to exchange for the articles wanted from the natives for the use of his family. It was at first proposed, to send small silver coin to the Colony, but the information acquired by the committee having the subject in charge, satisfied the Board, that if silver was sent, the first trader that stopped to trade at the Cape, would bring it all off, and that it would be at present, impossible to keep a sufficient quantity there, to answer any useful purpose. There were objections to issuing a base metal which seemed to have considerable weight; and at last, as the subject pressed, the Board determined to send certificates for five, ten, twenty-five, fifty, and one hundred cents, receivable in payment for goods at the public store. To make these intelligible to the natives, there were represented by the certificates—as for instance, on the five cent certificate, there was a hand of tobacco—on the ten cent, a chicken—on the twenty-five cent, a duck—on the fifty cent, two ducks, and on the dollar certificate, a goat. The success of this experiment is not yet known although it is expected to answer at all events, among the colonists. It will be at once seen, that no view towards profit has influenced the Board in adopting the paper currency here described; for the certificates will be returned to the store as fast as issued, and can only answer the purpose of facilitating exchanges, and breaking up the present system of barter.

In their present report, the Board cannot refrain from expressing the satisfaction which they feel at the success, which during

the past year has attended colonization in other Quarters. The settlements of the American Colonization Society, seem to have recovered from the depression occasioned by the native wars around them, which in forcing them to direct their attention to agriculture, by cutting them off from native trade, opened to them, even through present distress, prospects of permanent prosperity. It is gratifying also to the Board to know that the American Colonization Society's settlement is under the actual government of a coloured agent, Mr Williams, whose success in the management of affairs still further corroborates the Board in the choice of Mr Ruffenuna as their agent at Cape Palmas. The settlement of the New York and Pennsylvania societies is evidently in a flourishing condition, and the Board are gratified to see, that recently, on the addition of Edina to their jurisdiction, the people of the last named place were only admitted as citizens of Bassa Cove, on taking an oath of allegiance recognizing the temperance pledge.

The settlement of Grenville, belonging to the Louisiana and Mississippi societies at Sinoe river, has been made, and may be considered now in prosperous operation. The country is described as admirably adapted to the purposes of a settlement, and the agents who have the control of operations in Africa, appear to be sensible and experienced men.

With a view to competent medical skill in the Colony, the Board have now under their charge, the son of the assistant agent, S. F. McGill, who is studying the profession of medicine in

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