Society are truly great.— There has been placed a handful of human beings on a distant shore, where, for some space of time, at least, they must be dependent upon .... foreign assistance for protection and support.— To stop now were to leave them to perish.— To want in prompt vigour, in following up that which has been begun, would be to subject them to risks that might be fatal.— Nothing of this kind, however, is or ought to be anticipated. The community, out of which this system and plan of Colonization has sprung, is not one to look tamely on, and see the designs undertaken for its benefit, whose accomplishment will redound to its everlasting honour, fail or lag lazily and inefficiently without lending immediate assistance.— To this community— to the Citizens of the State of Maryland— to the people of the United States— the Board of Managers do now earnestly and solemnly appeal:— All are alike interested.— If it is the immediate interest of Maryland, that she should one day become a non-slaveholding State, are not those States who have reached that enviable condition, before her, deeply concerned in seeing her one of them, and will they not aid her State Society that this noble object may be accomplished:— and are not the Slave holding States also interested in the success of an experiment which is to demonstrate the practicability of a Slave State's

managing the cause of Colonization within her own confines, upon the open and distinctly avowed principle, that slavery in a State is a matter which that State can alone of right interfere with— and that foreign, extraneous, and unsolicited interference, is as unnecessary as it would be injudicious and improper.— While thus to all classes of the community in every section of this broad land, the Board of Managers makes this its appeal— it turns with peculiar confidence to that body of Citizens who are engaged in the good work of the temperance formation. The Colony of Maryland in Liberia will be an illustration of their cause, such as can scarcely be looked for in the lapse of ages.— An attempt is made to found a nation on the noble principles of their action.— The hitherto universal customs of African trade, in this respect have already been broken through, in the acquisition of the Territory, under circumstances which must deeply impress upon the native mind the character of the new comers amongst them.— The constitution which every Maryland emigrant has now signed unites them all in a temperance association, and the ordinance for their Government contains all the enactments that could be devised, to prevent the introduction or use of ardent spirit hereafter.— Friends of the temperance cause can you be lukewarm in this work? Friends of your Country can you stand idly by? Friends of Africa, will you let pass

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

1834