

**THE NEGRO IN MARYLAND:
A STUDY OF THE
INSTITUTION OF SLAVERY.
EXTRA VOLUME VI**

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The Negro in Maryland: a study of the institution of slavery. Extra Volume VI by Jeffrey R. Brackett

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JEFFREY R. BRACKETT

**THE NEGRO IN MARYLAND:
A STUDY OF THE
INSTITUTION OF SLAVERY.
EXTRA VOLUME VI**

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY STUDIES
IN
HISTORICAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

HERBERT B. ADAMS, EDITOR

History is past Politics and Politics present History—*Freeman*

EXTRA VOLUME

VI

"With public sentiment, nothing can fail; without public sentiment nothing can succeed. Consequently he who moulds public sentiment goes deeper than he who enacts statutes or pronounces decisions. He makes statutes and decisions possible or impossible to be executed."—*Abraham Lincoln*.

THE
NEGRO IN MARYLAND

A Study of the Institution of Slavery

By JEFFREY R. BRACKETT, Ph. D.

BALTIMORE

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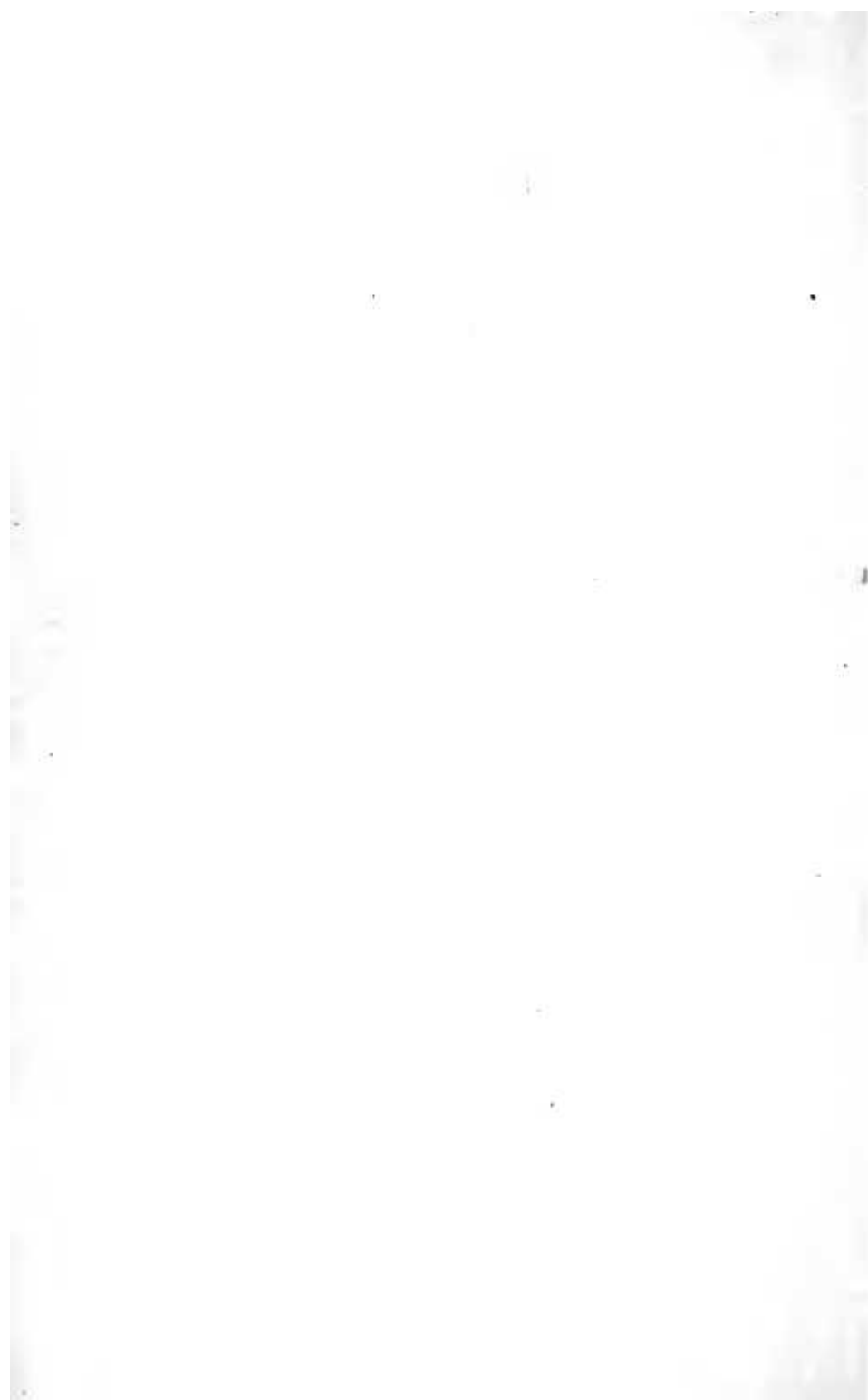
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THE NEGRO IN MARYLAND.

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTION.

We are not called on, happily, to bring up from our past politics those questions of slavery over which so many lances were broken—until arguments were ended by the sword. The object of this study is simply to trace, as clearly as possible, the growth of African slavery, as an institution, in Maryland.¹

Nor will it be necessary to study the institution of slavery

¹A residence of several years in Maryland has not alone fixed this limited field of inquiry. It is true, no doubt, that the lot of the slaves in Maryland was, as a rule, much better than that of those on the large plantations in the thinly settled portions of the Southern States. Thus, for instance, the system of special magistrates' courts, for trial of slaves for serious offences, was not known in Maryland. But Maryland was settled early; its slave code was rigorous; becoming a Border State, its slave property became less secure; the number of slaves remained large, while the free blacks became more numerous than in any other slave State; and earnest efforts were made for colonization. A study of the growth of slavery in detail, with reference to these conditions, may be of more value to the student, to-day, than a more general, and necessarily less accurate, study in a wider field, or one directed more to the severities to which slavery made the blacks liable—which are already well known.

Any work of such a nature must be very imperfect. The writer can give only what he has gathered, and asks any person who may be interested in the subject, to communicate to him any further facts.

Baltimore, Md., 1889.