of her visit to Cape Palmas have had satisfactory evidence of her business & engagement. The following facts he did know. that the "foreigners" at Bona that were to be conveyed to Galinas, were a set of men who had been engaged in keeping a slave factory at the first mentioned place & were confiscated in the service of Peter Blanco; the vessels that was purchasing rice along this part of the coast for Blanco's slave factory — & if he was told that there was not a single slave aboard & believed it, it was not because there was not unequivocal evidence to the contrary. As to the logic contained in the latter clause I have transcribed you may be your own judge. If you were to ask me what harm has been done by their visit I would tell you that they have wofully corrupted the morals of the colonists & have familiarized their minds to one of the worst of evils. It has made the native people think that our professed hostility against the slave trade is all a farce & this affair is made a source of reproach.

You may think I have been rather close in my scrutinies of Mr Ruspam's conduct in this affair & I confess I have; because Mr Ruspam when a private citizen at Monrovia was in the habit of doing business for Blanco & he ought from policy & from no higher motive, have refrained from any thing that had the appearance of conniving at this odious traffic in his present very conspicuous & responsible situation. What I said to Mr R in my letter I now repeat, that if slave vessels enjoy such advantages & facilities as they have done here, & such as they have had at Monrovia of late, those employed in them will rejoice as much as the most ardent friends of colonization in the formation of American settlements along the coast; & I verily believe that Peter Blanco, with such encouragement & countenance as they have already had, would be if solicited one of your most liberal contributors & patrons. The allusion made here to the countenance enjoyed by Spaniards at Monrovia is based upon the fact I know that they trade with some of the Merchants of that place; & upon the testimony of Capt. Vidal commander of the British man of war Bank Etna & now surveying this coast — who told me that he had found a vessel or vessels belonging to American colonists engaged in supplying the slave factory at Galinas with ~~[illegible]~~ rice — & that it was his intention to inform the philanthropists of his own country on his return that they were patronizing an establishment which was abetting the slave trade.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

4. 1837