Fellow citizens of the Senate and House of Delegates:

A year has rolled away since it was the duty of the Executive last to address you on the subject of the State, and its affairs.— The recent change at that period in its political organization, afforded so little time, that much remained unsaid in fact or opinion to enable you to arrive, with certainty, at a knowledge of the true state of matters and things.—

The past year, is viewed, as one of mere trial at the practical working and political operation of a government, which, like an infant just attained its majority had hitherto felt no part of the weight and responsibility of self-reliance.— And a straight forward and uniform system in the ministration of affairs, with the exercise of economy in the distribution of the finances, are important facts which have discovered themselves as being necessary to save this infant, but growing Republic from those eventful incidents which have thrown over the political atmosphere of many a promising nation, a dark and impending future.— Happily, we are blessed in the kind of foundation upon which the superstructure rests.— Modeled, as it now is, provisionally, (with the hopeful view ever long of its becoming truly so,) after the chain of the great American confederacy, whose links, severally contain the elements of an independent sovereignty, and each by wholesome representation acting in consonance with the other in order to sustain, strengthen and perpetuate the whole upon the principles of civil and religious liberty, with the peaceful fruits of a conservative policy maintained since the days of Washington against any participation in foreign war,— there is no doubt that in imitating the examples of this flourishing people, Liberia, now but a germ, will soon become a great tree whose huge branches will give shelter to all the suffering descendants of Ham; and whose wants will be abundantly supplied with cherishing resources.

Although vacant tenements in various sections of

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

13. May 1855--October 1857

1855