sufficient to supply the colony as an agricultural people, and not in the extension of traffic to the point of taking from the colony its agricultural character, and giving it a commercial one. To this last result many circumstances would seem naturally to tend. Not a few of our emigrants have had such a connection with trade in this country, as would perhaps lead them to its pursuit in Africa, and this, added to the natural seduction of a trade carried on between the civilized and the savage, in which a large amount of native produce might be brought into market, to be exchanged for imported goods at a handsome profit, would tempt many into commerce, whose labour, for the benefit of the colony, would be better bestowed elsewhere. If colonization had for its object the enriching of emigrants that they might return and expend their wealth, or the creation of a trade, the result of which were to benefit this country, then it would become us to stimulate to activity in commerce; but seeing that its great purpose is to build up an independent and self dependent nation, a nation whose interest is in the soil, and whose bread is wrought out of the soil, it rather behooves us to discourage trade, that the industrial force of the people may be directed to pursuits which will bind them and their descendants by the strongest ties to their new home. The tax now proposed, will,

it is believed, be sufficient for the present, to effect this object, whilst at the same time it will collect from the trader some portion of the gains of his pursuit, to be applied by the government to the promotion of the general welfare of the Colony.

With reference to the light house duty, the committee report that it is rather a change of the name of an old, than the imposition of a new burthen. A duty has heretofore been collected from vessels visiting the Colony, under the name of "anchorage duty", which it is now proposed to apply to the support of the new light house recently constructed. The new and appropriate application of this revenue to a permanent object, suggested the idea of providing for it in the ordinance, and of giving it a name indicative of its application. The committee suggests as the rate of duty, 8 cents per ton.

Upon the occupation of Fishtown, by the location thereat of a few families, recommended by Gov. Russwurm in his despatch, the committee report favorably. The purchase of that territory, in itself desirable, with a view to preserve us from too near a contact with neighbouring colonies, appears to have been judicious, and no measure should be neglected which would render the acquisition of it effectual. The plan of Gov. Russwurm, taken in connection with the proposed survey of the harbour by our government vessels, which is understood to have been promised by the Navy

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

1843