Nottingham Prince George County
24th April 1830 -

Dear Sir

I arrived here this evening from my visit to Mr. Gardiner & his Brother in Law, Mr. Bradburn -

I have arranged, as far as practicable, to take their people by, or if necessary, before the 15th - Proximo - The consummation of the arrangement is dependent upon the sanction of the State Commissioners. I write by this mail to Mr. Howard upon the subject, & expect to see him & myself in the early part of the ensuing week - In the mean time for your information I will state, that the Negroes in question, with the exception of the younger members of each family, are the most thoroughly loving Negroes I have ever seen, & would make, under a wholesome discipline, such as is practiced in the United States Navy, as good brute slaves as ever lived - They have a sense of the figment of an idea of what Freedom is; & I verily believe would, if it were left to their choice to remain in Bondage or remove to Pennsylvania, prefer slavery to Freedom on Mr. Bradburn or his brother up & both known Lands, choose the latter - I had repeated conversations with them, in which I used my every best efforts, seconded by their late masters, to convince them that their interest, & duty to their children

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

2. 1834--1835

1835