state of the Colony has never been properly known
And the reason is that the Colo Emigration has
ackquird so high a degree of character that any
slur (it matter not how true) that had any
tendency to lessen this degree of character was
looked upon as a fabrication, and even the man
that told it, though from the best and purest of
motives may even for the welfare of the Colony,
was looked upon as a traitor Traitor and as an enemy
enemy to the Colony; whereas he was acting only as
a faithful Asctor & I cannot conclude this letter to
you without noticing one great evil which strikes
at the very vitals of our Colony; and this one begins
in the united States. It is that of filling the minds
of Emegrants previous to their leaving the U. S
with unreasonable and flattering prospects which un-
avoidably causes them to make a sacrifice of such
things which would be of infinite use to them here
and which would give them a very comfortable start
and would be a means of exonerating the Society
from many expences and present a degree of
suspicion which is now preying upon the vitals
of the Colony in a very rapid and alarming degree
But this evil does not stop here. The high expecta-
tions to which it raises the Emigrants prior
to their coming to the Country, not being com-
plied with unavoidably bring the sting of disappointment
and the sting of deep disappointment brings on a
train of dispending passions which finally
bring many to an untimely grave. It also prevents
many who would, from farming, or in fact it
has an unavoidable tendency to prevent agriculture
for the Emegrants coming here bear and destitute
and when they are turned off the Colony they are no
better off, are compelled to betake themselves to
those destructive Swamps in getting timber, this
being the most immediate way of getting them
only a half support for them families and for this
they are paid off in the trade articles at an enormous
price; and in order to find a market for the trade
they are forced into the interior to trade with
the natives who being stuck Rich Sharpers mostly
cheat them out of all and they come home
worse off than before, hence Agriculture is
neglected straight methods. It is my decided
opinion that the farmer should be have
superior advantages so as to enable to him
to get on his feet, this would cause a desire
site and enable many many to go to farming
who now do not owing to them not having any
thing to live on while there crops might be
growing. this Gentleman, I have written to you
freely. I could say a great deal more but
time will not; but you will have a more gen-
eral statement in the report of the committee
Let me hear from you I love the Colony and expect
to die in old Africa dear shore. I Remain
Yours respect Romus Harvey
Teacher of public School at Caldwell

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

1. May 1827—December 1833

1833