the date of this Report.

Among the measures suggested by the Colonization Convention, none excited more interest than the establishment of a regular packet between Baltimore and Cape Palmas, and the Board of Managers have been diligently engaged in making collections for the purpose of building or buying a suitable vessel. It is believed, that notwithstanding the difficulties of the times, enough money will be raised to enable the Board to send out the fall expedition of the present year in a vessel of their own.

The Colony having been founded, it is now the principle object of the Board to establish a regular intercourse between this State and Maryland in Liberia, as the best means of overcoming the prejudice that exists in the minds of the free coloured people to emigration - where this arises from ignorance and misrepresentation - using indeed for the purpose the same means which, in the case of the patriarch of old, were alone sufficient to overcome his incredulity as to the prosperity of his descendants in Egypt.

The Board are satisfied from their experience that the packet will not only enable them to carry out the emigrants from the State at regular intervals in a vessel manned by citizens of Liberia, but that it will materially assist in the trade, which has for some time past been gradually increasing, until it has materially aided in defraying the expenses incident to the colony. The Board believe that the colony in a few years will be wholly independent

of aid from this country, - capable to defray the cost of its civil list - military defences and internal improvements, and that nothing will aid in bringing about this desirable event more effectually than the Cape Palmas Packet.

Appended to this Report is the balance sheet of the Society's operations from the commencement of the Society - from which it will be seen, that there has been contributed by individuals and by the gain on the trade of the Society, the sum of $39,235.09 to promote the objects which the State had in view when it passed the law of 1831.

Since the last Annual Report the Board have been so fortunate as to secure the services of Dr. James Hall, as their general agent. Dr. Hall is well known by reputation as the founder of the Colony and its Governor for the first two years of its existence. He is well and intimately acquainted with the trade of the western coast, the habits and customs of the natives, and the disposition of the colonists; and he therefore brings to the performance of his duties important qualifications which it would be difficult, if not impossible, to find united in another individual. On Dr. Hall devolves also the editing of the Colonization Journal.

There remains a subject to be noticed in this Report, which the Board approach with reluctance and regret, but which it is necessary to explain fully, that the friends of colonization in the State may know the manner in which those to whom they delegate power

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