I have advised government long ago, that the warehouse now building, should be erected at Monrovia, in its stead. I have since erected a warehouse 24 by 30 feet which I now have put up for ice and fruit, which is a great convenience from all to me. I decline to transact their business, as I have no commission on hand. Mr. Coll[illegible] was here, and agreed that there was no place so proper for accommodations. I felt that there was a necessity, as the sills of the girders are rotten at one end. Could not the tanks be forwarded? I fear not, but I do not at present see any great want of them. I have been from all sides shocked at the most, most other are safe.

I hope Mr. McGill's visit will prove so satisfactory to the Board, that he will be able to return here about Christmas with as fine a lot of fall supplies for your Store. Our Agent & Colonists look for both and feel disappointed without them. The prices of all articles at present is a stand for want more; and I hope the keys will be the least quantity sent. We want, 5. 6. 8 & 10d. nails as large. The Missionaries are also out. I am to beg for 20 qs. Quinine at least to be sent out with the medicines. We have long been out and been dependent on the charity of others. Our apothecary shop is quite bare, and as most of the Colonists require medicines for the best ailment, you can have but a faint idea of the quantity consumed. They take medicines through fine times, I verily believe.

You will be pleased to hear that the Bassa palaver is in a fair train of adjustment. They have lately sent in a flag of truce with a petition to the Colony, [illegible] "proper men" to come and settle the palaver. They complain bitterly of the scarcity of Tobacco, rum, cloth, &c. since the non-intercourse. They were as wild looking sets.

From the recent movements of the friends of African Colonization in Britain, would it not be policy in the Board to authorize Dr. Hall or their Agent, to secure the sovereignty of some territory to windward, say as far as Gallinas; and to the Leeward as far as Kerrely's Town

any movements are made by the new organization. In case it is fully effected, then should we apprise it of Spain's right of deed. Such territory should be purchased, by positive, for the site is too near us and we cannot be in the hands of another society. It is only 10 miles to the windward; it is perhaps the finest bay and harbor in Africa. Revd. Dr. Hazen & Mr. Rolle have erected a mission house, and located himself there.

We have had no rain for the last 4 months, and consequently but little has been done in the farming line: but we indulge the hope, that the gentle showers which generally descend about this time, annually strew clothe the grass in nature's carpet of liveliest green, and infuse new life into every thing, which the hand of industry shall sow or plant. While other Colonies have been troubled with wars and rumors thereof, our course has been a silent and peaceful one, and our trust is, that the same over ruling Providence which has protected Maryland in Liberia from its foundation, will still be our panoply in our course onward.

With great respect,
Your Obdt. Servt.
Jno. B. Russwurm
A. M. S. C. S.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

7. 1841—1842

1841