

tude has been removed by judicial decisions in Indiana, and by the new constitution in Illinois.

For several years after the war, persons migrated to Illinois, with the view of emancipating their slaves. Among these was Edward Coles, a native of Virginia, who had been educated at William and Mary College, under the tuition of Bishop Madison, where he received the conviction of the wrong and impolicy of negro slavery; and he then formed the resolution, that should he come in possession of this species of property, he would immediately emancipate them. Mr. Coles became Private Secretary for President Madison, and remained six years an inmate of his family. He was then sent on a special mission to Russia, as the bearer of dispatches to the American minister, the late J. Q. Adams, during which time he made the tour of Europe. On his return, he effected a sale of his plantation, and removed his slaves to Illinois; in 1819, purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land for each family, and superintended their settlement. Soon after, he was appointed by President Monroe, register of the land office at Edwardsville. He was elected governor of the State in 1822, and, as it turned out, at a most important crisis.

"The election took place not long after the settlement of the great Missouri question. The Illinois Senators in Congress had voted for the admission of Missouri into the Union as a slave State, without restriction, whilst Mr. Cook, the only representative in the lower House, voted against it. This helped to keep alive some questions for, or against, the introduction of slavery.

"About this time also, a tide of immigration was pouring into Missouri, through Illinois, from Kentucky and Virginia. In the fall of the year, every great road was crowded, and full of them, all bound for Missouri, with money, and long trains of teams and black and mulatto slaves. Some of these were the most wealthy and best educated people from the Slave States. Many of the Illinois people who had land and farms to sell, looked upon the good fortune of Missouri with envy; whilst the lordly immigrant, as he passed along with his money and droves of servants, took a malicious pleasure in increasing it, by pretending to regret the short-sighted policy of Illinois, which excluded him from purchasing land and making settlement there. In this mode, a desire to make Illinois a Slave State became quite prevalent. Notwithstanding the defeat of the slavery party at this election, they were not annihilated; they had only been beaten for governor by a division in their own ranks, whilst they had elected a large majority in