

Harper Cape Palmas July 12. 1846

J. M. B. Latrobe Esq ?
Sect. Med. St. Col. Soc ?

Hon. Sir

Since the date of my last, it has again been my misfortune to await the loss of a companion. My young consort entered upon her maternal duties, with cheerful spirits and perfect health; in the short space of ten weeks therefrom, she was hurried off by an acute inflammation of the spleen, contracted by imprudent exposure immediately after the use of the warm bath. She has left me a little charge to watch over, whose welfare is now a matter of care & solicitude, and whose cheerful smiles, and healthful appearance affords me some small degree of consolation under the severe loss I have sustained.

The health of our Colony the past six months, has been worse than at any former period during my practice, and likewise the mortality greater. Diseases hitherto simple, mild in their character and uniform in their course, assuming complicated, severe, irregular and malignant features shortly after attacks. The Natives in our vicinity have died in a still greater proportion, even our Cattle have been distempored. In the short space of few weeks in May for instance I lost a Mare, Colt, Mule, several Sack Asses, and Eight Milch cows, I have lost a horse, an ape and two cows, — the distemper extended to sheep, hogs & even dogs.

Fourteen of the old Colonist have died since February — viz Six adult males, five adult Females and three children — of these six were from acute, three sub acute, and six of chronic disease.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

9. 1845—1846

1846