

accommodations of the Asylum prepared in Africa to receive any number of emigrants from this country who might be expected to resort to it.

During this term of six years, as well as for many years previously, the disbursements of the State appropriation by the Board of State Managers was made, as was stated in all their reports, through the agency and instrumentality of the Maryland State Colonization Society, of which, by the Act of 1831, they were required to be members.

When the Act of 1852 expired by its own limitation, the last General Assembly, adopting the views of their predecessors and coinciding with them in the propriety of continuing to carry out the policy which had been invariably pursued by the State for the preceding twenty-six years, again renewed the appropriation of \$10,000 per annum for four years longer in a somewhat modified form, by placing absolutely at the disposal of the Board of State Managers the sum of \$5,000 in each year, and restricting them from making any other use of the remaining \$5,000 than to apply it to the actual expenses per capita, at prescribed rates of such emigrants as they might actually send out to Africa. Of this appropriation made by the Act of 1858, not one dollar has yet been drawn by the Board of State Managers from the Treasury for reasons to which I respectfully beg leave briefly to refer.

The great mass of the free colored population of the State have at all times manifested a strong indisposition to remove from their old homes to a distant clime, whatever might be the prospect of bettering their own condition and that of their children by so doing. For a number of years past this indisposition has continued to manifest itself more and more strongly, and those who best know them have been satisfied that the most untiring efforts have been made by those opposed to the scheme of colonization, both white and colored, to foster the prejudices and to add to the fears of all who have from time to time manifested any disposition to emigrate. Many have been persuaded by ignorant or designing persons that if they remain here their condition of social and political inferiority to the white population will in time be ameliorated, and those who have manifested any intention to leave the country, have even been denounced as traitors to their race, because they are told that their deliverance from the evils of which they complain will be due to the expected increase in their aggregate number, and that thus every man who leaves the State retards to that extent the consummation they are taught to look for. The friends of the cause of the colonization on the other hand have always held that the true interests of the free colored people would be best promoted by their removal from all contact with a superior and dominant race, and that even under the circumstances which have long ex-