Letter
Thos Leighton Esq
to
Ira A. Easter

Rev. Ira A Easter
Colonization Office
Baltimore
Md.

NEW YORK PORT SHIP

Fair Hope Cape Palmas June 2d 1836

Rev. Ira A Easter

Dear Sir. Yours of the 12th Dec. by Dr Holmes was duly rec'd & I embrace this the first available opportunity to reply. I entirely concur with you in the feeling that all unnecessary etiquette & ceremony should be laid aside by all who are engaged in the service of our common Lord & Saviour. And it is always a cause of gratification when I have ability or opportunity to forward the cause of benevolence & humanity in any way.

The communications from the agent of the Society will always be full & satisfactory, but as you have requested me to write "fully & freely" I may occasionally add to or confirm what is written. And one of the first thoughts that occurs to me in connection with the prosperity of this Colony, is the selection of suitable emigrants; And as this is a part of your business I may with more propriety dwell upon it.

Let me assure you, dear Sir, (& the opinion I am about to advance is founded on personal observation) that this Colony & the other Colonies have sustained more serious injury from an injudicious & indiscriminate selection of emigrants than from any other & perhaps all other causes combined. To this cause may be justly attributed the chief part of the ~~also the~~ poverty, discontent, sufferings, sickness & death ~~known~~ among the Colonists in Africa. It is a matter of profound regret that so many of the friends of

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

3. 1836