Rec'd II 189

Rev R R Gurley
Washington
D.C.

Woodstock Mills Florida
(near St Marys, Geo)
24th March 1855

My Dear Sir

Since I wrote you in the earlier part of the month I have had some conversation with a practically intelligent man in my employ, who has been a sea captain - and also engaged in ship building. He is under the impression that a vessel could now be built and here quite cheap - says in Maine they usually estimate that the wood in a vessel costs about one third of the whole expense, the work another, sails & rigging, the remaining third - Knowing of my suggestion to you is clearly of the opinion that a Brig could with the advantages of materials offered - & particularly per freight outs which I could procure - be is clearly of opinion that the cash expenditure to fit out such a vessel would not exceed $25 per ton - which for a vessel suitable to carry 100 emigrants say of 275 tons, double deck would cost only (cash part) $6,875 - or if extended to 300 tons, then said cost would be $7,500 about.

A very worthy man who was several years in my employ & who was regularly brought up as a ship carpenter accorded with the views presented in my last, that under existing circumstances

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

11. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

12. January 1853--April 1855

1855