or the cause, and who are naturally enough inclined to consult, unconsciously perhaps, the wishes of the enquirer. It is as follows:

"My dear Reader:- My long and unexpected detention at Cape Palmas gave me an excellent opportunity for observing matters and things as they really are in reference to the colony, its actual condition and its prospects. To be sure I may not see as other men do, and may imagine improvement and prosperity where they do not exist, or I may be prepossessed in favor of Colonization to that degree as to be blinded to its defects, or led to magnify its favorable points. Be this as it may, I venture now only to state matters of fact, such as none will venture to gainsay who have any regard for truth.

I consider the Colony of Maryland in Liberia, known as the one receiving the exclusive patronage of the Maryland State Colonization Society of the United States, as decidedly one of the most prosperous of the American settlements on the western coast of Africa. It could not have been otherwise. The organization and continued energetic labors of the Board representing the Society would lead us to expect nothing less. Soon after the colony was founded by Dr. James Hall now the Society's general agent in Baltimore and the machinery of a colonial government set in motion, the selection of a colored man as Governor was made. This was just as it should be. It was



called an experiment, but it was one, of the success of which no reasonable fears could be entertained. From the commencement the colony has been progressing, if not rapidly yet steadily and onwardly. The population is now about 700, & they receive an immigration every year. All necessary preparation is made for the reception of an expedition before its arrival. There is a public asylum or receptacle, consisting of a number of separate rooms and situated in a healthful part of the colony, into which the new-comers are generally acclimated. Meantime frame buildings are being erected on lots laid out for them of suitable size to afford them a good garden spot, and by the time the emigrant is through the fever and can begin to take care of himself, he has a home to go into - airy, comfortable, little framed and shingled house where he can have all the necessaries and comforts of life if he will only follow up his first advantages with economy and industry.

"It is a notorious fact <u>that there is not a single family of all the colonists in Maryland in Liberia occupying a thatched house</u>, all have buildings such as I have described. Let it be understood that there is another point of sound and wise policy in this arrangement of incalculable advantage to the settler. His house is not <u>given</u> to him; by no means. He would not value it as much if it were. He is charged with all the expenses of its erection. When he is able, he is furnished work, work is found

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

1845