ready for the reception of emigrants. I have ventured to place the Shibes emigrants there though not directly on the Mt Avenue but on a road parallel with it. In the mean while Mr Mc. Gill has been instructed to continue the survey on the Avenue, & to open the road as far as he advances one chain wide. This latter he has only been able to do partially from the difficulty of procuring native hirelings at this season. He has progressed over a mile beyond Mount Vaughan the site of the Episcopal Mission, and he informs me, that nothing could be more inviting than the face of nature in these wilds. Were it not for the chattering of the monkey & his dark figure opening at the times to the view, a person would be apt to fancy himself in some of the Western wilds instead of Africa, all the colonists who have ever advanced any into the interior are loud in their praises of its superior salubrity, and fertility of the soil. They say, that the appearance of nature there is different — even man lays aside the disguises which intercourse with civilized beings has taught him to assume — & appears simple man.

In speaking of the land, I cannot seperate from the subject, the inhabitants upon whom a very pleasing change has been wrought within the last two years. Then you might enter a town, and find man & woman without any other covering than the narrow grass cloth women by themselves. but now, you see every man who wishes to be thought any thing, has a wide cloth on, & will not appear in any other; and in our town more particularly, they had their small patches of Tobacco growing which the colonists judged to be Cuba from its mildness. Let none say that an acquaintance with civilized man in filling them with new idias is the source of new wants & misery; in the present this will not hold, as these lately acquired ideas, have also taught them in many cases, to put 3 or 4 per cent additional on the price of whatever they may have for sale.

Colonists of Md. in Liberia

I am sorry to say, that there is a spirit of dissatisfaction among some of the older colonists, which is quite deserving of censure. They consider it quite an insult to be refused by the Agent any article of food or clothing which they desire to have out of the store on credit. They would imply from their foolish talk, that * every invoice sent out is for their special use, & therefore they ought to have whatever they want.

From the accompanying Census, you will be able to learn the number who are actually resident on their farms; but I know not an individual among them who labors one quarter part of his time on his lands. Most of them are employed in the swamp splitting shingles, sawing plank & scantling; or in performance rough carpenters work for the Missionaries: and the result is that very few of the farms are as well cultivated as they might be.

I am sorry to inform you, that the colonists are too dependent upon the natives for almost every kind of labor. The latter aware of this are rising almost every day in their prices. I am harping every day on the impositions we are liable to from this source, but I do not perceive that I have made many converts.

The idea that we cannot do without "the flesh pots of the Egyptians" is too formerly fixed in their minds. I have offered our sawyers to let the men go into the swamps, where they are cutting lumber, if they would only make a road but the subject is not under consideration. In the mean while, there is a very general demand for lumber, & we are still under the necessity of employing natives to bring it out.

It is evident however to the most casual observer, that the older colonists are daily acquiring more comfort about their premises & persons; and a laudable spirit of emulation, to excel in many things, is evident among the better disposed. It must ever be a mystery, that men having so much daily before their eyes to impel them to exertion, could ever be otherwise than industrious, I am sorry to say that we have — some however who seem dead to every honorable feeling.

Health of the Colony

The health of the colonists generally continues good, & the accom-

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II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

4. 1837