

deeded on terms of fee-simple to individual holders; and offers are made to others who may be inclined to apply — Even myself, did I not doubt the unquestionableness of the act. — Now, Sir, please allow me to say how this has been brought about. It seems as though the present Acting Agent, from a sense of honor, thought it would not look well to use the power as an incumbent of the executive office, to deed to himself certain water lots intended on terms of lease, and on which he had built. One of the members of Council being a lessee on the same principles, the subject was laid before that Body for action and speedily disposed of by way of authorizing the sale of these lands at a very trifling price. I hold any action by that Body on the subject of the disposition of the beauty's lands, (except in the absence of the regularly appointed agent,) to be a piece of the greatest inconsistency.

For the past six months, either popular commotion, discontent or dissatisfaction, without a week's intermission, has been reigning in the colony. The displeasing style in which Colonial matters have been conducted, and other things, have combined to make this the case. — Wars are threatened in every direction between the native tribes around us, and the trade lately so prosperous, bid's far to become a thing of hazardous and doubtful speculation. There is no one now to interpose an influence in order to avert the detriment impending over this Colony and threatening to fall upon it with a force, unprecedented by any previous age of its settlement. All are for self-interest, and what conduces to it, leaving the government and its dependents to take care of themselves. But this is not a matter of surprise, because, as Mr. Madison said, "the interest of the man must be connected with the constitutional rights of the place"; and unless this is the case, the proceedings of a man in authority, though never so good in private occupation, admit of great doubts and glaring scrutiny.

Please accept, Sir, my thanks for the pamphlet you kindly sent me containing your very timely and able letter on colonization, in ~~very~~ vindication of your Country's rights, against the remarks of a certain French Author on the subject of Slavery in the States.

I have the pleasure of Remaining
Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient and Obedt. Servant.

Wm. H. B. Latrobe Esq. }
Baltimore

W. A. Mount

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

11. 1850--1851--1852

1851