the whole system now suggested is premature.

The colonies are scanty in population; and that population must be gradually taught, under a judicious tutelage, those habits of thought and action, which it must learn before it can adopt with benefit the same system that supplied the wants of the present United States after the revolution, or which is developed in the existing contitution of the Union. Much, in the opinion of the committee, has yet to be done for the emigrant population of Liberia, before, consistently with its own permanent prosperity, it can take into its own hands the working of such a system as the report of the committee on auxiliary relations suggests.

Education has to perform its wonders; the appreciation of real freedom must become deeper and more abiding than it can at present be with a large part of the emigrant population, whether nominally free before emigration, or whether emancipated for removal.

This must be the work of time; and, as the committee think, a much longer time than has yet elapsed. Again, the colonies are remote from each other; the difficulty of com-

munication between them, especially at particular seasons, is great, and must for many years continue to be so; and the system, supposing it to be a fit one, which depends upon the agency of the Congress, or the supreme court mentioned in the constitution, must either, for a long while be most uncertain in its operation, owing to the difficulty and very great inconvenience of assembling the members, or be conducted by those, who being always on the spot where they are to be held, would find it easy to attend their stated meetings. Hereafter, such a system, as is indicated in the report of the committee on auxiliary relations, may, and no doubt will, become important and necessary: at present, its only effect, in the opinion of the committee, would be, to render the government complex, when the sparse population, the condition of the emigrants, and the remoteness of the settlements from each other, require that it should be of the simplest kind, and should call for as little joint action as possible. In their ordinance for the temporary government of Liberia the State Society, following out the spirit of the charter that it gave ~~the~~ first to the emigrants, provided after mature deliberation, for the time,

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