Mr Gurley
Dec 26th

Dr James Hall
Baltimore
Md

Sir

Solitary December 27th 1843

Although a stranger to you - yet I hope the importance of the subject upon which I propose to address you will be a sufficient apology for this obtrusion. Last Fall two or three months I delivered over (through Mr Roberts) to the Colonization Society of Maryland a negro Carpenter of mine by the name of Phill. Brookes - to be sent to Africa for colonization. I do not supposing at the time he had any idea of returning to Maryland I thought it unnecessary at the time to guard the Society against his return or to state the circumstances which induced me to deliver him up to the Colonization Society - but as there is some probability that he may (if not prevented) at some future period return to Maryland I will as succinctly as possible assign my ground of objection to his ever coming back again -

Some years before he left me I found that he was an unpleasant servant, greatly dissatisfied with his own situation & artfully instilling principles & notions into the mind of his child as well as my other servants totally incompatible with their then as well as prospective condition in life - dissipated in habits, turbulent & rebellious in his deportment & exerting an influence among my servants which rendered my situation exceedingly unpleasant - but as he was greatly advanced in years & his family intended to Liberia I thought I should do society as well & myself a great benefit by dispensing him & his with them - their principles & opinions could do no mischief and as the pecuniary loss would be small in comparison to my own ease & quiet to me & in the end it would be great gain. I now own them

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

8. 1843—1844

1843