to have it to say there is no families to my knowledge in Cape Palmas but what you will find some person or persons what can read and write O what an inesti=mable blesing any person who appreciate liberty and stay under the tyranny of the white people who have no voice in the law making department and have not the rights of suffrage when there is a way open through the instrumentality of Colonization Society where we can all have equal rights and privileges I am aware of the different opinions existing in the minds of the colored peoples respecting the state=ments of this place and of the incredulity of many wise men of color who has had abundant evidence that coming to Africa would better their situations are content to be hewers of wood and drawers of water and to stick about their Masters Quarters and are proud of getting the name of called smart Mens by white men and what do they mean when they say a smart Negro one expert in driving his Masters carriage and keeping it in order and of saddling his horse and having it at the style block and quick to make his obedience to every little white youth that they meets with and one that can go to Market with a few ℔ of butter and of eggs and a few Barrels of cider and can give his Master a satisfactory account of what they Amounted too these are they that are counted smart Men by white peoples in America particularly in the middle States and in the Southard States they can in act laws at their pleasure and impose them upon the Community it matters not how oppressive the Laws may be to them they are obliged to bear with it there is some few that are simple enough to boast off their privi=ledges under such a larming state of affairs pray tell me the man that if is Physical and intellectual endow=ments be equal with that of Plato's or Sir Newton that can have a seat with them in the house repre=sentatives or can accompany them to the Senor Cham=bers and there have a voice and much less and all this even in the Magistrates Courts. scarcely allowed to vindicate his cause in any criminal case if charged with any fault by any white man not scarcely allow to open his mouth in is own defence having had a per=fect understanding of the deportment of colored people about Belave whose senses is drowned out with ardent spirits I think it useless to endeavor to persuade them to leave the tavern and Store doors and I do wish this letter to be read at Belave

There is gentleman upon the brink of starting to the United States whose life and conduct has being of such during my stay in Africa that you need not be afraid to rely on his testimony namely Mr Geo. R. McGill no more to say at present but

Respectifully Yours &
Obedt. Servant
Stephen. A. Hall

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

6. 1839--1840

1840