

I have experienced great difficulty in procuring lumber for the erection of dwellings for the Thirly Emigrant. I was only able to procure about one thousand feet of Plank from Sciroo; it when delivered here cost \$400 - I shall not purchase any more from that quarter.

Can the Society continue their expenditures for the construction of the house of New Emigrant? the expense is great, and there seems to be no possible means, that I feel warranted in using, that will stimulate them to an effort to refund their cost. They are required to pay; they say give us work; - and ask at what? On the Farms - age the farm! a curse, and avoidance! It pains me, witness matters going on thus, yet it's equally painful to commence the work of reform. Commence it on your side of the water. I should feel less reluctance, in requiring payment for houses built by the Agency, if I knew they possessed the ability to pay. The materials used by the Natives for building their houses is brought from a great distance thence for instance, there is now on our river. Perhaps a good plan would be to employ natives to procure the materials, and build the houses; if approved of, let the advice originate from the Board.

Something of this kind must be done, as your means must be increased: your present system too, tends to create too great a dependency on the Society.

I have written frequently concerning the condition of the boats of the Agency, they are old and unsound, and "Curlew" particularly, more expensive than profit. The small boat has been of the greatest service this season, partly perhaps from confining its trade to Germany where we are not much annoyed by the intrusion of the English. I have stopped our trade with all places below St. Charles as it was ruinous, voyage after voyage in boats returned on ballast, cause? the presence of the English at all points. - there is no remedy for this but our entering into separate treaty with Great Britain and acquiring thus the right to the protection of our trade, or by annexation, deriving all the privileges of the existing treaty with Liberia. of the practicability of the former you must judge, in my opinion, it and other contingencies which will immediately arise makes it appear to me somewhat Utopian.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

11. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

12. January 1853--April 1855

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