

tion of such a measure would be unwise and impolitic, and more likely to perpetuate and increase the evils of slavery, than if the Colonization Society were left, as they are by the law of 1831, to the selection of colored persons to be colonized, indifferently from those who were free at the time of the passage of that law, or those who may have become so, since that law was enacted.

They have also maturely considered the order instructing them to "inquire into the expediency of repealing an act passed at December session, 1831, chapter 281." The state system of Colonization adopted by that act, has, so far, in the opinion of the committee, been entirely successful, and by its beneficial operation made manifest the wisdom of those who conceived it. The operations of the Colonization Society, as detailed in the report of the board of managers, hereto annexed, fully sustain this opinion; and the present situation and plans of that society, viewed in connection with the condition of our free colored population, undoubtedly warrant them in saying, that the repeal of the act of 1831, chapter 281, would be productive of much evil, even though we should not consider the great advantages to the State that must result from the removal of any large number of that portion of our population to Africa, which can only take place by carrying out fully the plans of the society, and as necessary thereto, continuing in force the act referred to.

Their views are more fully and forcibly set forth in the accompanying documents, and to which the committee ask the attention of the House, and hope they will receive that deliberate consideration the importance of the subject to which they refer, demands.

The leave that was referred to them, for reporting a bill, repealing the above referred to act, so far as it relates to St. Mary's county, they are of opinion should not be granted.

The committee therefore report unfavorably on these several propositions, and ask to be discharged from their further consideration.

It is not deemed necessary by the committee to enter into any further explanation of the system of Colonization that has been adopted, and is now being successfully prosecuted by the Maryland State Colonization Society, than is contained in the report of the Managers. The perusal of that report will evince all of the advantages of that system, over all others now in operation, and must confirm them in the