the council, very much like a law yet on the Statute Book of Maryland, prohibits debtors from leaving the colonies without first settling with their creditors. Another settles the terms upon which the Banica people shall be permitted to enjoy intercourse again with the colony - all intercourse having been prohibited by the governor, in consequence of damage done by them, and they having sued to be restored to favor and tendering compensation - another order settling the mode of celebrating the 22d February, 1840, being the sixth anniversary of the colony - another establishing a public market, and providing rules for its government - another prohibiting the hunting of game on the Sabbath, under penalty of five dollars, one-half to the colony, and the other half to the - various orders relating to the military - one of which appoints a major to command the two companies of uniformed volunteers - and many others, all shewing the temper of a settled and happy and prosperous community, rapidly becoming capable of effecient self-government, and worthy of the blessings of well regulated liberty.

Nor is the information of the Board derived from the officers of the colony and the missionaries alone. All visitors join in giving the same character to it, and representing it salubrious in point of climate and of surpassing natural beauties. All that is required to make it every thing that its friends desire, is a continuance of the same policy

that has heretofore been pursued in regard to it, and the dissemination of information among the colonists. Many, if not most of the emigrants from this country, are illiterate, and being generally past the appropriate age for the school house, are but dull scholars. The young, however, make excellent progress, and it is on the rising generation that most reliance is to be placed for any decided improvement in this respect.

The number of missionaries at the colony is about 20, and with these, and with the societies from which they are respectively sent in this country, the relations of the Board are in every respect satisfactory, and the advantages of missionary labor in preserving peace and good will between the natives and colonists - and in the improvement of both, are fully appreciated and acknowledged. In the first few years of the colony's existence, the question of the character and extent of the society's authority arose on more than one occasion, and was made the subject of discussion. The ground then taken by the Board and which has since been maintained on their part and acquiesced in by others, was that they were the political government of the colony - the colonial government emanating from them. That the officers in the colony, acting under the constitution and laws, and the Board, in the State of Maryland, united in themselves all the power which, when

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

1842