I had not supposed that our employing them would have been disapproved in as much as the responsibility of establishing three native schools had devolved upon us as a fulfilment of the original contract for the territory — & further I would say if any censure is merited for what has been done, it ought to fall wholly upon Dr Hall as the author of it. In three instances during his administrat. I — urged me to employ colonists as teachers — Mr Thomson was one of the individuals urged upon me & Dr H even quarrelled with me because I was not willing to give him a greater salary as a teacher than he had been receiving as secretary. This was previous to his receiving an appointment from Home. I have now three in my employ who have entered their names as Colonists & must state circumstances connected with each of these cases. The first is a young man by the name of John Banks who joined the expedition (at Monrovia) that founded this settlement. By Dr Hall's special request I received him into my family where he knew not a letter in the Alphabet. I have for near two years fed, clothed & educated him & now that he is fit to teach you will not question my right & the propriety of keeping him employed

Mr Snetter is another. He left the Society's employ because Mr Ruspington took away from him the appointment which Dr Hall had given him — & he did not come to me for a greater salary, for he is now receiving $100 less than he was offered Mr R to act as store keeper. Had he not turned in to us he would have gone back to Monrovia feeling deeply wounded by the officers of the Colony. So far from my enticing him away his leaving was with me a matter of serious regret, for I felt that he was the only man upon whom your society could rely in case of war with the surrounding tribes.

Mr R in taking away the office of Sec. from Mr S has in my estimation & in Dr H's too, disarmed the Colony or at least rendered its military very inefficient.

The other colonist is John Dorsey who came out in the expedition before the last. I have had him on the expense of our mission for four months & have been improving his education. I took him at a time when I did not know that I was infringing upon the societies ~~rights~~ claims. Under these circumstances I shall continue to employ him until I hear from you again; & if you should think that I ought to give him up notwithstanding what I have done I

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

1837