Extract of a letter from Mr. Floyd Bart, Supercargo of the Brig Eliza of N. York, to a friend in that city.

Harper, Cape Palmas, Aug. 26, 1835.

Dear ——— When you became aware of my intention to visit the western coast of Africa, you partly wrung from me a promise, that in case my other engagements would permit, I would note particularly the state of the American Colonies established here; as you would put confidence in my remarks concerning them. I then informed you that being neither Abolitionist or Colonizationist, I, of course, should be an impartial observer; but as my object in visiting the coast would be strictly commercial, I should probably have little leisure to attend to other business than my own. I will however make a few observations merely to convince you that I have not been unmindful of your request and at the same time confess that I feel an interest in the affair, which a half dozen Colonization meetings could never have awakened. ———

I arrived at Monrovia on the 16th July, & left it on the 5th inst. during which interval I was deeply engaged in business; but this led me to see that the times were bad, very bad. The principal men were gone to war with the Bassas & they appeared to be surrounded by war on all sides, which entirely cut off the trade from the interior; & the complaints from one and all were loud & frequent. Further than this, I know very little of the actual situation of that Colony. — Had they, like the Colony established here by the State of Maryland, looked to the soil for their support instead of traffic with a fickle & barbarous people, they would not now be affected by these native wars. This many of them seriously think about doing: they hope to bring about the cultivation of cotton to make it an article of export. Accident brought me to this place, or rather it is owing to an accident that I have been detained here for the last fifteen days; and to this accident you are indebted for this sheet on the subject matter desired.

A few miles to the windward of this we lost an anchor, & completely ruined our windlass & put into this place to repair it. To those acquainted with the coast it will be useless to note the importance of having good ground tackling: no voyage can safely be prosecuted without such. — The importance of these Colonies in a commercial point of view only, as exemplified in the present case, has fully committed me as a Colonizationist. Had there been no Colony here, we should have

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II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

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