has hitherto in other situations invariably excercised.

In the reports heretofore made by the Board of Managers, reference has been had to the existence of a feeling among the coloured people of the State, adverse to emigration to Africa, and the agents of the Society, in their attempts to procure emigrants, have been always annoyed by an opposition, the source of which, it was difficult to ascertain.

Upon arriving in a neighbourhood to be visited, the agent would address himself at once to the free coloured people, and explain to them the design of colonization, and make statements in regard to Africa, its climate, soil and productions, and the privileges granted by the Society to those who emigrated to the colony. In most instances, the persons thus addressed, would hear with kindness what was told them by the Agent, many would express a willingness to emigrate, and some would at once, put their names upon the list for the next expedition.

In this situation would the agent leave them, and after completing his round, would return to ~~them~~ assist those whom he had first visited and who proposed to emigrate, in making their preparations. But in every instance, he would find that an antagonist had been at work in his absence, and that the minds of the coloured people had in the interval been filled with ideas, which it was difficult, if not impossible to eradicate in the time that he could devote to the purpose; that calumnies and falsehoods, prepared with art, and suited to the prejudices

of those for whom they were intended, had been uttered by persons, whom it was impossible to identify, and who could only be traced in their course, by the mischief they had done.

It seemed at last to the agent, and was so reported by him to the Board of Managers, as though abolition, instead of seeking openly to make converts in Maryland, had endeavoured to promote its views by watching, following and counteracting the agents of the Colonization Society. This state of things however, has been gradually changing, and the last expedition of eighty five persons, all from Maryland, gives evidence of a spirit among the people of colour, that promises as large and constant an emigration, as the means placed at the disposal of the managers of the state fund, with such as can be obtained from individual benevolence, will enable the State Society to meet.

The number of applications for passage to the colony, in the beginning of November, exceeded indeed both the means of transportation, and the number which the Board thought it politic to send. This number was limited to one hundred - the fifteen who did not join the expedition, were detained by causes beyond their control; but are now engaged in perfecting the arrangements, which will enable ~~but are now engaged in perfecting the ar~~ them to go out in the spring. From the intelligence the Board is possessed of, they have every reason to believe, that should they otherwise be in condition to send a vessel to Cape Palmas in May next, they will have as many emigrants as it

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