

population were free. In 1820 nearly one fourth of them were free. Between the years 1810 and 1820, the aggregate of slaves actually diminished 4,204 in number, or at the rate of four per cent. The total increase of colored population, free and slaves, in those ten years, were 1,599—a little over one per cent. The spirit of emancipation continues on one hand, and slaves are drained off in considerable numbers by the higher prices they command in the southern and south-western states.

In Maryland the emancipated negro is not admitted to the privileges of citizenship. He has no voice in the election of rulers, nor in the formation of laws. His property is subject like other property, to taxation, but he is not called upon to perform military duties.—His person and property enjoy equal protection under the laws with that of the whites. He is however prohibited the privilege of having the use of dog or guns, and is bound at all times when questioned, to produce the certificates of his being free. When found without them, he is liable to fine, imprisonment, and finally to loss of liberty.

The existence of so considerable a slave population has been accompanied with all those deleterious effects upon the state which are common to this unfortunate condition of society. Free labor has been discouraged—Improvement, especially in agriculture, has been greatly retarded. The land has been