

Cap Palmas West Africa
April 28th 1849

Dear Sir

With Honorable Respects, I write you
 a few lines, the purport of which, is Relating to a petition
 in the citizen how got up, & directed to the Board of
 Managers of the M^d Stat Col. Society, the Object of getting
 up this petition is, that the people how, find do suffer
 so much, on the account of this currency that they are
 constrained to do something, to better their condition one
 way or the other, they have bare oppression so large, that
 they are obliged to complain, and if the Board can better
 the condition of the present currency, & lessen the present
licens laws in my humble opinion it would be better
 for us, our suffering, do not arise from largeness,
 No, fare from it, it is the heavy taxation we suffer under
 from the high prices, of articles, that we have to buy in the
 colony both from the public store and one made by
 that is S. H. McGill, & the licens is so high, and the
 society money is, of so little value that person who would
 wish to enter into business, could not do it, safely, for fear
 of failing, therefore I trust Sir, you will not, I hope Refuse
 to use every effort in your Power, in speaking in favour
 of making or basing, the currency of the colony on something
 that will mitigate our suffering, this currency can by no more
 than a quart of Palm oil & 2 lb of meat & tea or three yards of cloth
 out of the Public store at one time, & the cloth is nothing but common
 domestic, this is, as we speak, a shame to any community, & if it
 is not removed, & made more valuable it will & is a curse to this
 place, our people are down, as low, as they possible can be
 & I don't know what is to raise them up, ~~in~~ they are still
 dependant on that Public store, and what are they to do, to pro-
 vent their dependancy? It what be, ~~put~~ potatoes & Cassava
 &c &c No, never, they can't procure sufficient quantity of seed
 to plant, so as to make farming an object, what must be done,
 I can't say, our people are, without justice, extremely poor

Maryland Historical Society
 The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers
 II. Correspondence Received
 A. Letter Books
 10. 1847--1848--1849
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