Several cases have recently been tried upon indictments for selling ardent spirit in every case the facts were established and parties punished according to law — One individual George Hardy was fined Seventy four dollars it being his first offence. Mr. Bohen was arraigned on two charges — and as they were the first and second offences he paid the extreme penalty made & provided. He was I believe justly fined, altho' I plead his cause, and availed myself of every lawful means in my power to clear him. I did so because upon my upon my refusing at first, he charged me & others as being determined to convict him, as a reason for the refusal, — upon reflection I thought that my doing so, and doing it energetically might serve a good purpose, by tending to satisfy the sympathetic feelings of those who are his followers, (as he is a regular political demagogue, and disturber) I do not regret that I did so, altho' our Governor seems a little "riled" in consequence, if he cannot appreciate the motive that influenced me it is no fault of mine.

Mr Russwurm designs returning to the U. States in May or June next year, she hopes by it to benefit her health, and at the same time enjoy the pleasure of an interview with the friends of her youth — Mr Russwurm does not accompany her I am therefore compelled to request leave of absence in order that I may attend her on the long and perilous voyage. Of course this request is made under the impression that Mr Fletcher will be out in the Fall.

If I can be of service in promoting the interests of the Society during the visit, I am willing to devote a portion of my time to this purpose, indeed I should desire to pursue this course, as I am anxious to have a few intelligent and monied men among us, and should deem time well spent, if it served to win a single individual.

I have extended this letter to an usual length, and written much that should make me wish you to view it as "private" —

Your of December last was replied to, on the subject of — Subsidiary Notes —

We have received the very agreeable news of the disposition of the Board to separate the Executive from the Judiciary authority. It is a measure truly agreeable to both Gov. Russwurm & the Colonist and besides it promises to secure an intelligent Colonist.

This Colony is rapidly gaining friends, in the old settlement. the colonist visit us frequently, and admit that our Colony rapidly improves, and is equal if not superior to Monrovia. — In this place there is allways procurable an abundance of the common necessaries of life, whilst there one half the year they cannot be purchased even by those who have abundant means, and the really poor suffer incredible hardships

The trade of our Colony now extends to Grand Bereby on the Eastward, from whence we now procure a good quantity of Camwood. Our small craft or Boats are now four in number their voyages are made regularly to windward and leward thus increasing the quantity of produce which steadily flows in from other sources.

Two vessels are on the stocks, and one of them a large and beautiful frame, which for solidity, strength and neatness, might perhaps pass inspection even in your Baltimore shipyards. Mr Bolden is a valuable acquisition to our Colony — he used to talk of returning to reside in the U. States after he had completed the Schooner, but if I am not much mistaken Bolden will never again return to his former position in the U. States — he cannot descend, he has too long enjoyed the pleasure of being "boss" in Africa to returning to beg for employment in the U. States. The other young man Lewis is soulless, and will be contented under any and every thing, he is not the man for Africa — both of them have had the fever severely, and even yet suffer from occasional attacks of Intermittant.

I have the honor to remain your Obedt. Servt

Saml. P. McGill

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

9. 1845—1846

1846