was to be found within seventy miles of Baltimore, & within forty miles of Washington. The fact that we had manumitted these people has been disbelieved by persons of consideration in the community, who should have had too much respect for the character of Mr. Parnham, & of myself, to have supposed that we were endeavoring to make a false impression on the community respecting this matter. It is true, the deeds of manumission were on record, but then the human mind in its disposition to think evil, does not look about it for proofs to the contrary. It has been positively asserted by a neighbour of ours who should be, & who professes to be a friend of Mr. Parnham, that Mr. Parnham did actually sell those negroes whom he attended to Baltimore, & who embarked for Maryland in Liberia on board the Harmony. This gentleman's word would probably be credited by our negroes sooner than our own. The motive which led me to suggest that a rigid construction & enforcement of the law affecting the condition of these people, should not take place, was the expectation that before another vessel sailed for Maryland in Liberia, direct communications would have been received from those who went from here informing those who remain, that they had actually arrived, & that they found their situation such as they had been led to expect it would be. My object in this epistle is to say that I see no probability of these people's embarking on board of the expedition about fitting out for Cape Palmas, unless it should be thought expedient, & found practicable to have them arrested by the sheriff & taken thro' Baltimore on their way out of the State, shortly before the sailing of the vessel, & that the influences which would then & there be brought to bear upon them; the seeing of the emigrants so together with the stern reality that they were under arrest, & must go somewhere, should produce the desired effect.

With sentiments of esteem,

I remain very respectfully,

Yours,

Henry W. Goodwin.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

2. 1834--1835

1835