

first appeared to have, and that there is now the prospect of a constant emigration from the State to the colony of Maryland in Liberia.

It would be injustice to the managers of the State fund, and to the State colonization society, not to express the satisfaction that is felt with the economical, prudent and energetic course pursued by them the past year.

The annual Report of the Treasurer of the Western Shore, which will shortly be laid before you by that officer, in conformity to law, will shew the condition of our finances, and enable you to judge what further legislation, if any, may be necessary in reference to them during your present session. The balance of funds on hand at the end of the last fiscal year, besides special deposits on interest in several of the bank in Baltimore, and such as have been appropriated to education, the sinking fund, and other special objects, is about fifty thousand dollars greater than the balance at the end of the previous year; and the general State of the Treasury, we believe to be quite as good as was anticipated at the termination of the last session of the Legislature.

The documents herewith transmitted marked M. N. O. P. and Q. have been received from the Executives of the several States of Maine, Massachusetts, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Missouri, and each contain Resolutions of the General Assembly of those States respectively on different interesting subjects, and are laid before you in compliance with requests contained in the several communications.

It is with no ordinary sadness of feeling that we advert to the death of the Hon. Joseph Kent, late a Senator of this State in the Congress of the United States, of which you are of course already apprised. Maryland has suffered a severe loss in his demise, and her citizens who mourn over this bereavment will long cherish his name in grateful remembrance. The devotion to the interests of his country which characterized his long life of public service; the unlimited confidence in which he was held by all who knew him and particularly by his fellow citizens of his native State; the exemplary purity and urbanity which distinguished his public conduct and made him an ornament of private life, render his decease a public calamity and a source of unfeigned and universal regret. We are sure that this imperfect tribute to his memory will find a response with the members of the Legislature and the people, your constituents, whose private regrets you can truly represent and mingle with your own.

We have forborne to exercise the authority vested in the Executive of temporarily filling up this regretted vacancy, because we preferred to leave you, who are more immediately from the people, and are more conversant with their wishes, to your untrammelled selection. We make no doubt, that from among our fellow citizens you will choose one for this eminent and responsible station, who will carry to the discharge of its duties, the confidence of the community