to be separated - I learn thro' Mrs. Tubman that your Society send out only emigrants who have originated in Maryland - I presume however, as in the present instance - when others have become Providentially Connected with such by the strongest ties of Relationship, your rule would not exclude them -

Two of the men to whom I have referred are native Africans & I believe the third is also. They are all men of good Character - have been exemplary husbands & fathers - & will I cannot doubt be an acquisition to the Colony - The names of the two who have been purchased are McWilley & Cæsar the former a native of Africa, the latter also I believe, but am not certain.

McWilley is about 50 years old, & a very strong healthy man. Cæsar is nearer 60, but still vigorous, I presume from the price which his Master asks for him. —

Dembey the blind man, (a native African & a pious, excellent man) is between 50 & 60 - incapacitated by the loss of his sight to labor - but otherwise enjoying excellent health - We wish to relieve the Society of all expense in relation to him, by not only paying the initiating fee of $50.00 to the Society - but furnishing the necessary amount annually, for his support. This matter we must submit entirely to yourself & trouble you to make such arrangements as your discretion may dictate. — I learn from Mrs Tubman that the emigrants cannot export money - & that as a substitute for the legacy of Mr. Tubman you furnish them with trading goods. Perhaps this may be the easiest way of supplying Dembey's annuity - If so you had perhaps better furnish him a year or two in advance at the present time. For the other two as we have been at large expense to procure their freedom, we have made no other provision than the $50.00 each required by the Society. This sum $100.00 with whatever investment you think proper to make for Dembey in addition to the $50.00 you will please engross in Mrs Tubman's account as the most Convenient mode of remittance, which we will refund to her - their accounts of course being kept ~~separate~~ distinct in your statements to her. You will observe, I have taken for granted, that no demur could arise about sending out this addition to the original. The truth is the matter has been sudden & proposed to us, & we had not time to await the results of a Correspondence. The negroes will have this place on Thursday next - & Mrs. Tubman desires me to say that she will write by the express of that day.

With respect, Dear Sir, I remain,
Your Obedient, Saml. S. Davis —

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

4. 1837