and manured, as there was a striking difference in the several patches, & where most labor was expended in preparing the ground, there, the plant was most thriving. Our cotton on public farm was planted May 5. 1838.

Though in the rainy season, we suffered much for want of rains; as there were 10 or 12 weeks in which we had none. Even the cattle suffered for grass, & those at work had to be fed on corn or cassadas. Notwithstanding, our corn had quite a tolerable look, but when it was harvested, the injury which it had sustained from the drought was evident from the small quantity gathered. I planted about one acre, to shew the colonists who are daily complaining, that they could raise corn if they would only put forth the requisite quantum of sinews. All cavilling on this head is nearly silenced, as corn has been harvested two seasons. Our Leeward natives raise it extensively as to load vessels, and ought our people to sit down with folded hands & say they cannot raise it? Shame on their laziness, they ought every one to serve some hard master 5 years longer in the cane fields of Louisiana.

Our oxen have done exceedingly well; and without them I could not get along. Besides doing all the necessary farm work they have been handy country boats for various individuals. The pair, which were first broken, are still at work, and have increased in size and value. The colonists see and know these facts, yet very few who can purchase an ox doom him to slaughter, without making the last effort to get a team. They cry "we are too poor to buy oxen, if the society will give them, we will take care of them"; but I query whether the selfsame individuals would go to the trouble to fence in pasture; if not, they would be likely to be shot by others.

As. Agent's House — Agreeably to instructions, a comfortable house has been erected on Mount Tubman for the permanent residence of the As. Agent, who is now stationed there. The Tubmans & others in the vicinity are well pleased with the plan; and many already they feel a security

which they did not before. Thirty acres near will be placed under his superintendence, to test the difference between it, and land exposed as the Agency farm is & the deleterious influence of the salt air. The present missionaries at Mt Vaughan are pleased with having so good a neighbor.

The mount is being converted into a fortification by throwing up a stockade, and digging a trench 6 feet wide around it. In it, will be kept the cannon & ammunition, and it will always serve as a place of refuge for women & children in case of war or invasion. True, we fear no war or regular invasion, but we cannot tell how soon another colonist may be foolish enough to act as Parker did, or the Dey attempt to take the law into his own hands. On the reserve land, I have erected a comfortable dwelling for a family of respectable emigrants during their 6 mos seasoning. I am not fond of Long houses, there is too much mixing of good and bad — respectable & non respectable together. By being cast into such a community, a decent family often lose all self respect, and care not to be esteemed above their neighbors. Every inducement should therefore be held out to let such know that they are thought respectable, and my opinion is, the effect would be beneficial.

Free School Acc — This school still continues in successful operation. The sickness & death of the teacher Wm. Chambers has been somewhat of a pullback to it, but I can perceive no sensible diminution in its numbers. On my late visit I find since present average 42. Not much can be said in favor of their progress, as we want a more competent teacher. As our population extends out in the bush, we shall soon be under the necessity of having another school, somewhere in the vicinity of Mt Tubman. The people there in a praiseworthy manner have subscribed liberally in labor towards putting up a schoolhouse. One has given a site. It is but reasonable that they should look to the Society for a teacher after it is finished. We want a fresh supply of

Maryland Historical Society

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II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

5. 1838