

## IX. HOW COLONIZATION IS NOW DEFENDED.

A correspondent of the Pittsburgh Conference Journal in giving an account of a course of lectures lately delivered in Western Pennsylvania, by the Rev. Mr. Pinney, former governor of Liberia, says Mr. P. did himself much honor; "presenting the gloomy condition of the slaves in the South, with the still more degraded state of Africa, together with the most easy and efficient means of remedying these evils, on both hemispheres, and of saving millions of our race not only from temporal slavery on earth; but also from the dismal and eternal chains of hell."

We should like to hear whether Mr. Gurley argues in this way in Georgia; as to "the gloomy condition of the slaves at the South," &c.

Since writing the above, we find out exactly how Mr. Gurley pleads, and what sort of impression he makes at the South. Take the following, from his own report, of a public meeting at Athens, Ga., July 27th. Mr. Gurley says:

"This meeting was large and most respectable. The Hon. Judge Clayton presided, and Ashbury Hull, Esq. was appointed Secretary. At the request of the chairman, I submitted, briefly, an expo-

sition of the principles and purposes of the Society, and presented a very general view of the history, condition and prospects of the settlements of Liberia. The address which followed by Judge Clayton was most honorable to his high character as a public man, and well adapted to secure to the Society the good opinion and efficient aid of the South. He declared that a change had taken place in his views of the Society, and that this had resulted from repeated attendance to its anniversary meetings in Washington, from a perusal of its publications, and from strict inquiries and observations concerning its measures and moral influence. He was entirely convinced of its patriotism and philanthropy, and that it well merited the support of the southern people. He referred very particularly to the Legislation of Georgia on the subject of manumission and free colored persons, and showed that the prohibitions of emancipation originated in a conviction that the increase of the free people of color was an evil to the State. A strong public necessity could alone justify such prohibitions, and the existence of such necessity must be regarded by humane and liberal minds, with the deepest regret. The Colonization Society offered a remedy, opened the way and afforded the means by which liberty could, with the consent of the master, be conferred beneficially upon slaves, without detriment to the State. He deemed this one of the chief advantages of the Society. The great consideration of the benefits which the scheme of colonization would confer upon the emigrants, and upon Africa herself in the establishment of free, enlightened, and religious institutions upon her shore, had been exhibited to the meeting, and appealed strongly to our benevolent and Christian sentiments; yet our interests were concerned in its success; all its operations and influences, and tendencies were in harmony with the true policy of the South. The free people of color were unhappy themselves and injurious to the State. It was desirable, that the colored population of the South should be diminished by Colonization, and for one he would cheerfully submit to a sacrifice of 20 per cent. of the value of his slave property, could those to whom he sustained the relation of master, and that class of population generally, be elevated to the place of freemen without injury to the public welfare and with permanent benefit to them and their posterity. He was a decided friend of the Colonization Society; he could not doubt that it would finally be a popular institution throughout the South; but whether popular or not, he should not be restrained from expressing his firm convictions of its importance to the interests of the South, as well as to religion and humanity."