

Rev. Alexander Crummell, a colored gentleman from Liberia, was then introduced, and while delivering a very interesting address, in substance said: The eyes of the whole civilized world appear at length to be turned toward Africa. Those who have travelled over the continent have endeavored to find out the great secret which has seemed to shut her out, as it were, from the civilized world.

There is need for interest in Africa, for she stands almost alone in darkness, and divorced from all enlightened nations. But that precept, "Go ye into all the world," embraced Africa. How can she be brought up and out where the light of civilization and truth can shine in upon her and chase away the darkness? Trade alone cannot do it; the graves of the noble white men sent as missionaries, scattered here and there along her borders, show that for them a mission of mercy is a mission of death; and yet Africa must be evangelized, christianized, as much so as this country.

The first experience of those who labored to establish the colony was discouraging. They had to struggle against sickness occasioned by change and exposure; against troubles brought upon them by the slave trade; and they were disheartened and oppressed; but all that is no reason for believing the enterprise to be impracticable. Such is the history of all new countries. It was so with California and Australia, with their healthy climate, and especially so with our own country, and you cannot plant a colony without anticipating these disadvantages.

Our people have recently taken courage and show more activity. They now cultivate about 500,000 coffee trees. The demand for coffee has increased, and they have increased their efforts, and coffee has become quite an export, and I think will be more so, as the coffee tree grows spontaneously. In 1853 there was not a pound of sugar produced in the Republic. Our attention was called to the subject in 1855, and now we are exporting sugar and molasses to England and America, and export it too in our own vessels, of which we have about thirty. We export ivory and palm oil also, the latter of which is destined to become a staple of great importance; and as the demand and the means for trade and manufacture extend, just so fast new desires and new motives are awakened, and industry and order ensue. And Africans will work. I have known them to come from

Rev. Alexander Crummell, a colored gentleman from Liberia, was then introduced, and while delivering a very interesting address, in substance said: The eyes of the whole civilized world appear at length to be turned toward Africa. Those who have travelled over the continent have endeavored to find out the great secret which has seemed to shut her out, as it were, from the civilized world.

There is need for interest in Africa, for she stands almost alone in darkness, and divorced from all enlightened nations. But that precept, "Go ye into all the world," embraced Africa. How can she be brought up and out where the light of civilization and truth can shine in upon her and chase away the darkness? Trade alone cannot do it; the graves of the noble white men sent as missionaries, scattered here and there along her borders, show that for them a mission of mercy is a mission of death; and yet Africa must be evangelized, christianized, as much so as this country.

The first experience of those who labored to establish the colony was discouraging. They had to struggle against sickness occasioned by change and exposure; against troubles brought upon them by the slave trade; and they were disheartened and oppressed; but all that is no reason for believing the enterprise to be impracticable. Such is the history of all new countries. It was so with California and Australia, with their healthy climate, and especially so with our own country, and you cannot plant a colony without anticipating these disadvantages.

Our people have recently taken courage and show more activity. They now cultivate about 500,000 coffee trees. The demand for coffee has increased, and they have increased their efforts, and coffee has become quite an export, and I think will be more so, as the coffee tree grows spontaneously. In 1853 there was not a pound of sugar produced in the Republic. Our attention was called to the subject in 1855, and now we are exporting sugar and molasses to England and America, and export it too in our own vessels, of which we have about thirty. We export ivory and palm oil also, the latter of which is destined to become a staple of great importance; and as the demand and the means for trade and manufacture extend, just so fast new desires and new motives are awakened, and industry and order ensue. And Africans will work. I have known them to come from

the back country a distance of twenty-five days' travel, bringing loads of ivory and palm oil on their backs. Our exports at a single port last year amounted to about \$190,000, our imports to about \$140,000. Politically considered, we have a republican government, choose our President once in two years; have a Legislature of two branches, and an organized militia; but no division into States, and consequently no disputes about States rights. We extend protection over a country 500 miles on the coast and 200 into the interior, and to all are secured the right of trial by jury. Those returned from this country are about 15,000; whole number of inhabitants about —; and we carried and use your language with us, which is being spread somewhat among the tribes of the continent, for they urge us to take and educate their children.

