was sent out by a lady in Virginia, to visit all the different settlements on the coast, and to fix upon a home for twenty or more who await his return, and report previous to emigrating; he has decided upon this Colony as being superior to all others on the coast (he has not been on shore at any other point) and as he has not been furnished with the means of defraying his expenses back I give you the information, that it may be communicated to the lady who was formerly his mistress. I might have secured him a passage in this vessel, but as I have no orders for any such expenditure and the lady might have altered her mind, or be dead, I have not made him the offer, he will write to the lady.

Please receive the long promised copy of the treaty for the partial suppression of the nasty word ordeal, the treaty has already enabled us to save nine persons from almost certain death. The Natives occupying the towns near us, are divided into clans, between whom feuds have existed for ages, their malice is gratified by bringing accusations against each other, which results in the accused being subjected to the ordeal.— should he recover from the effect of the poison, he bides his time, and seeks revenge, should he be destroyed, his relatives feel bound to seek an opportunity for retaliation on the family of his accusers, thus there is a tendency to the perpetuation of the system. Whenever we have rescued an individual of our clan, it follows almost invariably, that we are required to perform a similar kindness for the opponent— in such ~~case~~ instances we are sure of the aid & influence of the interested relatives.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

11. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

12. January 1853--April 1855

1853