

pense similar works are executed in those of our sister States which have instituted them, and we feel authorised to say that the Maryland works have been conducted more economically, or more *cheaply* than others of the same kind in any other portion of the Union.

The extensive and important changes proposed to be made in the Constitution by bills which passed the General Assembly at the last session, will of course engage your serious attention; and coming as you do immediately from the people after they have had due time to consider those changes, we cannot doubt but that your action upon them will be in conformity to the public will, and we trust quiet the agitation which has long prevailed upon the subject embraced by those bills.

We herewith present the annual report of the Board of Managers appointed under the act of December session, 1831, chapter 281, entitled, "An act relating to the People of Color of this State," and it gives us pleasure to call the attention of the Legislature to the diligence and success of the gentlemen whose gratuitous services have been rendered to the State since the adoption of the system indicated in the act last mentioned.

The plan of independent State action first suggested in Maryland—pursued by the State Society—and countenanced by the managers of the State Fund,—appears to us to be that which is best suited to the condition of the slaveholding States of the Union. It repudiates all foreign and unsolicited interference, whether by the General Government, societies or individuals, with the subject of Slavery within the limits of the States where it exists, and leaves it to such State, exclusively, to adopt such measures in regard to it, as are suited to its peculiar circumstances. The plan has here been so far successfully pursued, as will be seen by the accompanying report, that there is now in prosperous existence on the coast of Africa, a settlement of near four hundred emigrants from this State, under the separate control of the State Colonization Society, appropriated to the use of emigrants from Maryland and now capable of receiving any number that may be prepared to emigrate.

It has often been said that colonization was antagonist to the schemes of the immediate abolitionists; and that where the former was cherished and flourished, the latter could find no favor. The Report of the managers of the State fund and the experience of every observing and reflecting man in the State must prove this: nor could we suggest a more certain method of keeping down that wild and fanatical spirit, which has thrown so many firebrands among the slaveholding States, than the adoption and maintenance of the colonization plan, upon the footing on which it now stands in Maryland.

It is gratifying to learn from the Report that the attempts secretly made by the friends of immediate and general abolition to defeat the agents of the society in their efforts to inform the free people of color of the advantages of emigration, are losing the effect which they at