

to Liberia were taken by the American Colonization Society, and are to be maintained by them after their arrival until they are settled in the Colony, for a certain sum paid by the Board for each individual. They were provided with all necessary comforts, and with the means of establishing themselves most advantageously in their new abode; and if the accounts which shall be received from them, are of such a nature as there is no reason to doubt that they will be, there are a large number of coloured persons in different quarters of the State who have expressed their determination of following them during the ensuing year. Many more indeed it is believed would have emigrated this year, had it not been for the prevalence of the epidemic which visited the State just about the period at which the Board had determined to despatch the first expedition. The exertions of the Board were of course paralyzed by the fear of the general spreading of this fatal disease; as it was considered imprudent to take any steps for the collecting together of numbers of persons, and the Board had at one time abandoned the idea of sending out any emigrants this year. The returning health however, with which the State was blessed; and the anxiety of many of the emigrants not to postpone their departure, induced the Board to change their plan, and the fine Ship *La Fayette* accordingly sailed from Baltimore with the emigrants for Liberia on the ninth of December. In anticipation of a much larger emigration next year, arrangements have been made for the immediate erection in Liberia, of suitable buildings for receptacles, for the accommodation of emigrants on their arrival.

The Board cannot in justice omit to say, that in fitting out the expedition for Liberia, as well as in all the previous measures they had adopted, they received important and efficient assistance from the Board of Managers of the Maryland State Colonization Society. This Body, and its various Auxiliary Societies in the counties, have been actively engaged in promoting the scheme of colonization, and it is owing in a great measure to their exertions, that the Board were finally enabled to despatch a vessel this year for Liberia, with emigrants so abundantly provided with the means of attaining that State of prosperity to which they have such just cause to aspire. The number of manumissions reported to the Board by the Registers of Wills and Clerks of the different County Courts is four hundred and fifty three (453,) of which however, many are prospective; with regard to those