in Kent & Queen Anns - the lone in Kent & the big in Queen Anns. - Should I not be able to accompany them, I will see them off, & follow on, so as to meet them on their arrival in Baltimore.

The whole number will vary from one hundred & forty four to 150. - I sincerely hope there may not be much, if any delay, in their embarking for Africa after they reach Baltimore. -

As I deem it a matter of some importance that [illegible] at the time of their embarkation from this shore, & being now making arrangements to concentrate the most of them ~~[illegible]~~ on this place; you will please direct to me here - I shall however, leave this on Wednesday for Quantico. - From thence on Thursday for Cambridge, & may remain there, if necessary, until Saturday. - A letter written immediately on the receipt of this, directed to Easton will certainly reach me on Monday. - Should I be able to forward the lone & big from Easton, I shall then, with a view of meeting the wishes of your Board, as expressed by Mr. Harper, return to this place, & accompany the emigrants to Baltimore. - If not, I shall wait on as far as Chestertown in Queen Anns, & return from thence.

My last, dated Princess Ann, you have doubtless received. - I left Princess Ann immediately after closing it, for the residence of Col. William Jones, of Rome - Although it is not strictly in accordance with the object of my appointment, to expatiate upon the worth of private ~~character~~ individuals, I cannot omit stating to the Board, that Col. Jones, now in the 73d year of his age, exhibits the ~~[illegible]~~ vivacity & activity of middle age. Regular living - personal labour with his own hands, & a mind well balanced ~~by~~ & regulated by the sublime principles of christianity, have made him what he is. He is an aged man full of life, active on his farm, the delight of his children, & an ornament of his church. - (a copy of which is enclosed, marked B.)

This ~~enclosed~~ letter to me, upon the subject of the family of slaves, which I, as your agent have received from time to time, to send to Liberia breathes the spirit of his soul, & shews the worth of the man -

It is proper that I should remark, that Col. Jones is not a wealthy man; therefore the act of his entitles him to greater praise - Indeed, it is but proper that I should state, that he has, in order to keep the whole family together, encumbered himself with a debt of seven hundred dollars. -

I have been so frequently interrupted since I commenced this letter, that I hardly know how it is put together. - Your kindness will make the necessary allowance & excuse all defects. -

With Considerations of Respect I am Dear Sir Your Obt. Servt.
W. McKenney
Col. Agent

P.S. I forwarded to you also a copy of a letter to me, from J. Sturgis Esq. of Head Hill, giving liberty to his slave Hannah -

It may not be amiss to state, for the ground of your Board, in the arrangement contemplated with Mr Finley, that the number herein named is exclusive of those in Cecil & Baltimore -

It is a possible case, that some few may crawl back; but I consider it more probable that the number here named will increase in not much more than four fifteen to 20 - absolute certainty, under present circumstances is out of the question -

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

1. May 1827—December 1833

1832