that the hold of the abolitionists upon the coloured population, is growing weaker; for the abolitionists have always opposed any emigration whatever, and insisted, that the only mode by which the coloured population could obtain social and political equality with the whites in this country was by preserving their numerical strength undiminished. This argument has lost its weight, and the hopes which it has intended to raise have most evidently abated. The emigrants to the British islands proves the existence of a restless spirit among the coloured people. They do not now feel at home in the United States. They begin to anticipate the period when their interests will imperatively demand their removal; and this is a feeling that will increase rather than diminish. The idea of emigration constantly presented, will become familiar, until the only question will be, to which place can we emigrate with most advantage to ourselves. While the coloured people are thus becoming accustomed to the idea of leaving the United, the colonies on the coast of Africa are every day becoming more prosperous and happy, and consequently more attractive; and no doubt is entertained, that the time will arrive, when emigration to Africa will be considered by the coloured population of Maryland, as emigration to America is considered by the European. Then will the function of colonization take place, and an emigration, without

cost to any but the emigrants, voluntary and eager, will relieve our country from a race that is in the midst of us, but not of us, and whose separation from us will be mutually advantageous.

During the last year there have been signs of a change of feeling on the subject of colonization in England, which is gratifying to the colonizationists of this country, although it is not so openly avowed as in candor it ought to be. The African civilization society which has commenced its existence under royal auspices, admits, that the slave trade can only be put an end to, by a line of colonies of civilized men on the coast, and evidently considers that this line can only be established by those whose constitutions and descent qualify them to live in health, and with the full enjoyment of their faculties in the climate of Africa. It is well known, that it is just such a line as this that the colonizationists of the United States have, since the year 1816, been labouring to establish; and now, that they are rapidly succeeding in establishing it, it is not at all surprising, that the English society should recognise its efficiency, altho' former hard things said of the colonizationists prevent their name being used or their merits openly acknowledged. It has been suggested that the Civilization society here referred, has a double aspect; one political the other philanthropical; and that perhaps the desire

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