of the Comtte appointed to endeavor to obtain aid from Government, therefore the action of our Comtte should rather follow than precede the action of that Comtte. I have not however been idle in the mean time, but as opportunity offered, have consulted with various experienced Merchants who own & run lines of Steamers, and who, as Steamers to Liberia will not interfere with them, and with feelings favorable to the cause of Colonization are I doubt not sincere in the advice and opinions they give; I have so far found a great similarity in their opinions, they all condemn Propellers and approve of side wheel steamers - (I do not include Mr Haswell, named in my last letter, who is an Engineer & not a merchant or owner), they disapprove of a sailing vessel with steam to be used as auxiliary in calm weather, (which I at first thought would be efficient for us and most economical and am not yet entirely convinced to the contrary) and they think that the room occupied by the engine & fuel, the necessity of keeping engineers &c. whether steaming or not, and the drag of the screw if not turned would overbalance any advantage - and that it should be either all steam (side wheels) or else clipper Ship that the speed of the Granite State would fall much short and the expenses of fuel would far exceed the estimates sent herewith (this however might be easily tested

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The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

12. January 1853--April 1855

1854