will be proper to take; many of them too, persons who have accumulated property in this State, and who will add not only their means, but their excellent moral character, to the colony. The Board indeed trust that the violence of opposition from those, most interested in their labours has so far diminished, as to offer no serious obstacle, hereafter, to the prosecution of the plan of colonization from this State.

In their previous reports, the Board of Managers have intimated that it may not be out of place here to repeat, the views entertained by them of the ultimate operation of the colonization plan, so far as it is connected with the removal from this country, of the people of colour, and such as may be made free, with their own consent, to Africa. Did the Board think, for one instant, that this was to be accomplished only by the contributions of States, societies or individuals, to be appropriated to the chartering of vessels, and the procuring of emigrants, they would at once abandon the cause as utterly and inetrievably desperate. But this is not the opinion entertained by them.

The Board of Managers think that Colonization never can be accomplished until it shall become evident to the coloured people of this country, that it is their interest to emigrate to Africa. The Board think that when this interest shall become apparent to them, the work will go forward independant entirely of pecuniary assistance

from societies or individuals here. The emigration that takes place from Europe to America is now treble in numbers the increase of the whole coloured population of the United States. These emigrants come here with their own means; there are no societies to pay their passages; their removal costs nothing to the country from which they come. They come, because they think it their interest to come to America than to stay at home. They come, because they think it their interest to come; and having determined to come, they find the means themselves of doing so. The Board of Managers believe that it should be the main object of Colonization to create the same state of feeling among the free coulored people of this country in regard to Africa, that pervades the bosoms of the foreigners who annually seek our shores. And the Board think that Colonization Societies, state and individual patronage, are competant to this, although wholly inadequate to furnish the sum necessary to pay for the removal of the entire coloured population. A sum comparatively small is sufficient to found a Colony, and to plant there a prosperous and happy population of some thousand souls: the news of whose happiness and prosperity, reaching this country, will entice to the home of their fathers, thousands on thousands of those upon whom the intelligence will produce the same effect as the news of the high price of labour here, and the ease with which land is acquired, produces upon the European emigrant. When it is considered too, how much

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