

I send a short letter to the Board of Managers, and I have express my assurance of the prosperity of the colony — there never existed ^{here} a more perfect state of tranquility than at present. It is impossible for the Government to do more than make ^{the citizen secure} ~~or man assured~~ in person and property, the rest must depend on themselves.

Our light house was struck by lightning in May, which set it on fire, shivered the sash, and rent the wall from top to bottom. We have no glass for sashes, otherwise all damages would be repaired soon. I have made an effort to purchase at Memphisto, but have that out out for my private use delivered here.

Every one in ^{the} Community are anxious for our Declaration of Independence, as far as it is in your power ^{bring} matters forward, so that our new Government may commence with next new year. The proposal present to the King and Head men is an excellent idea, and can be made to have the most happy effect. The Agent should be instructed to allow the newly elected Governor to bestow it upon them; should I then be your Agent, I will manage it so as to secure their regard for the hearty co-operation in the efforts to keep things right.

Poor Yellow Will, or our King is threatened with Leprosy he is in trouble, and I am really and truly afflicted. Whether savage or civilized, it makes no difference in my regard for one possessing noble qualities. Will is a good and useful man, his loss would be to us a great one, indeed. I can't determine who is to succeed him; I feel sure however that my choice will be agreeable to them. Will has requested it, and I shall send the Curlew to take him to Mifflin to a doctor skilled in the treatment of Leprosy. The disease has not yet fully developed itself, but he has every appearance of one threatened. His young or brother was carried off by the same disease about two years since.

Respectfully Your obedient Servant

James M. Smith
A. G. M. S. C. S.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

12. January 1853—April 1855

1853