

The death of Gen B. has somewhat deranged plans I had previously formed for moving with my family to Monrovia in December or January next. I have then purchased a dwelling house, and now have orders in the U. States for purchasing furniture, together with materials for the prosecution of my profession, all of which will be landed in that place. The Society at one period intended that I should be their Agent, in case of such an event as has occurred, knowing this, I thought it would not be right for me to abandon my post when no other person was at hand (as well qualified by an intimate acquaintance with its duties) except myself to perform the duties of the Agency: and ather it might have conflicted with my private interests, and with my desire to be among those who are engaged in the noble effort of maintaining their independance, I still might have made the sacrifice and remained here, but the expressed ill will of the Colonists ^{to my and} their aspirations of the memory of one who has spent the prime of his days in their service, compels me now to inform the Board of Managers that I do not aspire to the honor of governing the Colony longer than to afford them time to select some other individual, and I most earnestly entreat that they will so arrange as to grant me my discharge as early as February next at the latest.

Other motives than the ones above stated for declining the acceptance of the Agency, influence me in desiring to move from the Colony all of which will be made known to you in my next letter.

I am engaged in Mercantile business; but it is at present transacted by my Brother Roszell. I do not even pretend to have withdrawn my interest in it, nor indeed shall I do so: This is contrary to the letter of the ~~constitution~~ laws of the Colony I know, but as I was thus engaged ere being honored by your appointment I cannot think that it is expected that it should be abandoned for the temporary advantages that may accrue from my present office. It is however impossible for me now, to devote either my time or attention to

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The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

11. 1850--1851--1852

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