

effecting on objects it shall not be through the want of  
fair and honest efforts.

A party of Gentlemen agreed upon having a dinner in  
this Colony to celebrate the Anniversary of the Independence  
of Liberia. Ten days before the appointed time it was  
rumoured by those opposed to the project that the Flag  
of the Republic would be displayed at the place of meeting  
and that the gentlemen desired all knowledge of any such  
design or intention, yet there were many who discredited  
them and urged the more ignorant to act of violence.

On the day & hour and at the place appointed the ameo-  
cations and invited guests assembled, and at the same  
time there was a gathering of two thirds of the remain-  
ing inhabitants of the Colony, the first bent on eating  
their dinner, and the latter on intercepting them.

I had instructed the Sheriff to be in the neighborhood  
and on the alert to suppress any thing like a riot, and  
in case the Liberian flag were raised to take it down to  
prevent a tumult, if resisted to arrest the offenders and on  
the other hand to afford protection to the gentlemen who were  
at the entertainment, and if they were improperly disturbed  
to arrest the delinquent. I also gave instructions to the  
only Military officer, a Captain that could be depended upon  
amid the excitement to be ready to support the Civil author-  
ities if required; these arrangements were effected, the  
mob vented their indignation and spite by imprecations  
and abusive language, but were awed and kept down.

The matter did not stop here, failing in their effort  
to intimidate, the Amecationist from celebrating the day.  
A meeting of the Citizens appointed a Committee of five to  
Petition the Agent & Council on the subject. You will  
herewith receive a correct Copy of the Petition and the  
Circular that was issued by the Amecationist.

The only action taken on the subject of the petition was  
to refer the petitioners to the same Ordinance named in  
their petition and to that portion of our laws, showing the  
power of Magistrates.

I give you the above particulars of information, that  
you may form some idea of the sentiment of our people  
on the object that is now to be presented for their  
approval and acceptance.

I must regret that I cannot write you a more  
cheering and interesting letter respecting the Colony  
but I can venture to convey every assurance of  
our security and of our disposition not to succumb  
to any apparent <sup>new</sup> difficulties with which we may

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received  
A. Letter Books

11. 1850--1851--1852

1851