Before I stop I suppose you will want to know if I believe we are to become a great, civilized, prosperous nation. There are many things that may hinder, but I shall answer, yes! An epidemic may sweep away our population; wars and other calamities may overcome us. But these are possibilities, not probabilities. I believe God has gracious designs for Africa. His precept is being obeyed, and the Gospel is being preached in nearly all the world successfully; the islands of the sea are being christianized to a great extent, and nations are almost literally "born in a day." And Africa, so long borne down in darkness, in slavery, and in unjust judgment of men, I believe is about to receive the compassionate blessings of Heaven, and to have her rights among the nations, by which she has been wronged, vindicated at length by a just and merciful God; and I believe Liberia is one instrument by which He has blessed and will bless Africa to this end. I cannot believe he has led us on thus far in this noble enterprise, until we have begun to see and feel the genial influences of light and truth softening and scattering the thick darkness, and that he will now forsake us—for God takes no step backwards. And I see other reasons for believing that we shall become christianized and as honorable as we have been oppressed and despised.

The African is very susceptible to religious impressions; is devotional, and the Gospel, which is the chief corner-stone of all national greatness, is readily received. Her inhabitants are of the highest

the back country a distance of twenty-five days' travel, bringing loads of ivory and palm oil on their backs. Our exports at a single port last year amounted to about \$190,000, our imports to about \$140,000. Politically considered, we have a republican government, choose our President once in two years; have a Legislature of two branches, and an organized militia; but no division into States, and consequently no disputes about States rights. We extend protection over a country 500 miles on the coast and 200 into the interior, and to all are secured the right of trial by jury. Those returned from this country are about 15,000; whole number of inhabitants about —; and we carried and use your language with us, which is being spread somewhat among the tribes of the continent, for they urge us to take and educate their children.

Before I stop I suppose you will want to know if I believe we are to become a great, civilized, prosperous nation. There are many things that may hinder, but I shall answer, yes! An epidemic may sweep away our population; wars and other calamities may overcome us. But these are possibilities, not probabilities. I believe God has gracious designs for Africa. His precept is being obeyed, and the Gospel is being preached in nearly all the world successfully; the islands of the sea are being christianized to a great extent, and nations are almost literally "born in a day." And Africa, so long borne down in darkness, in slavery, and in unjust judgment of men, I believe is about to receive the compassionate blessings of Heaven, and to have her rights among the nations, by which she has been wronged, vindicated at length by a just and merciful God; and I believe Liberia is one instrument by which He has blessed and will bless Africa to this end. I cannot believe he has led us on thus far in this noble enterprise, until we have begun to see and feel the genial influences of light and truth softening and scattering the thick darkness, and that he will now forsake us—for God takes no step backwards. And I see other reasons for believing that we shall become christianized and as honorable as we have been oppressed and despised.

The African is very susceptible to religious impressions; is devotional, and the Gospel, which is the chief corner-stone of all national greatness, is readily received. Her inhabitants are of the highest

order of men, physically, also, however contrary that may be to the commonly received opinion among the nations; and more, they have and will continue for a long time to have the benefits derived from experience as bondmen, in a nation of the highest intelligence, and the most choice political institutions, and who in spite of their positions have participated somewhat in the joys of independence.

With this experience as bondmen comes the benefit of affliction, which humbles a people, and brings them where God can safely honor them and make them great. God always afflicts and humbles a people before he exalts them. It was especially so with the Jews, and with your own ancestors, and in this way old civilizations are done away, and new and higher orders of civilization are introduced. It is sometimes so in nature. The insect is imprisoned in the chrysalis before he can wear the gorgeous apparel of the butterfly. I believe that God is about to plant a new germ of civilization in Africa, and that we are fast rising to that lofty position designed by God for us.

order of men, physically, also, however contrary that may be to the
commonly received opinion among the nations; and more, they have
and will continue for a long time to have the benefits derived from
experience as bondmen, in a nation of the highest intelligence, and
the most choice political institutions, and who in spite of their posi-
tions have participated somewhat in the joys of independence.
With this experience as bondmen comes the benefit of affliction,
which humbles a people, and brings them where God can safely honor
them and make them great. God always afflicts and humbles a peo-
ple before he exalts them. It was especially so with the Jews, and
with your own ancestors, and in this way old civilizations are done
away, and new and higher orders of civilization are introduced. It
is sometimes so in nature. The insect is imprisoned in the chrysalis
before he can wear the gorgeous apparel of the butterfly. I believe
that God is about to plant a new germ of civilization in Africa, and
that we are fast rising to that lofty position designed by God for us.