and the Board ~~entertain~~ no doubt of his success in it. From all that ~~has been~~ is said, there is some reason to think that the arrival of a good model, to be built from in Africa, did not take place before it was required for the benefit of the Colonial ship yards.

A part of the last Annual Report was occupied with the subject of the tariff; and the Board stated that they had finally met the views of the Colonists on this subject, and that the law had gone into operation. It will be remembered, that the tariff as settled at last, was a duty of 5 per cent. ad valorum, on all articles imported into the Colony - taking the cost in the port whence they were shipped as the standard. In the execution of this law, however, difficulties very soon arose; importers refused to show their invoices, and as it was difficult to get at the value of articles imported in any other way, the ad valorum duties soon became next to impossible to collect, and the tariff promised to become a dead letter.



The Governor; who explained to the Board, ably and satisfactorily, the obstacles presented to the execution of the law, earnestly asked for specific duties; and after full consideration of the subject, the Board determined to change the tariff from an ad valorum one, to one levying specific duties.

The Liberia Packet took out the ordinance that had been prepared for this purpose, and although sufficient time had not elapsed to enable Governor Buchanan to speak of its operation, yet in his dispatches to the Board, he considers it as having removed the only difficulty in the way of making the tariff not only effective, but popular.

Among the passengers that left Baltimore in the Packet last fall, was Dr. Dempsey Fletcher, who, as was mentioned in a former Report, had been brought from the Colony with a view to his being educated as a Physician in this country, and then returning to Cape Palmas. This was done; and having received a diploma from the medical school of Dartmouth

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

1847