sanguine as you & I are, in the belief of the benefits to be derived from independent action. We produced a partial paralysis in our efforts to establish our new Colonies. We have I believe entirely recovered from it, & are now fully embarked in the experiment. Territory has been purchased for the Miss. Soc. embracing 14 miles of coast on the West side of ~~Pedro~~ Pedro River. We have not learned whether territory has been purchased for the La. Society, but hope that land on the east side of Pedro has been secured for them. The two Societies will act together for the first year. They have appointed my brother Josiah Governor & Dr Blodget a gentleman of piety and learning Physician & Surveyor. We expect to despatch a vessel with our Agent & trade goods early in April. We intend to follow your advice & send but few emigrants at first but to commence our settlement with acclimated emigrants from Liberia. We have about $13,000 secured for the Miss. Soc. to sustain them in their operations for the current year. We have not accomplished, or attempted much in La. in the way of raising funds, still we are sanguine of success as the cause is becoming very popular in both States

especially amongst the planters. We are very ignorant of the modes of proceeding. We wish to adopt your ~~colony~~ plan of operations so far as experience has proved it to be good. But we are quite ignorant of your proceedings except in a general way. Please write to me fully on the subject, especially on the subject of government, constitution & laws of the colony under your care, with such remarks as your knowledge & experience may suggest. Also as to the nature of the trade — how to regulate it — whether the Society should embark in it extensively — to what extent — what kind of goods should be sent & if they should be purchased &c. &c. I am now on my return home from a months absence in Miss. on business of the Colonization Society of that State. I had a very interesting public meeting in behalf of the cause at Vicksburg. I did not attempt to raise any money at the meeting, much to the disappointment of the people present who seemed much interested in the cause. It is a very growing place & will do much for us. I had forgotten to mention to you that I am the Agent of the Mississippi Col. Soc. also of the Young Men's Colony of Louisiana. Let me hear from you soon. Remember me to my friend Shepard, Hommond, Harper &c. R. S. Finley

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

4. 1837