

thorised to correct their children, but the great instrument of government is example, mild persuasion and paternal affection. Parents in some of the states of antiquity had the power of life and death over their children—but by the correcting influence of the christian religion, the exercise of authority was to be entirely changed. It is clear from the language used, he intended to correct the *evils* of slavery, and not to abolish the institution which he knew could not be done so long as one man was made with gifts superior to another. In other words, the institution of slavery was to become a christian institution, with forbearance, docility, persuasion, judicious correction, affection and confidence, as contradistinguished from idolatrous and Pagan slavery, with its stripes, tortures, degradation, barbarities and cruel and brutal treatment. Idolatry ruled by brutal force—christianity rules by persuasion.

Religion of some kind, government of some kind, and slavery of some kind, are all of equal antiquity, and have all received equally the sanction of God.

The evils of slavery grow out of the improper use of the institution, and are not a necessary consequence of its existence. It is said to depopulate a country. The contrary was shown in the Egyptian government, where there was a *servile* class and a population of three hundred and fifty to the square mile. In that country the *servile* class was confined to agricultural pursuits, while the arts and sciences were cultivated by the other class. So should it be in this country, so long as the black race are allowed to compete with the white in those pursuits we shall never have a scientific and skilful architect in our country. By such a process those two only impulses (of the hope of reward or of wealth,) which lead to emulous exertion are extinguished. With the removal of the free negro, and the confinement of the black race to agriculture and then proper discipline among the slaves, and a judicious and improving system of agriculture, the time would speedily arrive when there would exist a degree of prosperity and happiness in our country, unparalleled in the history of the nations of the earth; and when it would not be necessary to secure a single article by lock and key, bars or bolts.

The Colonization Society state in their report to this House, during this session, that they are prepared to receive any number of emigrants, but at the same time deplore the invincible indisposition of the free negro to remove. If the account be true the colony is succeeding, and it is the object of this committee to execute a plan by which emigrants may at all times be furnished as fast as they may be demanded. For that purpose they will follow up this report with a bill, and hope it will meet with a favorable reception from the legislature. Should it succeed in Charles county, it will shortly spread itself over the whole State, and the committee will conclude by expressing the earnest hope that this degraded race may be speedily removed, and an efficient system of education be established in *its place*, and then we shall have