

Since we have been brought out of darkness into light, we discover something ahead that we have not yet come up to. It is that which is spoken of in the Declaration of Independence that 'all men are born free and equal;' but the sons of Africa are denied this freedom and equality, and, of course, are not men, but rather compared to baboons or some other dumb beasts. But if we are men, and entitled to the rights of men, we would ask the people of this republic whether we must fight for liberty in America, and go to Africa to possess it? If so, we would have but little faith in such a warfare. What recompense did the blacks get in fighting for liberty in the war of the revolution? I think the answer may be – 'Why, the negroes were recommended for their bravery.'

We perceive that a majority of the whites have an earnest desire for the removal of the blacks to Liberia, where they will be out of sight; and we find that some of the most faithful christians (pretendedly) in the United States are to be found in the Colonization Society. We would ask those colonization christians, in what book they have been seeking their religion? Is there any part of Scripture that authorises a christian to advise his neighbor to go out of his own country to an unknown land, when he knows it will be an injury to him, because he has a darker skin than he has? Is there no charity in

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christians? None, evidently, in the colonization christians; for we all know that 'charity begins at home.'

We do not wish any advice, in the way of getting to heaven, from the colonization christians; for we fear that they would tell us that we blacks cannot go to heaven until we go to Liberia, and advise us to cross the Atlantic ocean without boat or barge; but we, the foreigners as they call us, entitle ourselves to the name recently suggested, which is, African-Americans, and hold up both hands to the Colonization Society, and utterly declare that we will not go to Liberia to be christianized, nor for the improvement of our condition in any respect. If, therefore, they still insist upon our removal, they will be pleased to select some other channel for our conveyance; but we would have them recollect, that our fathers have planted trees in America for us, and we intend to stay and eat the fruit; and all we submissively ask is, the civil rights of free countrymen.

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