Harper, Africa
May 24th 1839

O. Holmes Esq.

Dear Sir,

Your kind favor of Dec 8. 1838 came safely to hand, and I feel gratified that your African friends are not forgotten amidst the bustle of a city.

You will be pleased to learn, that our colony is still progressing ahead, after having passed through sundry rebellions like the Israelites in their passage from Egypt to the promised land. Their greatest failings were murmurings against Moses & Aaron, and listening to the excited counsel of some leading men among them, who persuaded them from time to time to disregard the words of Moses & to adopt the customs of the heathen around them by worshipping other gods & intermarrying: for this, the severest punishments were inflicted upon them, & they were made sensible, that Moses acted from higher source than any human authority.

My late advices from Boston will inform you that some of our Colonists by listening too much to the mad advice of Woods & Shetter came near involving the colony in war with the Cape Palmas people — for the latter after being discharged by his missionary friends, had nothing else to do than to hold night meetings among st the Bethesdaites (whose church he finally joined) and to stroll from house to house during the day, sowing dissatisfaction. Woods, you know, never could work, & his friends knew what it was more expected than was, why he could do so too: & accordingly where you saw the one you might be sure the other was near by.

Yellow Fever prevailed in this place last year, the mortality was very great, the number of deaths amounting to one hundred & twenty nine.

Yellow Fever prevailed at the head of the Mount, in much the same way, the mortality was very great, the number of deaths amounting to one hundred & twenty nine.

O. Holmes Esq
Baltimore
Md.

Rev. Jos. Tarbell
Corr. Sec.

From Cullen Mill

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

6. 1839--1840

1839