

ter for improvement and civilization. From savages and gross idolators, many of them have been converted into enterprising traders, skilful mechanics, and industrious farmers; supporting themselves and their families in comfort, and performing respectably, the social, and even religious duties. They discharge the duties of jurors, constables, and other officers, with much propriety, and are a fine example of a community of black men living as free men, enjoying the benefit of the British constitution, regularly attending public worship, and gradually improving, by means of schools and other institutions in knowledge and civilization. This happy change has been effected by the blessing of God on the labours of English missionaries. In 1819, the number of children in the schools at the various settlements, was 2014."

*Extracts from the third Annual Report of the American Society for Colonizing the Free People of Colour of the United States.*

"What the society proposes to do with regard to colonizing, is to procure a suitable territory on the coast of Africa, for such of the free people of colour as may choose to avail themselves of this asylum, and for such slaves as their proprietors may please to emancipate"

"So far is this scheme from being impracticable, that one, resembling it in all respects, was accomplished by a private society in England, more than 30 years ago."

"In despite of every representation to the contrary, the colony of Sierra Leone boasts, at this moment, a greater degree of prosperity, than distinguished any one of the British Colonies, now the United States of America, at the same period after its first plantation. The population of Sierra Leone; its commerce and navigation; its churches, schools, and charitable institutions; its town and hamlets; its edifices public and private; surpass those of any one of these states, at any time within twenty-five years from its first settlement."

It is for the reader to estimate the value of the preceding authorities, and to draw from them his own conclusions with regard to the present state and future prospects of Sierra Leone. It is for him also to decide how far the prosperity of a community formed of such unpromising materials, may be regarded as an exemplification of what the negro race may exhibit when rescued from slavery; how far such a colony of Africans, of many nations and languages, educated on their own shores, with civil rights,