Mr Latrobe from the Committee on New Settlements reported verbally that the Committee recommended the name of "Maryland in Liberia" for such territory as the Md. State Colonization Society might acquire on Africa.

Liberia had sometimes indeed been understood to mean the settlements now established by the Am: Colonization Society, but the Committee thought it more properly applicable to such Territory in Africa as might be hereafter settled and civilized by the removal thither of the free coloured people of the United States: the Committee had reason to believe too, that when the name was originally adopted the meaning here indicated was attached to it, by General Harper, who suggested it, as well as by the American Colonization Society.

The Report was accepted, and on motion by Mr Williams it was Resolved that the name of "Maryland in Liberia" should be given to all such territory as might be acquired by the Md. State Col. Society in Africa.

Mr Latrobe from the Committee on the subject of a digest of Laws, and a Constitution & form of Government for the said Territory, reported a form of a Constitution, which after being read & considered was on motion by Doctor Baker unanimously adopted and ordered to be entered on the minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Managers, at length, - which is accordingly done in the following words - that is to say.

Constitution of Maryland in Liberia

The Maryland State Colonization Society of Maryland one of the United States of North America to all persons to whom these presents shall come - greeting

Whereas the Maryland State Colonization Society, desirous to hasten as far as they can, the period when slavery shall cease to exist in Maryland and believing that this can best be done

by advocating and assisting the cause of Colonization, as the safest truest and most efficient auxiliary of freedom under existing circumstances, have determined to establish a settlement or settlements of free coloured people & emancipated slaves, under the auspices and control of the State Society, at or near Cape Palmas on the west coast of the Continent of Africa to be called Maryland in Liberia: And Whereas, it is not less the desire of the Society, that the evil of Slavery should be removed from Maryland than that the Emigrants to Africa should find their happiness and prosperity promoted by their change of home, and that through their instrumentality, the blessings of civilization and the gospel should be extended to a benighted land And Whereas, acting with these views it becomes the duty of the State Society to afford to the settlements which they may cause to be established, a system of equal laws, that shall secure to every Emigrant and his descendants the unalienable rights of life liberty and the pursuit of happiness - Therefore be it known That the Maryland State Colonization Society do hereby solemnly enact the following "Constitution", as the basis & foundation of the government of any, and every settlement or colony, which may be established as aforesaid, under their auspices and control in africa, ratifying and confirming the same according to its tenor to all Emigrants to such settlements, and their descendants, so long as the powers of government shall continue to be exercised by the Md. State Colonization Society

Article 1st. - The Maryland State Colonization Society shall have full power and right, from time to time, as they may think fit to make & ordain (rules)

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

I. Minutes
A. Records of the Meetings of the Board of Managers

2. March 1832—December 1834

1833