In connexion with the Congos & liberated Africans landed here from the American slaver ships "Erie" and "Storm King" we are doing a business with Mr Seys in supplying Cash, Currency & Goods, that will in a month or two give us drafts for [illegible] to ten thousand dollars. We trust that Mr Seys is duly authorised and that all is right.

We expect to send Capt Hayes to the U. States in the "Brandywine" next week hence this about 1st Oct — The "Rappahannock" should be out before the 20 inst. We shall draw order on you for the payment of Capt Hayes wages, and will then probably make a similar set of additional Bills of Exch.

We have agreed to purchase from Henrie 10.000 Galls Sperm Oil Casks or shooks from one of the vessels hinging on Liberian Africans. We have seen some of the shooks, that will not answer being of soft wood and badly shaped, for which we would not pay 1½ d. Fail not in supplying the 50.000 Gals Casks to our private order, for if we are successful in raising the $30.000 required by our May next for purchasing a vessel & Cargo, we must have facilities for collecting and shipping at least 50.000 Galls of Palm Oil. Sometimes I am led to believe that the purchase will have to be deferred another year, in consequence of the extended departure of our Schooner to England, and return — We desired to ship at least 25.000 Gals Oil by the "Stars" in December as to pay connection that much into cash on the coast. Sometimes we think of effecting the sale of a Cargo in Sierra Leone for drafts — At all events we must hold $30.000 clear money, to free from embarrassment, and our business operations are in full progress before I will make this total move at extension.

The "Storm King" is reported to be a beautiful Brig. I think of her but consider that she would be a dear vessel to us even at $4500, to $5000, as we are not prepared to make her services immediately available. Even should we purchase a vessel of 250 to 300 tons say in September & start out, we could scarcely load and get her away from the coast before June & July of the next year — that will not do. We must have so far arranged matters as to load her completely say 60.000 Gals of Oil in two & a half or three months, besides furnishing for your vessels as much more, if it ought to be done, and I think that we should be able to do it.

Yours truly, McGill Ross

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

14. November 1857--November 1863

1860