

Society was established. It prohibits the further manumission of slaves unless they shall be sent beyond the State. This provision leads to one of two conclusions, either the State has determined the institution of free negroes to be a nuisance, or else the passage of this act imposing a prohibition upon slave-holders in the manumission of their slaves, is clearly unconstitutional, because it is an infraction of the rights of every man to do as he pleases with his own property; and you cannot prohibit a citizen from doing as he pleases with his property, unless his disposition of it, works such consequences as to render it illegal. Every citizen has as perfect a constitutional right to manumit his slave as he has to sell his horse, and the creation of laws of restriction which prevent manumission, is clearly a breach of the constitutional rights of the citizen, unless the latter by such manumission is producing injurious consequences to the community.

If then the act by its provisions clearly shows that the existence and increase of the free negro was incompatible with our interests what a confirmation of that position is exhibited by the relative condition of the free negro and the white man at this time, and relative increase of the two for the last fifty years. But the injurious effect is shown more clearly by ascertaining what will be the condition fifty or a hundred years from this time. This condition is shown by applying the same rate of increase which they have undergone for the last fifty years.

The following is from the Census of the last fifty years in the whole State, and in the several counties; and we will begin with Charles County.

#### CHARLES COUNTY.

Population in 1790	White 10,124	Free Negro 404
“ in 1840	“ 6,022	“ 819
“ in 1890	“ 2,000	“ 1,638
“ in 1940	“ 0,000	“ 3,276

#### SAINT MARY'S COUNTY.

Population in 1790	White 8,216	Free Negro 342
“ in 1840	“ 6,070	“ 1,393
“ in 1890	“ 4,000	“ 5,572
“ in 1940	“ 2,000	“ 22,288

#### CALVERT COUNTY.

Population in 1790	White 4,211	Free Negro 136
“ in 1840	“ 3,585	“ 1,474
“ in 1890	“ 2,000	“ 14,740
“ in 1940	“ 1,000	“ 147,400

#### PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY.

Population in 1790	White 10,004	Free Negro 164
“ in 1840	“ 7,825	“ 1,080
“ in 1890	“ 4,000	“ 6,480
“ in 1940	“ 1,000	“ 38,880