minds in the best State to receive and preserve those sentiments of Religion and Morality, which it was the wish of the State Society should form the character of the Population. It was believed also, that an Agricultural Community spreading itself to the interior, would not only present better examples to the surrounding Heathen, whom it was designed to bring to Gospel light, but would afford greater facilities for a rapidly increasing Emigration from this Country, than could be afforded by trading towns, however prosperous they might be. Of the soundness of these views, the Board of Managers had ample assurance in the endeavours of the State Society to introduce an Agricultural spirit into Liberia.

There was another object, which the Board of Managers thought of much importance, and which they proposed to combine with Emigration from Maryland; but which could only be effected at the commencement of a settlement, and for which exclusive control was necessary. This was the Establishment of the Temperance principle, as a fundamental one: prohibiting any person from leaving Maryland for Africa, who would not first agree to forbear the use of ardent Spirits, except in case of sickness - and holding any person ineligible to

office in the Colonial Government; who either used, or trafficked in it. An opportunity was offered of founding a nation upon the principle of Temperance, and the Board of Managers thought it wise to lay hold of it.

It must not for a moment be supposed, that in determining to form a new settlement, under the auspices of the State Society, and subject to its control, the Board of Managers intended either rivalry or opposition, in the remotest degree, to the American Colonization Society. On the contrary the Board of Managers held in too high esteem, the labours of the Fathers of Colonization - they found themselves profiting by their experience too often to be influenced by any other motive than the ardent desire to Co-operate in the most efficient manner in the great object of their labours. This it was believed, after the experience of Fifteen years, since the founding of the Institution, could be best effected by each State's undertaking the scheme of Colonization within its confines. This had been done by the Maryland Society in 1831, with results that never could have been anticipated, under the system which imposed upon the Board at Washington duties, in regard to informing the people, which could only be accomplished by State Societies

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