Harper Cape Palmas June 10th 1840

J. H. B. Latrobe Esqr
Pres. M. & Col. Society

Dear Sir,

I embrace the opportunity which the departure of Mr. McGill, in the brig Trafalgar for the U. States affords of forwarding some hasty lines on our present state &c.

Having forwarded a couple, and I trust satisfactory despatches by the Boxer Capt Hale, I deem it unnecessary to touch so soon again upon the same subjects. Besides, from personal interview with Mr. McGill, the Board will be able to satisfy themselves upon any subject which they may deem of vital interest to their Colony. They will be pleased to learn that the Colony is progressing — I cannot say rapidly, but slowly and surely. We are living on the best terms with our C. Palmas neighbors; and by adopting one uniform course in the settlement of all, as claimants, they are, I trust, convinced that we are determined that nothing but justice shall guide us in all our decisions where they are parties.

I shall miss Mr. McGill much in the important station which he occupies at Mount Tubman, but the services which he may perform for the Society are so important, that I freely consent for him to go. Again, he is perhaps better acquainted with our wants than any other man, and cannot fail to lay them duly before the Board — He knows that the hands of many colonists are ready to fall down listless because they have no other aid to till their lands — he knows the enthusiasm, which even the mention of being supplied with beasts of burden, infuses into every heart, from the Agent down, and cannot fail to paint it in vivid colors; and he cannot fail to show the reasons why disappointment instead of success, was the result of the late effort by the Boxer.

After giving considerable heed to the subject, I see no cheaper mode of supplying us with Jacks &c. than for the Society to charter a vessel by the month to bring out the fall expedition and their return to Cape Dr Herds for animals. 300 dollars in Specie and perhaps 20 or 25 Barrels of flour would be amply sufficient to make purchases. The vessel

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

6. 1839--1840

1840