Seventh annual Report Continued

Among the emigrants by the Oberon were some valuable servants manumitted by Thos Oliver Esqr.; Mr Oliver offered freedom to all his servants on condition that they would emigrate, and offered to purchase the wives and children of such as had married slaves, to prevent families from being divided. The greater part of Mr Oliver's servants preferred remaining in Maryland, however, to wait the report of those who sailed in the Oberon. The Board have great pleasure in noticing on this occasion, the noble generosity of Mr. Oliver.

Capt. Robert McDowall, & Doctr. David F. McGill sailed in the fall expedition. Doct McDowall is a physician who has had much experience already in the diseases of the African Coast, and goes to the Colony as Colonial Physician for one year. Doctr David F. McGill is a young coloured man who has received an excellent medical education at a College to the North, which gave him a diploma in October last. He is the eldest son of the present Vice agent

Seventh Annual Report Continued

at the Colony, and has with the exception of the last three years resided from infancy in Africa. He considers Africa, therefore, as his home; and the Board, believing that with Doctr. McDowall's aid he will have obtained sufficient practical knowledge in the coming year prefixe, when the term of Dr McDowell's appointment expires to appoint him Colonial Physician in his place. Doctr McGill took with him an excellent medical library, & has been instructed to select one or more young men of suitable ability and commence their instruction in Medicine, with a view, at a proper time to being sent to this Country to attend the necessary lectures as Doctr McGill has himself just done. The Board trust that they have in this way the immediate and future and permanent supply of efficient Medical skill in the Colony.

The situation of affairs at the latest dates at the Colony was, generally speaking very satisfactory. The last season had been one of unusual scarcity on the coast, and the Colonists had been induced thereby to

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

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

4. June 1838--October 1851

1839