continuance of its heretofore prosperous condition; and insure its permanency, unless immediate and efficient aid is rendered. Although the strictest economy and most scrupulous accountability has been enjoined and practiced in all transactions of the Agents of the Society both at home and in Africa; yet, the annual State appropriation has been consumed one year in advance, and for the past year no additions of emigrants and but little pecuniary aid has been afforded to the colony. This state of things has been induced from an unwillingness on the part of the Board of Managers, to deny emigration to those emancipated for that purpose or to see the interests of the colony suffer for want of aid.

It now remains for them to adopt such measures as will preserve good the commercial credit which the Society has heretofore sustained; to enable it to meet its coming liabilities, and if possible, place it on such secure basis, as will enable them to furnish the regular annual supplies of emigrants to the colony. It is proposed to raise by voluntary contributions, the sum specified in the annexed resolutions, in the City of Baltimore, which will defray all the current expenses, and cancel all liabilities of the Society, to the 1st of January next. It is also proposed, to solicit in the counties of the State contributions to enable the Society to build a vessel, to be used as a regular trader between this port and Cape Palmas, thereby enabling it to receive the sole benefit of the trade now rapidly increasing

in the colony and its vicinity. This course promises good not only by the profits to be derived from the trade, but by the beneficial influence which it will exert upon the colonists of Liberia and the coloured population of this State. Inducing the former to feel that he is & not expatriated and abandoned in his new home; and the latter, that a government of freemen of his own colour, between which and his masters, there is such constant and kind intercourse is worthy of his attention and consideration.

If these objects can be effected the permanent prosperity of the colony will be established beyond a doubt- the happiness of its members secured- the door kept open for the manumitted slaves- a home secured to the free man of color when interest and ambition shall induce him to abandon his present unhappy position in society- and the people of Maryland will enjoy the proud consciousness of having so far as they were able, & repaid the debt due to unfortunate and suffering Africa, and of raising a free nation and ally of bondsmen and slaves.

But if the colony cannot receive efficient and timely aide if its youthful growth shall be longer checked and impeded- if the promised assistance shall be longer withheld- the hearts of the little band must sicken from the bitterness of hope long deferred- despondency and inertness will succeed to order, emulation and activity- their pleasant fields will be laid waste- their habitations become tenantless- their school houses

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

1841