

OFFICE OF THE COLONIZATION SOCIETY,

WASHINGTON, MARCH 20, 1860.

DEAR SIR :

The Executive Committee of the American Colonization Society respectfully invite your attention to the condition of that large class of free people of color now excluded from several States of our Union and suffering peculiar trials on this account, and to the success of their Society in its endeavors, by the establishment of the Republic of Liberia, to provide for them an eligible home on the western coast of Africa. Through the favor of Providence, that object is accomplished. A territory, extending nearly six hundred miles along the African coast, abounding in the richest productions of the tropics, has been secured, a free government established, and wisely administered by people of color, under which they enjoy the blessings of education and other means of improvement and prosperity. Not only have they opportunities of increasing their advantages, agricultural and commercial, but of conferring inestimable benefits upon the African tribes. To this Republic of Liberia we desire to direct the attention of the free people of color throughout the United States, convinced that it opens before them and their posterity an inheritance of good not elsewhere to be found.

The committee venture to address you, sir, as a friend to this unfortunate class of people, and to Africa, and to ask that you will give to this subject such consideration as your circumstances and duties will permit; that you will make known to the free people of color in your vicinity the advantages of Liberia, and the aid the American Colonization Society is ready to grant to them, and that, should any worthy persons among them desire to emigrate, you would be pleased to communicate the fact to the undersigned, Secretary of the Society, stating the time when they will be prepared to embark.

Our ship, the Mary Caroline Stevens, admirably constructed for the accommodation of emigrants, sails from Baltimore for Liberia on the first of May\* and first of November annually. The cost of passage and support for six months after arrival is \$70 each for adults, and half price for children under eight years. Should respectable colored persons wish to go, but find themselves unable to defray their expenses, they may look for assistance from the Society, as well as for information on all points connected with their outfit and subsequent settlement in Liberia.

BY ORDER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

With great respect,

R. R. GURLEY, *Corresponding Secretary.*

\* This Spring, on the 20th of April.

P. S.—The AFRICAN REPOSITORY, a monthly Journal of the Society, of thirty-two pages, containing letters from Liberia, and much information in relation to Africa and the cause generally, will be forwarded at \$1 a year, payable in advance.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received  
A. Letter Books

14. November 1857—November 1863

1860