Report.

(46) II A, 21

The Comtee appointed at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Am. Colonization Soc. on the subject of Steam communication between the United States & Liberia would respectfully report—

That after a careful investigation of the subject and information derived from various merchants experienced in running Steamers they have be led to the following conclusions

1st that an Auxiliary Screw propeller is preferable to a side wheel Steamer for long voyages, being better adapted to the use of Sails, and affording more room for fuel, freight & Passengers — for example, the Screw propeller Glascow of 2000 tons, carries as much freight as a side wheel Steamer of the Collins line of 3000 tons — the Glascow is running without Govt aid, with reputed success, in competition with the Side Wheel Steamers having that aid; a very able work entitled, Treatise on the Marine Engine and on Steam vessels and the Screw — by Robt Murray C. E. London 1852 page 135 — comparing the cost & expenses of running full powered vessels propelled by paddle wheels, and auxiliary Screw Steamers, after stating with minuteness the various items of expense of each, shews results still greater in favor of the Screw —

2nd As to the size — She should not be less than 1200 tons — She should carry 350 passengers, with their baggage, provisions and water, also other freight, not less than 400 tons or 3200 barrels, with 500 tons of Coal, besides accommodations for the officers and crew; as a general rule, larger vessels can be run with more economy (where the trade is sufficient) than small ones — She should be of mode rate horse power and run at an average speed of 8 miles per hour, making the passage in 22 @ 23 days — quicker time requiring a consumption of Coal very much greater in proportion than the gain in speed, the room for which is a very important consideration in a voyage so long that a great part of the vessel must necessarily be taken up with the engine, boiler & fuel; and where in the absence of contrabition a day or two more or less

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II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

12. January 1853—April 1855

1854