carrying list of deaths, &c since March 1836 will fully sustain all former statements of the salubrity of this colony. But one of the Niber emigrants has actually died from fever. Young E. Harrington has since lost his nephew aged 12 & youngest child about 4. Such young persons as were named in a former communication as afflicted with sores, are still sick & incapable of doing any thing to assist themselves. When here Dr. Hall informed me that he was authorised by the Board to engage a physician, and I was pleased to learn from him that the services of Dr. Davis could be secured for the colony. I shall indeavor to secure them.

We are under many obligations to Dr. Savage for his attention to the colonists whenever his health would admit of his visiting, & sometimes when hardly prudent for him to come out. The new emigrants are all doing well and many of them are out daily, clearing their lots.

Currency

We labor under many inconveniences at present, for the want of a metallic or paper currency. In every community there ought to be some circulating medium adapted to its wants; and I am of the opinion if the Board would authorise the issue of 500 or 600 dollars in 50, 50 & 25, & 1 dollars notes redeemable in Goods at the Agency Store some few of our present difficulties in exchange would be removed. Should the plan meet your approbation, it would be necessary to have the bills engraved with different vignettes on each, at the sight of which the natives would soon recognise their relative value.

It would consume too much time to trouble you with a detail of our many difficulties from the want of a currency. It is certain that we can never establish a regular market, until we have one of some kind to buy & sell with, until then our poorer colonists will be liable to be imposed upon by the natives as they now are. It seems therefore a subject important enough to call your attention.

Public School

You will be pleased to hear that C. A. Chambers has commenced the School mentioned above in one of the rooms of the New Long House and for the last 10 days has averaged 34. The house intended for him is now up & I am only waiting for plank to shut it in. It meets the views of the country, & is very much

Ploughing

Since this letter was commenced we have been ploughing on the Public Farm with two yoke of oxen & have now ready about 3 acres for planting. This was quite a novelty to the natives & to many Americans who had not seen it for some years — myself among the number. Should it be followed up by the colonists generally & adopted, it will entirely change their agricultural prospects; for it was wisely observed by some that one good breaking up of the soil by the plough was worth a dozen times going over it with the hoe, having out of calculation time & expense. The idea pleases the colonists, but really the great demand for labor by the Missionaries, & the prospect of immediate pay, have induced many to neglect their farms & devote their time to the trade of rough carpentering.

I have put out two yoke of oxen with a Hance & Coates and intend purchasing others as soon as they can be had. We have one splendid yoke on the farm lately purchased.

Court of Monthly Sessions. Since my arrival we have had no case for trial before this court (April 10)

Temperance

I am happy to state that I know of no infringement of our laws in reference to temperance. The views & wishes of the Board on this head are so well known that the good feelings of all masters of vessels who visit us lead them rather to second & forward them, than to throw any obstacles in the way.

Jacob Gross. I beg to call your attention to the case of Mr Gross the U. Agent who was appointed Superintendent of the public farm at fifteen Dollars a month. As he resides on the farm & his services are very valuable to the Colony, I have agreed to allow him in future five Dollars more additional on his wages. I see no way by which we could dispense

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

4. 1837