The last census shews the inhabitants of this State to be upwards of 446 thousand, as accuracy in numbers is not necessary for our purpose we will say at 450.000. Of these 150.000 are colored & of these 50.000 are free

The free blacks form 1/6th of the number of the whites: thus there are 300.000 whites & 50.000 free blacks. Then it follows that every six whites must bear the expence of one passenger to Liberia. The Colonization Society have sent them for $20 pr head - then each six whites must pay $20, or $3 33/100 each. Divide this sum by the number of years we have assumed in which the removal is to be accomplished - say thirty & we have eleven cents a head for each white person to pay annually for thirty years, & this desireable object would be accomplished. But the Society has taken no advantage of any collateral circumstances They have chartered vessels to take out Colonists & to seek a return freight in the West Indies, or return home empty - thus charging the outward passage with the whole expence of the voyage round. It would much promote the prosperity of the Colony, to have an understanding for them to have a cargo ready for the vessel as soon as the passengers were out, that she might be loaded without loss of time; and I presume, it is not too much to calculate, that the return cargo would take off one third of the cost of the charter. The annual payment would be thus reduced to 7 1/3 cents pr head for each white person. But for every female between the ages of eighteen & forty which we carry out, their increase here would be lessened & thus the time would be shortened or the sum still reduced to about 6 cents each Thus the saving of one glass of grog pr annum for each white person in this State & by applying its

will to this purpose our aim will be accomplished. But this sum is to be raised from the taxable inhabitants of the State, who, as near as I could determine, amount to one fifth part of the white inhabitants, & it would amount to about 31 cents a year for each taxable white inhabitant to pay.

The slaves of this State are double the number of the free blacks, so if we would extend the calculation to the whole race, we have only to treble this sum & it would cover the whole black population of the State the whole colored population of the United States bear about the same ratio to the white population of the State; and the same calculation which has been exhibited for their removal would apply to the Union

There is another important view which we may take of this subject - if we divide the free blacks into thirty classes - one for each year assumed for the ultimate completion of this object, the quotient will be 1666 the number to be removed in each year. A vessel might make four voyages to Bulama in a year; but we will say, three a year. A vessel of 250 tons would carry one hundred & eleven passengers. It would, according to this calculation take five vessels of the size mentioned, making three trips a year to carry out these passengers - The return cargoes of these vessels would pay all expenses of sailing them, with the wear & tear of the vessel and reduce the expense to the State, to that of purchasing five vessels of 250 tons burthen

I am warranted in the estimate I have drawn from the trade of that country by a view of the present state of that continent & the trade which it has taken to supply their wants.

That Continent has for upwards of two centuries been supplied with the necessaries of life by - shall I call them Christian nations? in exchange for

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

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

1. February 1831--December 1831

1831