to observe the state of affairs, and to make several very agreeable acquaintances; among whom were Governor Russwurm, the accomplished and enterprising executive officer of the government, Doctor McGill, the intelligent and successful Colonial Physician, and several missionaries of the Protestant Episcopal mission

In company with Dr. McGill, I rode around and through the settlement, in order to observe the condition of the settlers, especially those who are engaged in the cultivation of the soil, and I was much pleased to perceive the progress which many of them have made, in causing the "wilderness to be glad", by the fruits of praiseworthy industry. Nearly all the colonists reside in good, comfortable houses. Indeed, I did not observe a single thatched building in the Colony, except those occupied by the native inhabitants. The agricultural prospects of the colonists are quite encouraging. And, from all appearances, I think that the settlement is in a state of regular and progressive improvement; and, in some respects, is superior to any other settlement in Liberia.

The best road that I have seen in Africa is that extending from Harper to Mount Tubman, a distance of more than three miles. It is not a small path, but a well-beaten wagon road. On riding out to Mount Vaughan, I met an oxcart, filled with rice. Two small oxen and two donkeys were attached to the cart. This was the first thing of the kind that I have seen in this country. There are several small riding horses in the Colony, and several donkeys.

The Doctor nearly always visits his patients on horseback, and the Governor frequently mounts one of his little Badagry horses, and rides out to visit different parts of the settlement. The colonial farm is in a state of good cultivation; and I was very much pleased to observe several boys at work on the farm, who, I was informed, were orphans and children of poor persons, and were employed and paid for their labor by the Governor. A portion of their time is occupied at school, and the rest in working on the farm. The farms of the colonists, although small, appear generally to be in a good condition; and I should judge, from all that I could see and hear, that the people generally live comfortably and happily. There are several fine dwelling houses in the towns of Harper and Latrobe; and the light-house on the Cape is equal to many in the United States. There is a good garden attached to the government house, in which nearly all the vegetables are raised, which are used at the Governor's table. While dining at the table of the Governor, on one occasion, in company with a considerable number of invited guests, I perceived that every article on the table was of African production, except wheat bread and a ham; nor was there the least scarcity, or want of variety. The sweet potatoes were equal to any I ever saw; and the white and delicate cabbage heads reminded me of my native land.

Governor Russwurm is a gentleman of dignified deportment, affability of manners, sociable, intelligent, and unassuming; as well qualified, perhaps, for the station he now fills, as any other individual who could be selected, whether white or colored. As

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II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

9. 1845--1846

1846