

I have advised Freeman in case he is threatened to throw himself on us for protection, he will do so: of course his family and friends will do all they can to preserve him, this will divide the tribe, and if his enemies are pressing, we will be compelled to check them— this will be fighting for the cause of humanity, & in defense of, and at the command of the King. We cannot have the idea of having the old scamp murdered, as there is some good traits in his character.

In the early part of the season Rice was abundant, and we had in store a large quantity of old, spoiling, I therefore would not purchase early: now I would purchase but cannot, as from some cause or other it has suddenly become scarce. I have kept the Boats of the Agency engaged in collecting Wood & P. Oil up to the period, but for the next two months the procurement of Rice will be the main object. So it not change that not a half dozen of our people can keep Rice enough by them for one months consumption.

I have paid off all claims against the Agency, and have avoided entering into any fresh contracts, so that when I hear there shall be no heavy bills coming against your next Agent. I now have on hand about five thousand Gallons of Oil, and five tons of Camwood. Should you fail in sending a supply of Tobacco and Powder for the Agency I must purchase them here, should the supply arrive then I shall ship the Oil & Wood by next opportunity to Baltimore, as I have no use for it here.

Shortly after the departure of the Liberia Packet last I made known to the Colonists by proclamation, the views & wishes of the Society on the subjects of Independence and Confederation.

It was at first said that the whole matter was of my own origin, but was finally believed to have emanated from one or two members of the Board of Managers. Gov. Russwurm was advised by letter to visit Monrovia to learn how our propositions for Confederation were likely to be received when the time came for action; I at first had some thought of carrying out the part of the instructions, but found that there was a disposition on the people to find fault with, and misconstruct every thing that I could do in connection with this measure. The more fact of my inflexible determination to leave the Colony, is ~~to~~ considered, conclusive of my disposition to annex the Colonies upon any terms.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

11. 1850--1851--1852

1851