Salisbury Somerset County
Elkton Md
November 5. 1832

Dear Sir,

I received your favor of the 5th ultimo, on or about the 18th in Cambridge.

The leading object of my visit to this place, being to promote a spirit of emigration in the free blacks, & the great importance to future successful operations of dispatching a respectable number of Emigrants to Liberia, before the meeting of the Legislature, and the necessarily contracted space of time allotted me to accomplish this, constitute my apology to you & your board, for the little attention I have been able to bestow upon the important objects of your communication.

I endeavored to get a meeting of the Cambridge auxiliary with a view to incite them to additional exertions, but failed - Could I have tarried a week in the town I should have succeeded in getting a quorum of the Board of Managers. I expect to state that there has not been one meeting since the organization of the society; a reorganization is, in my humble judgement, essentially necessary to any beneficial results - This was hinted to me by several gentlemen, who say that there are materials enough to form an effective society; but the extreme delicacy of the subject, & the necessity of dispatch on my part in visiting the free blacks, rendered it impossible for me to attempt it. - A meeting was called to take place, during the sitting of their circuit court. - The result is unknown to me.

I am aware that Wealth is generally considered to be an important qualification to all officers & managers of a voluntary benevolent association - & so indeed it is when other qualifications are conjoined to it. But this is not always the case. - In

Salisbury Md
November 6th

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John H. B. Latrobe Esq
Corresponding Secretary
Maryland State Colonization Society
Baltimore

Maryland Historical Society
The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers
II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books
1. May 1827--December 1833
1832