Richard H. Wilmer
Cottage, near Alexandria
Va
Read & Answered
April 18th 1837

Augusta 18th April 1837

Mr Latrobe,

Indisposition in my family prevented my replying to your letter of the 4th ult by the return mail. I accept the proposed arrangements of the Maryland Society for my Negroes, but regret the interest of the Society will not admit of the people coming to one of our Southern ports to receive them, for the expences to Norfolk I apprehend will take ~~all the~~ very much from the sum which I hoped to secure for comfort in Africa — the number that have entirely decided on going are 31 grown persons and 10 children — two men and one woman with a child are yet undecided, some from age, and others from distress at parting with their families — they will perhaps (as I mentioned in my former letter) be more fearful wilting to go when they see the others starting — I gladly avail myself of your kind offer to buy such goods for my people as they may want, as money in Africa bearing your experience enables you to judge what will sell best, as well as procure them on better terms, than I or an Agent inexperienced could do here — some remaining undecided, and not knowing the amount required to send them to Norfolk, makes it difficult for me to say what amount shall be expended for them by your Agent — you may, if you please, expend 3270 dollars, and if I find after all expences are paid, there should be money left of the sum

Maryland Historical Society
The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers
II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books
4. 1837