the best system for the prosecuting of colonization, the committee would adopt the words of the Board of Managers of the State Society, in their second annual report:

"The system, which they (the Board of Managers) prefer, and which they suggest in the hope of seeing it carried into effect, is one that gives to each state, what Maryland has already assumed, the sole management of colonization within its confines; those states having emigrants to send to Liberia, sending them for such reasons as please them; those states having no emigrants for Africa, but which are willing to contribute their money to the cause of colonization, selecting for themselves the particular objects, or the peculiar views, connected with the subject, which they are most desirous to advance, and contributing accordingly; it being a rule to avoid interfering, by word or deed, with the subject of slavery in other states. When each state thus holds colonization in its own keeping, it will cease to be an object of dislike or apprehension to any one of them. It will no longer be a pretence for raising the cry of interference on the

part of the North with the slavery of the south, which has already excited such angry feelings, and which threatened at one time, to jeopardize the continuance of the Union itself."

Did the committee believe, that colonization depended upon the collection of the vast sum, necessary to pay for the transportation of each free coloured person in the United States of Africa,— and that, therefore, there must be a national society,— they now despair, and at once the abandonment of the scheme. Such is not the view, however, that they take of the subject. They anticipate the time, when emigration from America to Africa will go on as emigration now does from Europe to America. All that is necessary to bring this about is to make Africa as attractive to the free coloured man, as America is to the European; and this they believe to be within the means easily obtained by the State Societies; and when this is accomplished, and when a prosperous and happy people in Africa call out to their brethren in America to come and join them, the mere cost of colonization will have been paid; and the great and increasing commerce that must exist between the

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

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

3. January 1835--June 1838

1837