to be expected in farming till the colonists have some kind of working teams, and no sensible man can doubt but their introduction would have a beneficial effect, and call into action many feelings which are now suffered to lie dormant. By looking at the Agency farm, they see what can be done as an experiment, and certainly, they would be prepared even to surpass that, from certain data which a longer residence and experience would give them. At present, on the Agency farm, we have plenty of water melons, cantelopes, Ocra, tomatoes, egg plants, peas, beans, peanuts, corn and other garden vegetables growing besides potatoes cassadas and plantains. — The corn now growing is the second crop, and was planted in September, merely as an experiment: some of it is very fine as the season has been an uncommon one. — but the proper season for corn is when the natives plant their rice — last of March or April — The natives tell our people so, but so much wiser are they, that generally 60 or 70 days over the time elapse, before they put in their corn, and if it turns out poorly, the climate and soil are to blame.

I am sorry to say that the sugar cane at Mount Tubman is looking rather poorly. Some looks passable, but nothing like the West India Cane. Some of our Colonists say the land is too low; I shall therefore experiment again in February next on different soil. Mr. Pinney on his late visit here, said we would be sure to have good cane another year. A piece of ground has been found within sight of Mount Tubman, which the Tubman people say must produce good cotton and as I consider them experienced in cotton, and the land is not exposed to the blighting salt air North & S.W. wind, I shall not fail to put it under cultivation. On Bayards island one of their people has raised quite a pretty lot, and though the quantity is small, the sample is pronounced by all to be fine. It cannot be amiss, to say here, that

we stand in need of light cart wheels with oaken hubs, as all we have had previously with hubs of Gum, gave out without doing half service. The Store is bare of farming utensils.

Supplies for the Store — I believe I have already stated to the Board that the supplies for your store, of salt beef, pork and fish are far from being equal to the demand: I wish the store to be supplied, so that the colonists, may be able to purchase such articles there, and particularly those who are employed most of their time by the Agent. The missionaries furnish their workmen, in some measure, with such; and I really feel hurt when unable to do as much. There could be no loss on such shipments, as they would pay equally as well as dry goods, and at the same time, afford the colonists no pretext to mourn after the good things at home. — My assortment of dry goods, with the seasonable supply purchased from English vessels, has been good, during the past year — One article however, I have been unable to procure, i.e. Iron I have therefore to beg you will include it in your next assortment of goods by the Spring expedition. It is a first rate article of trade, besides being indispensable in a new country. I should prefer more of checks and American Romands to so much white and unbleached cottons. (My supply of molasses and sugar has always been short, why not send 2 or 3 hogsheads of the former, instead of 2 Barrels? I cannot get rid of the old, colonists if the article is in the store; the result is that I have to take from the new emigrants, to supply those who declare themselves sick, when I ought not.) We need a new pair of light balances ~~light~~ weighing 500 pounds.

Court of Monthly Sessions — The proceedings of this Court have been quite regular, during the year about to close. I should judge it to be popular, as

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II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

6. 1839--1840

1839