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WASHINGTON, APRIL, 1850.

[No. 4.

Appropriation by the State of Virginia.

An act making appropriations for the removal of Free persons of Color.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly, That the sum of thirty thousand dollars shall be and the same is hereby appropriated, to be paid annually, for the period of five years, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purposes and in the manner hereinafter prescribed.

2. *Be it further enacted,* That the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, First and Second Auditors, for the time being, shall be, and they are hereby constituted a Board of Commissioners, for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this act, any two of whom shall be a quorum for said purpose. Whenever satisfactory proof shall be produced to the said Board of Commissioners, that any number of free persons of color *now free* and residents of this State, and their children, shall have been actually transported to the colony at Liberia, or other place on the western coast of Africa, or that they shall have been embarked for transportation thither, from within the limits of this Commonwealth, by the American Colonization Society, it shall be lawful, and the said Board of Commissioners are hereby required to issue their

warrant on the treasury of this Commonwealth, for such sum or sums of money as may be necessary to defray the costs of transporting and subsisting such free persons of color for a limited time, on the said coast of Africa, payable to the authorised and accredited agent or agents of the said American Colonization Society: *Provided,* That the sum or sums which may from time to time be thus expended, shall in no one year exceed the amount hereby appropriated for such year: *And provided further,* that not more than the sum of twenty-five dollars shall be allowed by said Board of Commissioners for the transportation and subsistence as aforesaid, of any free person of color above the age of ten years, and not more than the sum of fifteen dollars for the transportation and subsistence of any free person of color under the said age of ten years, and the said Board of Commissioners are hereby required to keep an account of all moneys disbursed under the authority of this act, and to make an annual report thereof to the General Assembly, showing the ages and sex of such free persons of color as may be transported from this Commonwealth, and the counties, cities or boroughs, from which they may have been respectively removed, together

MONROVIA, LIBERIA,
West Africa, Nov. 20, 1849.

REV. AND VERY DEAR SIR:—As I cautiously take the liberty of writing, I humbly solicit the condescension of your honor and reverence to accept a communication from a transmarine stranger; and I hope, sir, that you will take the subject, together with its circumstances, for my apology.

The subject, sir, is the College. I think, sir, that the idea of giving to Liberia a college, is one of the grandest and most wise, more fraught with that economy of universal benevolence than any idea that perhaps ever entered into the hearts of any men, in any nation. The scheme is too grand, yea, entirely too large to have been developed in the hearts of Liberians; too high for England, and too deep for France; but just let a few of Columbia's expanding-hearted sops environ it, and it is borne aloft at once; thus a comparatively few men in America will effect more for Liberia than England, France and Russia combined! The B. F. M. P. C., has given us a school, called the Alexander High School; this has been going on one year; they have now given an iron school-house! ("Benedic anima mea Domino! et noli oblivisci omnes ejus beneficentia.") I have 16 promising students, whom I have been teaching ever since 1st January, 1849. The greater part of them have read through the *Historia Sacra*, and are making rapid progress in Greek, besides other sciences; we go in school at 9, and often a half hour sooner, and we come out of school at 2 P. M., teaching generally 4½ hours a day. The minds of youth in Africa are, if possible, more susceptible of literary and scientific improvement, than any other part of the world; they cannot study intensely, I think more than 7

or 8 hours in 24. They may, with a short time of intermission and recess study 8 hours a day very profitably.

Rev. R. R. Gurley is here; he is a wonderful man; his coming to Liberia brought a general influx of joy through all the Republic. That portion of our people who are intelligent and good, who love themselves as they should, love Liberia their country; they are worthy and useful citizens, and these are they who love America! Now there is this remarkable fact about it, that those of the above named quality love America from proper motives, and for proper reasons, but would not go back there upon any terms whatever; but you know that we, of course, have some trifling, indolent persons here, as well as every other place, who never were, nor ever will be any important use to themselves or country; these always are murmuring and grumbling, even in America; they grumble here—yea, every place!

But, my dear sir, do not suppose that I am murmuring at, or underrating my population; very far from it, sir. I was observing how the different classes of men received Mr. Gurley; all so joyfully, but their fruitive excitement, arising from different sources, exhibited from different motives, of course produced various effects on the good man.

If you have any correspondence with Rev. John H. Gray, of Memphis, Tenn., please mention me to him, and tell me about him in, or through whatever medium you may choose.

Our B. F. M. P. C., has a very excellent station at "Kentucky," in Africa. We have a good and useful young missionary there, (H. W. Erskine.) We have recently organized a Presbyterian church there; it is certainly the best place for those good people who have a disposition

to make a good living by farming; even those whose means are very small, it being a beautiful and elevated site on the St. Paul's river, about 12 miles from Monrovia; rich land, well-timbered, and well watered, near, and on the same side of the river with Virginia, on the opposite side from Upper Caldwell. I think this is decidedly the best place that I have yet visited, (and I have visited from Cape Mount to Cape Palmas.) Dr. J. W. Lugenbeel can tell you all about Millsburg and White Plains—a select site for extensive operations of the M. E. Mission. Now Kentucky is situate 9 miles below Millsburg, on the same great river. I wish you would inform some good people who may desire to know of the best place in Africa, here they have the most salubrious air in the day, and then, at night, we have such a cool breeze that we cannot, like many other places, sleep without cover. Here we have excellent neighbours, both Americans and natives,—here we have Virginians, Kentuckians, Tennesseans, &c.; we have (natives,) Golahs, Pezzeys, Bassas, Veys and Boatswains, (often called Bosons,) choice people. The Methodists have a church here.

Tell them (the people who may come) that I love them as my dear countrymen, and am working and paying to provide for them. Here is a good Presbyterian church and school, plenty of rich land, good timber, and cool water! Come and be happy!

And now, that high blessings from heaven may pour down upon you, and all yours, temporally and spiritually, soul and body, in time and in eternity, is the prayer of your missionary,

H. W. ELLIS.

REV. WM. McLAIN,
Washington City.

MONROVIA, LIBERIA,
November 21, 1849.

REV. W. McLAIN,

Dear Sir:—I take up my pen to communicate to you the intelligence of our arrival at this place in safety, hoping that you are in the enjoyment of good health.

The vessel anchored on the evening of the 18th of September. We were landed on the following morning, and met on the beach by our old friends and townsmen David and McBeth, who conducted us to the mansion of Judge Benedict, (that is, my family and Mr. Sharp and family.) The Judge and his excellent lady received us as though we had been old friends or relations. The whole party partook there of an excellent dinner. Mr. Sharp and family then repaired to the house of Mr. H. B. Mathews, formerly of Charleston. My family and self remained at the Judge's during the week, and received from the Judge and his esteemed lady a continuance of the greatest kindness and hospitable treatment. Mr. Martin and his family were, on their arrival, entertained at the house of Mr. Hilary Teague; and we were all located, subsequently, by the agent of the Colonization Society.

My first impressions of Monrovia are very favorable. I had no idea of seeing so many cows, sheep, goats, hogs, and poultry roaming about; also of seeing several snug little saddle nags. There are, in the central part of the city, several fine and respectable buildings. There are also located through the town many well built and comfortable small houses, constructed of stone, brick and frame work. There are on the skirts of the city and suburbs many thatched houses of the native construction. I have seen fine and well finished bricks in quantities, that were burnt on the St. Paul's river. I also