Thos Sauder
Cape Palmas
Aug. 22 1844

Dr. James Hall
Gen. Agent
Md. St. Col. Society
Baltimore

NEW YORK
NOV 10

Harper August 22. 1844

Dr James Hall
Gen Agent &c

Dear Sir

Our Colony and its affairs have undergone no material alteration since my last letter, except in the improvement and additional buildings erected by our new immigrants.

These people now occupy their own houses, having left the Receptacle two months since. With two exceptions they are enjoying good health one of these is likely to do well, the other Abednego Coates, labours under a complaint which I fear must terminate fatally.

All of the widow women (five in nine) have been furnished with dwelling houses at considerable expence to your Agent, and it is now to be hoped that (in the event their husbands cannot be rescued from slavery and induced to come out) they may speedily secure to themselves husbands, so as to relieve your Agent of all further trouble on this account.

The health of the old Colonist for the last three months has not been good, the irregularities in the seasons, and weather, have been productive of many complaints troublesome to the practitioner but not in many instances fatal to the patient.

I have again to request, that in sending out your next expedition that some measure will be pursued to rid all children from the worms with which they are apt to be troubled in our autumnal season, this precaution will operate to save many lives.

You must have observed that the mortality, in the difference of mortality between adults and children in the acclimating fever is as they appear to me; from the examination after death it is clear that their deaths have been caused or accelerated, by the irritation of worms, too often mistaken for disease of the Brain and treated accordingly, an error into which I have sometime fallen from the fact that the previous administration of anthelmintics had failed in effecting their expulsion, leading me to believe that they were not present.

The Natives occupying the Farm in our vicinity, show some disposition to remove to a quiter distance from us, this is desirable, and we are exceedingly anxious that they should do so. We have long entertained the hope that our influence would so far operate favorably on them as to induce their abandonment of their savage customs and the adoption of Civilized habits, but up to the present no regret, effect of this kind can be discovered, they are to a man polygamist, the men beat their wives constantly, and they scruple not at any act of dishonesty. There has been effected by Missionaries and others some slight improvement in the young, but the bad influence exercised by their intimacy with the parent must forever exclude the hope of its permanency; if the young after being civilized were encouraged to become Colonist, and to conduct and support themselves as virtuous men it would be an advantage to all parties, but unfortunately the Missionaries do not encourage them and are at last forced to see their labour spent in vain — a mongrel breed of half Civilized loafers are turned out, who will not resume entirely the Native habit and Customs, nor adopt those of Civilized men, and if not supported by the Missionaries, must become a pest in Community.

Neither anxious for the removal of these Natives from among us, nor are we anxious to use compulsory measures, unless positively forced to it for our security, we wish it to be a kind of Emigration like that of Colonization voluntary, and we doubt not but that they will yet find it to their advantage to go. Yellow Will the Government interpreter has been discharged, he was found to have acted treacherously towards us in many instances, was perpetually engaged evilly in exciting rather than using his influence to prevent the origination of difficulties between us; in consequence of this discharge he has removed from us, and is now an open enemy, which is much better, than the former profession of friendship. The path is rugged but not paved.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

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