

ment, executed to the Governor or any other officers in his or their official capacity, in this Colony, shall pass over to the Governor or other officers of the State, who may have been elected pursuant to the provisions of this Constitution.

Sec. 3rd. All persons holding in custody public monies, by appointment or otherwise, shall pass the same over to those who may be elected or appointed to fill such places, pursuant to this Constitution.

Sec. 4th. All persons who were citizens of Maryland in Liberia, shall be citizens of the Commonwealth of Maryland in Liberia. All colored persons, immigrants from the United States of America, who shall subscribe a declaration of their desire to become citizens of the said State, and promise to conform to the Constitution and laws, shall thereby become citizens of the said State. All natives of Africa, who shall be permitted by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House of Delegates, and the Secretary of State, or any two of them to subscribe a similar declaration and promise, shall in like manner become citizens. All descendants of any of the said class born within the limits of the State, shall be native citizens. The Legislature may provide uniform laws for the naturalization of other colored persons. Every woman who is the wife of a citizen shall be considered as a citizen.

Sec. 5th. Until other provisions are made and established by law, Harper shall be the Seat of

Government of the State of Maryland in Liberia, and the Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor of Public Accounts, and Treasurer, shall there hold their offices, and keep all the public Records, books, and papers, in any manner relating to their respective offices at the seat of Government.

Sec. 6th. All officers shall reside in the State, and all districts, or town officers within their respective offices, at such places therein as will best meet the conveniences of the people, and all Militia officers reside within the bounds of the divisions, brigades, regiments, battalions, or companies to which they may severally belong.

Sec. 7th. The Governor of the State alone shall have power to purchase land from the natives for the use of the public, by the advice, consent and direction of the General Assembly. And all individual persons contracting with the aborigines for land for his or their own use, or for the advantage of others, such contracts or deeds shall be considered of no force or effect.

Sec. 8th. That right of a certain proportion of land or territory for the Settlement of immigrants secured to the State Society by Treaty executed in Baltimore in the State of Maryland; between the said Society and Agents on the part of this Government, shall never be violated, unless it become necessary to do so in consequence of a dissolution of said Society.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

XIII. Colonization Pamphlets

1. The Declaration of Rights,
The Constitution of the
State of Md. in Liberia

(rough draft, engrossed copy, printed copy)