Letter of Instructions to Joseph T. Gibson Esq. accompanying his letter of Appointment as Agent of the Maryland State Colonization Society, for the State of Maryland in Liberia

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The Receptacles for immigrants should always be kept in perfect repair, and should be thoroughly cleansed, and white washed after the removal of each company of immigrants.

On the arrival of immigrant care should be taken to have their baggage, and effects safely landed and conveyed to the Receptacle.

Families arriving without them should be furnished with a suitable number of rough bedsteads, a table, and stools or benches; the sea clothing of immigrants should be washed for them, it is also requisite that the Agent should have their clothing washed during the period of their illness, say for three or four weeks.

For two or three weeks after landing, a weekly ration of fresh Beef should be issued to immigrants, one pound for each adult.— after they are taken sick, the Colonial Physician, should be furnished with fowls for their daily consumption.

One nurse for every fifteen or twenty invalids is required, and one Cook for the whole company. The wages of Nurses & Cooks is from Six to Eight Dollars per month, in equal parts of Cash and Currency, or Palm Oil. After the first month it has been customary to discharge all but the head nurse, who is sometimes retained two months or longer.

For the first two week the sick are furnished with good light bread, instead of the ration of flour, a person is employed to prepare this bread and deliver it daily.

The Nurses draw weekly rations during their period of service.

Milk should be purchased for infants, when the mothers are too ill to afford nourishment, the Colonial Physician will inform you when it is necessary.

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Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

12. January 1853--April 1855

1854