

To conceive of some of the results that are likely to be produced we are only to look at the condition of Africa before colonization had produced any of its effects upon the coast. In no quarter of the globe in no section of the world, of which we have any knowledge was man reduced so low in the scale of morals and civilization as was to be found here. To elevate these degraded beings to make Africa the abode of Literature, commerce and religion, - to build cities where was wont to be seen nothing but the hut of the savage, and to put a final stop to the slave trade, these are some of the blessings which African colonization promises to bestow upon the world. And yet there are those (philanthropists par excellence in their own estimation) who oppose with a pertinacity calculated to excite our wonder, this most beneficent project. If they were content to withhold their patronage alone without denouncing the scheme and those who support it, it would not be a matter of so much surprise, - African colonization requires for its success, something more efficient than frothy declamation, and unmeaning cant and hypocrisy. Those who sustain it efficiently must give something more substantial than these, or it would have long since have sunk to rise no more. This of itself is sufficient to account for its not receiving adequate support and encouragement. But it is one thing to withhold support from a great measure, and another and ~~an altogether different thing to oppose~~ and denounce it, and all who sustain it. If we are not disposed to embark in a measure calculated to produce unmixed & incalculable good to millions of our fellow creatures, it might be supposed, none would be found so stupid, or so base, as to oppose and misrepresent the honest efforts of others to attain it. But say these wordy philanthropists it will never abolish slavery; you take away a portion of the Black population and this, like the books of the Ancient Sybil, gives increased value to the remainder. You

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

10. 1847--1848--1849

1847