at Cape Palmas, are coloured persons.

The relations of the colonists with the natives are peaceful. It is the determination of the Board of Managers that they shall remain so, if peace can be preserved by a conciliatory policy, and by avoiding all causes of difference and collision.

A colony has therefore been formed capable of self support, self government, and self defence – and at an expense which, in comparison with the result, is trifling indeed. It is in no spirit of self glorification, but as a simple statement of a fact, that the Board say, that no record of similar success, in the same time or at the same cost, is to be found in the history of colonization as far back as it can be traced.

The next great question is, as to the results which the scheme of colonization, thus far successful, is to produce. The mere establishment of a colony of free coloured people from the State of Maryland on the coast of Africa, although a matter of curious interest, was not sufficient to justify the outlay and labor necessary to accomplish it. Such was not the purpose of the Society nor of the people of Maryland when they embarked in the undertaking. It was in ulterior results that colonization, as originally advocated, found its interest.

It was early seen that with the increase of the free coloured population, there grew into existence a class

of people, who were in the midst of us, but not of us: and who prevented by colour from becoming one people with us, could never hope for social or political equality with the whites, while they remained in this country. On this subject all history was full of admonition. In what more solemn shape indeed could a warning be given than in the recent riots in the non-slaveholding state of Ohio.

Colonization, as known here, was therefore devised to promote the removal of the free people of colour of the United States with their own consent, to africa. And it was this removal, the ulterior aim of colonization, that imparted to the scheme its interest. It was this which caused the early advocates of it to abide disappointment patiently. It was this, which, after the practicability of founding a colony had been proved by the American Colonization Society, justified the people of Maryland in founding one of their own. It was this which induced the Legislature to pass the act of 1831; and to accomplish this, has the state Society thus far been assiduously labouring.

It has been said, most erroneously, that the Colonization Society was to transport all the free people of color of the State to africa for the $10.000 per annum paid under the act above mentioned. This sum would be wholly insufficient for the purpose. But this sum, added to the collections made from benevolent individuals, has

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