

The trade of our Colony is slowly but steadily on the increase. from the accounts of the Collector and Treasurer for the half year ending present month, we learn that the monies paid into the Treasury have exceeded One thousand dollars, and that the amount remaining at present date in the Treasury is Nine hundred dollars.

We have paid off the debt incurred for lamps and reflectors for the light house, and have appropriated funds for the repair of our Gun Carriages, and for the erection of a flag staff, and intend that a good portion of the remaining sum over and above what is required for current expenses shall go towards paying off the claims of the Society for building the sail.

The views and wishes of the Board on the subject of Independence and Confederation shall be made known and I trust will be acceptable to our people, at all events my most strenuous effort shall be exerted to make them so — but I will not conceal from you my fears that your propositions will not meet with favour in the Republic.

Additions to the present weighty responsibilities of the Liberian government without conferring corresponding benefits or advantages is at variance with their interest.

By the proposed confederation we would acquire character, protection, immigrants, protection of Commerce and the respect of the Native tribes, without being able to make any adequate return; and yet we ^{request} Liberia to enter into an arrangement ~~through which~~ requiring our attention, or an entire re-modelling of her Constitution for the express purpose of admitting as a state, a Community that does not number as many inhabitants as either one of her counties.

You will I hope excuse me for ~~the~~ differing from you in your views, but I think if the proposition was made for our annexation as a county, all difficulties and objections could be easily removed, and as the number and importance of each County increased the representatives might urge their conversion into states, or the formation of two states out of the four Counties — the object now is to secure our admission in some way — Our Colonists however will not agree to the terms, ~~now~~ proposed.

I will open a correspondence with the most prominent and influential men at Monrovia & Sierra, and with President Roberts in particular who is a warm personal friend of mine and cherishes the best and most liberal feelings towards our Colony and its interests, so that if we fail

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Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

11. 1850--1851--1852

1851