They may encourage you, but it will only be on the principle of "divide and conquer". It is proper to say here that the Maryland scheme is not without its difficulties, in the minds of some thinking friends of Colonization. You propose to abolish Slavery by Colonization alone. Your expectation is to get rid of Slavery by getting rid of your Country people. Now in the first place, will not this result in a forcible expatriation of the negroes? Next is it not the design of the Maryland Legislators to make this Colonization, a simple auxiliary to the domestic slave trade, as a means of removing the coloured population? and even if there is no such design will not this be the operation of the scheme? I indeed have better expectations, I trust that ere long, abolition, simple abolition, will be undertaken in Maryland, and in the other Slave States, bordering on the free, and that then these Colonies, will offer the best possible refuge to the blacks, unable as they will be to stand in competition with the white laborers, who will crowd in from Europe, and from the North seeking employment and who will have so many advantages over the emancipated blacks. Yet these difficulties are serious with some minds and I hope you will come prepared to give them a most satisfactory solution. It will give me much pleasure to go with you to Hartford, to Providence, to Boston, & a few other Towns, and whatever aid I can render you by my knowledge of New England men and places, and things, will be most cheerfully given. Mr. McKenney I have not the pleasure of knowing, but if you and your

brother and the two black Princes, will come in a body; and if such arrangements can be made, as will allow me to fall into your train, I think the force will not be only very imposing but very effective, and I trust, we may be able not only to raise New England, to a livelier interest than ever in this cause, but also to link together the Maryland Society and the Parent Society in such Bonds as shall strengthen both, and make their union of feeling and effort as well as of interest indissoluble.

Please let me hear from you again as early as may be convenient.

Yours truly,

Leonard Bacon

Rev. John Breckenridge
Philadelphia

Extract from the Rev Jno Breckenridge's Letter

Philadelphia July 7: 1834.

My beloved brother,

"I thought it would be out of the question to go to New England (as your former letter suggested) without previous correspondence, the importance of such a step is seen in the enclosed letter. Bacon you know, if you accept his proposal, I will still go, if not he will oppose and defeat us, if you decline going, I must too of course, for I could not sustain such a cause either as primus or solus, but if you can go, consider me still pledged to you, God permitting."

"As soon as you get this see brother McKenney, then determine definitely what you will do. If you will accede

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