of corruption, of ignorance, of superstition, which defied the storms of time, are crumbling away before the quiet but sure impress of genuine philanthropy.

Physical, as well as moral causes have hitherto operated to keep down this continent in a state of inferiority to others. Her mighty rivers, rolling down their golden sands, the Niger, Gambia and Senegal, with their numerous tributaries, have done nothing as yet to facilitate intercourse. The tremendous heat of the summer months, and the vast deserts of sand, stretching for thousands of miles, mere dreary wastes, have operated powerfully to prevent an easy and frequent communication; and have thus rendered the opinions and minds of many tribes illiberal and narrow. But now that the course of these mighty streams, rolling through the most rich and fertile part of the continent, is well defined, we may hope much from the increased facilities of transportation and communi-