

REPORT.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of the removal of the free colored population from Charles county, beg leave to report; that they have examined into the subject, as accurately as possible. They have procured information from every accessible source, to show the necessity of their removal. They are of the firm conviction that the moral, political and fiscal interests of the State are materially affected by their condition among us; and although the immediate object of consideration, is their removal from Charles County, yet the subject is of such interest as to induce them to extend the examination of the subject to the entire State; whatever may be found to be their condition in the State, will be found to be their condition in each of the counties.

It is doubtless the desire of all persons of the State, that they should be removed; and the committee are clearly of opinion that their condition could not be rendered worse, no matter to what region of country they may be removed, or by what process that removal might be effected. There exists however, a difference of opinion, as to the mode by which they shall be removed, and whether we should incur any additional expense, in effecting that object, and to what place they are to be carried, are questions yet to be decided. There are many perhaps who doubt the power of the Legislature to compel them to remove; and there are others, who entertain scruples on the ground of humanity.

The object of the committee, will be as far as practicable to reconcile conflicting opinions, and to devise a mode of removal by which all doubts and difference of opinion may be reconciled or removed.

It is our decided opinion, for various reasons, that they should be removed, not only from Charles county, but from the State. The committee think in truth, that for social and intellectual improvement, they ought to be transported from America, beyond the Atlantic Ocean; and that Liberia or Maryland in Africa, is the proper place in which they should be settled. The committee will now give their reasons for this conviction; and for that purpose, we will show the means of transportation, and the resources that will be placed in their power in Africa, arising from the fertility of the