Strong hopes that I shall recover my health as during the last spring season. But in this I have been sadly disappointed. I was enabled to lay out the farm lands for the new settlers & seed them again reduced by the fever so that I have only occasionally been able to visit & give directions about public affairs & labour. Some of the time I have suffered severely & entertained apprehensions of a serious pulmonary affection as my cough has been troublesome & almost incessant especially during fever. If I do not improve before the wet dries, I shall entertain but little hope of continuing until Spring, as I have never enjoyed tolerable health in this country during that season. I should have left for England a short time since with my friends Capt Spence, but I could not consistently leave the Colony at this time. Buchanan has never returned & Thompson is young & is not quite calculated to manage matters as principal. I have written to an intelligent colored man in Monrovia by the name of Lowry whom I expect soon to be with me. I think him fully competent to take charge of affairs in case of accident & a valuable assistant in case I am able to consult & direct.

Under existing circumstances I think it my duty to state to you that I cannot continue to act as a permanent resident agent in this Colony either with advantage to its best interests or with safety to myself. Should you see fit to appoint a new agent this fall & send him out I will see to him all the assistance in my power & continue to manage business as at present until he shall become in some degree acclimated & acquainted with the duties of the office & learn something of the manner of communication with the natives. Or in case you see fit to defer the appointment until I return I think there is no doubt but Mr Lowry or Shelton (whichever I may be able to obtain) will be capable of managing matters judiciously after having acted as my assistant for six or eight months. But in either case just as soon as that period shall arrive I shall not leave the Colony prematurely, nor without a proper man at its head. Meanwhile I give you this timely notice that you may adopt what course you deem proper. I could wish however (& think it would be for the benefit of the Colony) to meet the Gentlemen of the Board & give them my views upon this subject before a new appointment should be made.

I was much disappointed to learn that an expedition would be sent in May, as Mr Gould informed me that I need not look for one until near Christmas. Consequently I am at present

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

2. 1834--1835

1835