

have removed from Maryland all blacks then free who might be willing to leave. All those who might be freed subsequently to the act were to be removed whether willing or not.⁶⁷

In 1834 the State Colonization Society purchased territory in Liberia, Africa, to the extent of one hundred and thirty miles on the Atlantic Coast, and to an indefinite extent into the interior. The seat of the government was Cape Palmas. For the removal of the free black population the treasurer of the State was authorized to contract loans to the amount of two hundred thousand dollars. Ten thousand dollars were placed annually upon the tax-list to pay the interest on the loans, and to provide for the payment of the principal. Between the years of 1831 and 1850 there were one thousand and eleven free negroes colonized in Africa from the State of Maryland, at a cost of two hundred and ninety-eight thousand dollars. Of this amount one hundred and eighty-four thousand five hundred and thirty-three dollars was paid by the State.

The committee reported the following to be placed in the constitution:

Sec. 1. "The General Assembly shall have power to pass laws for the government of the free colored population and for their removal from the State, and at its first session after the adoption of this constitution, shall provide by law for their registration."

Sec. 2. "No person of color shall be capable of purchasing or holding real estate within this State, by title acquired after the adoption of this constitution, . . ."

Sec. 3. "No slave shall be emancipated or become free except upon condition that he or she leave this State within thirty days next after his or her right to freedom shall accrue."

Sec. 4. "No free person of color shall immigrate to, or come within this State to reside."⁶⁸

⁶⁷ Brackett, *The Negro in Md.*, p. 165.

⁶⁸ *Debates*, vol. ii, p. 223.