mitigating the evils which slavery has introduced into our ~~country~~ social system. They have in a word ceased in some measure to view the colonies in their relations to the colored people of this country, except so far as their indirect influence is concerned, and to look upon them as missionary stations intended to enlighten Africa. But, even in this view, it is plain, I think, that such cases, as the one now presented, have strong claims upon our benevolence, and I am not without hopes that our friends here will regard it with favor.

It does not appear from the letters of Doctor Mosbury whether his slaves are willing to go to the colony. I remember the resolution of your board, that they will carry out none who do not go voluntarily, and therefore presume that they are willing to remove. This however is a point of such importance that we ought to be able to state explicitly their entire readiness, and that of the slaves whom it is proposed to purchase, to go and settle at the colony. Another point of considerable importance to know, is the price at which the slaves can each of them be liberated.

After all I am not very sanguine of much success in my application in behalf of these poor people. The conviction is almost universal in New England, that it is ~~in~~ vain to attempt to purchase the southern slaves in order to liberate them. They believe that by purchasing ~~them~~ and removing them, they but make room for additional ones to spring up in their place, and that all the means which benevolence can command would not, even in the least degree, diminish the actual number of slaves: Many at the north would be willing to unite in one general act of purchase, which when completed would terminate forever, the present system of slavery. For this purpose they would be gladly taxed to the extent of their ability, and even if the proposal was but to purchase a certain portion of our territory ~~of~~ they would bear their proportion of the burden gladly, it being the assurance that the region inhabited by slaves would thus be gradually diminished.

It gives me, sir, very great pleasure to hear that your Colony at Cape Palmas is still in so flourishing a condition. I was alarmed a few weeks since by a report that your state could possibly withdraw its bounty, but I hope the danger if it ever existed has passed away. I think with much satisfaction of the days which I spent last summer in Baltimore, — days rendered especially pleasant by your kindness, and that of my other friends in your city. I love especially to recollect the Sab-

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II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

3. 1836