

that they will take out as many emigrants free of charge, as the amount allowed by Government will come to at \$25 per head, thus if Government allowed \$25,000 per annum, they will take out 1000 emigrants without further charge, the mails being taken gratis.

Responsible parties are ready to start a line of Steamers on conditions similar to those here named, and as it will take some months to build and equip these Steamers, they will agree to run a Propeller of 400 tons to Liberia until such time as they shall be ready, and to convey your passengers at the same rates as you pay in sailing vessels, we wish to know immediately if you wish to have such a proposal made to you, at once and if it is likely to be accepted, the parties who propose to build these Steamers can control most of the freight passing between this country and the Western Coast of Africa, without which it would be no use to start such a line as is proposed. Please to let us hear promptly (return of mail) from you in relation to this proposal, direct to Boston, as I am only here on business and return first of the week to Boston, if the \$35,000 is available to you under our proposition, we know of about \$50,000 here at the North, ready for you, leaving but \$25,000 for you to raise.

Yours very Respectfully
(Signed) Joseph B. M. Johnson.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

13. May 1855--October 1857

1856