trading -- I would gladly go more into details concerning the colony but my time is at present so much occupied that it is impossible - Mr Prout who will have the pleasure of handing you this I must refer you for much information concerning Liberia - he is well qualified to give you correct intelligence as he has for several years been in the employ of the government & enjoyed the confidence of the different agents who have from time to time had the management of the colony Mr Prout at present holds the office of Colonial Register and has also performed the duties of private and confidential secretary to myself - I therefore recommend him to your kind attentions & any assistance you may render him in forwarding the objects of his visit will be considered as a kindness

Yours Obt Servt

J Mechlin Jr

To
Charles Howard Esqr