Whereas, by the Original Constitution and Form of Government for the Colony at Cape Palmas in Maryland in Liberia, adopted by the Board of Managers of the Maryland State Colonization Society, on the 22nd day of November, in the year 1833, it was provided that all Emigrants of full age, before they should be received there, should bind themselves to refrain from the use of Ardent Spirits, except in cases of sickness; and that no person who should use Ardent Spirits, with the above exception, or should traffic in them should be qualified to hold Office in said Colony; which provisions have remained unaltered, as a part of the Constitution and Fundamental Law, of Maryland in Liberia to this day:

And Whereas, in the Declaration of Rights and of the Form of Government adopted and recommended to the approbation of the People of Maryland in Liberia, by the Convention duly elected, & held during the past year, it was provided "That traffick in Ardent Spirits ought not to be tolerated nor ought the purchase of it to be allowed except under such provisions as the Legislature shall hereafter establish for cases of sickness"

And Whereas, it appears that on submitting said Constitution to the People, a majority of said People voting thereon, did express themselves in favour of

striking out the said provision:-

Therefore, Be it Resolved, by the President and Managers of the Maryland State Colonization Society, that whilst recognizing to the fullest extent, the right of the People of Maryland in Liberia, to adopt such a Constitution, and to pass such Laws in pursuance of the same, as they may deem best calculated to promote their welfare and happiness, the President and Managers of the Maryland State Colonization Society cannot but express their profound regret, that the People of Maryland in Liberia have evinced a disposition to depart, on so important a point, from the Policy which was adopted in the foundation of their Settlement, and has always prevailed there; and do earnestly and affectionately advise and request the said People, to reconsider their opinions, to take this subject under their serious & prayerful consideration, to remember that in many of these States, powerful efforts have been made and are now making, to check by Constitutional & Legislative enactments, the use of and traffick in Ardent Spirits, from a conviction that Intemperance is the Parent of much of the crime and misery existing among us, and that it's prevalence can only be ~~check~~ restrained by such enactments; and Do hereby express their hope and Trust that the People of Maryland in

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

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

5. February 1852--April 1864

1854