

and patronage she is indebted for her present existence. She exercises the right of independent State legislation, and in many cases provides laws for the government of her people. If she is to unite with the Republic, her present State rights ought to be respected, however few her claims may be to independent nationality.

The territory which the American Colonies are to embrace, is too great to confine all legislative action at one place. — It will affect the very life and principles of pure republicanism, and introduce an aristocracy which will prove the bane of all Liberia. This may sound a little extravagant; but a right to control once given, will never cease to be exerted until the only men fit for offices of State, can be found in the Metropolis — Monrovia. This would revolutionize the Maryland Colony, and reduce it to the condition of a trading spot where factories were kept, and a limited farming operation conducted by a few determined men who had loved the "green land" of their homes "too well" to remove.

You are undoubtedly aware, Sir, that in this Colony there are exigencies constantly arising, which require action. To unite as a county it would be transferring this important right; it would show a disregard to the principles of free government, the source and centre of human liberty, and it would nullify the very object for which the means of the State of Maryland have for years, been contributed.

The people of the Republic themselves cannot be insensible to the evil consequent on the investing of so much power in one man's hands. Truly the importance of the matter, at present, owing to the age of the place, may not strike them forcibly. But it will be seen and felt by and by when the Republic will in front of population and possessions, be truly, what she nominally now is, independent. To attempt the remedy of an evil then of long standing, of such magnitude, would occasion a revolution as appalling as any, now extant in the annals of France.

These hints, illustrate the views entertained of a future union with the Republic, throughout the Colony. I write them without the knowledge of the people; and only do it so you may see that all you have said in your communications, is coincided with.

I have the pleasure of remaining Yr. Obedt & Affct. Servt
W. A. Perrott
No. H. P. Lathrop Esq
Baltimore

You will please excuse me for calling your attention to part the contents of a letter addressed to you in July 1851

Maryland Historical Society
The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers
II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books
11. 1850--1851--1852
1851