

II A 22 231

Portland Mar 1st 1855
Rev R. R. Gurley, Cor. Sec
American Col. Society

I write to enquire if the offer recently made by a Maryland gentleman of \$35,000 towards purchasing a ship to run to Liberia, is available to your Society. If a proposition be made to you by responsible parties here at the north, if so such an offer will be made immediately. The proposition if made, will be about as follows, to build, the present season, 3 Steamers of 1000 tons burthen each, to run monthly between Liberia and New York via Norfolk, said Steamers (Propelled) to be built - provided your Society could raise \$100,000 towards their cost, which will be \$300,000. Of this sum (\$100,000) which you are to raise, we know of about \$4,000 here at the north, which if added to the \$35,000 - if available, will make \$75,000. leaving but \$25,000 remaining, which there is no question, could be raised at the South and West. The conditions upon which the parties will engage to build and run these Steamers will be this, that you contribute the above named sum towards their cost, and the builders of said Steamers to convey (as an equivalent) to Liberia within two years, 5000 Emigrants to be furnished by you. That will be reckoning them at \$20 pr head, which is less than you are now paying for their conveyance by sailing vessels. The builders of this proposed line will further agree that if a Mail contract can be obtained from our Government

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

13. May 1855--October 1857

1856