Hanover N.H. Oct. 16. 1838

Hond. Sir

Your favour enclosing a draft on Merchants Bank of Baltimore was duly received.

You have left it optional with me to embark immediately for Africa or to remain until a future period. I am undetermined; my anxiety to see friends & home - and above all my anxiety to leave the U.S. strongly urge my departure; on the other hand duties to myself and fellow Colonists, render a longer stay necessary. I do not think myself capable of taking charge of the lives of your Colonists. I am much like an individual who has acquired the principles & theory of navigation on terra firma, his knowledge answers every purpose while there; but placed on the boisterous ocean he finds himself inadequate to perform the duties ~~[illegible]~~ of the Commander.

I am deficient in clinical knowledge which is of the greatest value to a physician. A short stay in Balto. would enable me to obtain this, and even though some lives might be sacrificed, it would not make much difference providing I ~~do~~ use every exertion to save - ~~[illegible]~~ To hurry the departure of some of your Colour population out of this world would not be so great a crime, for if unprepared their circumstances, could not be made much worse - and if prepared it would prove a blessing. You will please act independent of my wishes in this matter, if the Board advise my departure I shall with pleasure agree to it: but if they refuse ~~[illegible]~~ leave it entirely with me I must refer them to

Chas. Marsh
Bryce Stewardson
Co
Gard. Carter
18 Oct 1838

Mr. Gad. Carter
Chairman Exec. Comm. Md. Col. Soc.
Baltimore