will be received by the Society and placed on a equal footing with the emigrants from Maryland, and in the latter part, intimate that they will have to wait untill the fall expedition to have houses built for their reception — I promised them early last Winter, that they should go this Spring and I do not feel willing to fail in my promise and disappoint them by postponing it later than the middle of May — I expect to have some myself about that time for the Summer — be pleased to write particularly if they can go out on the Repost chartered by the Society for the May expedition? or what facilities the Society will offer to get them off this Spring — and if so whether they cannot have Houses that may be prepared for the emigrants by this expedition — and whether the Repost will call at Savannah or Charleston for them — you will greatly oblige me by answering these enquiries as early as possible by the Express mail, as Mr Burr the Commissioner Landing is daily expected to visit this place and I must make some arrangement for their emigration before he leaves — if your Society cannot offer such an arrangement as I can approve then I must accept the offer of one of the other societies, which are so very liberal that I should unhesitatingly have accepted them at first, but for the suggestion in the first part of this letter, together with the circumstance that all the older men or heads of families among these negroes are native of Maryland, having been emancipated by my late Husband from his Farm near Port Tobacco in Charles County, and retaining an affectionate regard for the name, seem to think they will be happier in Maryland in Africa than else where — the number designed to be emancipated was 48, three of the number being old men have declined going, prefering to remain where they will be provided for without personal effort, and two others hesitate in consequence of leaving families behind, they will however go, I expect when they see the others starting — they are emancipated for their fidelity and good conduct — they are sober, industrious and not an intemperate one among their number — if they will only act as well in a state of freedom as they have in Slavery, they will be certain of respectability and wealth, for themselves and their children —

Yours Respectfully —

Emily Phe. Tubman

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Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

4. 1837