erected & now occupied by their Agent the Rev Mr Wilson. Consisting of a large dwelling house out buildings & a large School House (belonging to private individuals) & dormitory for his Scholars — Eight In the village there are now twenty five frame dwelling houses. 8 of the same materials on the farm lots, besides twelve of inferior construction. The Colony now contains about sixty two hundred and twenty inhabitants. among whom about fifty may be reckoned as adult males capable of performing the quantum of labour usually allotted to men. & of bearing arms — Of the number of these which arrived in the last expedition I shall not have occasion further to speak, having at this time as they cannot be considered as settlers. I shall endeavour to convey to you a correct idea of the present situation of those who have been a sufficient time in the Colony to enable them to provide for themselves. It will be recollected that but two years have elapsed since the first establishment on the Cape. by a party of but twenty four men: to whom was promised on their embarkation both a town & farm lot: the former of which was immediately drawn & cleared, the despatch was made in erecting dwellings on their lots. Every man with a believing expectation was at this time absolutely prosperous & many even wealthy. It was considered advisable under such circumstances by the Agent & assist those who required it in erecting their houses & furnishing them with materials. This together with their clothing, was included in a bill to the Agency. In the mean time much public work was organized in order to enable the Agent successfully to manage his concerns & the Colonists thus indebted were called upon to render their services in payment. At this time also the state of our affairs with the Natives was not such as would permit us prudently to make such selections of our farm lands as we could desire. & even had this been practicable. they could not at that time have been wrought to advantage. Owing to the above causes the first settlers were very considerably retarded

in their farming operations. This state of things continued until the Oct. of 1834. when they received many valuable farm lots contiguous to the towns & no bar or obstacle subsequently prevented the full & successful prosecution of their agricultural labours. These people have now fences & under cultivation about twenty 24 acres variously stocked with sweet potatoes, cassada corn, Yams, Plantain & Banana. Many have also small patches of cotton sufficient to supply their domestic wants, as thread stockings &c. One individual planted between one and two acres, but unfortunately about a month too late in the season. Consequently little was gathered from it. which Enough however has been done with this article to prove that it may be made a valuable article of export. The fourteen adult males who arrived in July 1835 per Big Bonne were able about the first of April to commence business on their farms. This the majority of them did with such energy & success that they have something like thirty acres of lands under cultivation, containing in addition to the vegetables above mentioned considerable quantities of tobacco. One individual has a crop now on the ground from which he expects to realize at least five hundred pounds of good merchantable tobacco. & this in a country where three pounds will buy a bushel of rice, is quite a fortune. These people are now all well located on their lots & many in good framed dwellings.

Of the five adult males who arrived in Sept 1835 per Sophia Hermony two unfortunately died. The remaining three & a widow of one of the deceased are now located on their lots having each a good framed dwelling & about one acre under cultivation. I believe in the aggregate there is a larger amount of vegetable food now raised in the Colony than is required to supply the inhabitants, (the new emigrants excepted) The facilities for raising fowls, ducks, goats & sheep are very great. little or no feeding being requisite. A large stream also supplies them all well with fish once in the week. The Colony may therefore now be considered as being beyond the reach of want for their supply of food. Inasmuch as no article of export has as yet been raised, many are now in a greater or less degree dependent on the Agency for a supply of clothing & many other necessaries of which they from time to time require. For this, & the expenses which they have incurred in procuring timber & the erection of their houses, they are, as a body of people without capital deeply involved in debt.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

3. 1836