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Hughesville Loudoun Co. Va. August. 18th 1847

Dear Moses:

The papers containing the Letters of Mc Donogh in relation to his slaves, their treatment, and subsequent liberation & final settlement in Africa have been read and re-read with absorbing interest.- I know of no experiment upon our Black population so extremely important in all its relations as this. In the origin progress, and consummation of it, we see exhibited a degree of confidence, energy, and perseverance on the part of the Africans which many have supposed to be utterly denied to the whole race. We see them, having a definite object in view, toiling year after year to attain it, and when it is secured, entering upon the enjoyment of it, with a calm and temperate resolution that the blessing thus granted them, shall bring forth its proper fruits. And Africa (thanks to the colonization society) is to be the theatre upon which all the excellent qualities displayed by these servants while with Mr. Mc Donogh, are to be hereafter exhibited. Who is to calculate the extent of influence for good which this little band of expatriated negroes may exert upon this benighted Country? Who can estimate the mighty effects which colonization in that unhappy region will produce? When our forefathers settled at Jamestown, at Plymouth or at St. Marys could they have had the smallest conception of the tremendous results, which less than three centuries were to exhibit? So it is with African colonization. We may speculate upon this subject but we can scarcely approximate the realities which time may bring forth as the legitimate fruits of this great enterprise

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

10. 1847--1848--1849

1847