Some of us here seem to have taken exceptions to a suggestion of "Colonization-ists, that the U. States government should purchase territory outside of Liberia on this coast, to be settled by contrabands from the U. States: all projects of this character are to be frustrated: the fact is we need those contrabands, and the means for their support in Liberia. I merely give you an outline of our projects without entering into details — you can when placed in contact with the travellers learn the balance.

Troubles begin to stare Benson in the face — 1st Meddler old claims for the "John Seys" Schooner. Meddle threatens an arrest, and is in earnest. — 2d That money unfortunately lost at Sunk point must be found on his arrival in England — such matters will some how or other start up to annoy just when we don't want them. Benson has seized upon, and made himself the protege of Roberts, and has so timed his arrangements for departure as to make it a necessity. The most shameful frauds and plunderings have been practiced on the people here in connexion with the affairs of the recaptured Africans — here it is crime to speak of them, few venture to do so. Roberts visits the U. States in connexion with matters appertaining to Liberia College, yet will of course act a prominent part in matters relating to the solid interests of Liberia, all of which will in some way or manner be submitted to him. I have great confidence in his zeal and patriotism — doubt if he could be brought to favor any schemes that may in the future reflect on us as a nation: but I am writing to one who is well acquainted with Liberia and Liberians, and I write in confidence. It often happens that the remarks of correspondents come back to them, and are made the subject of comment here, such has not been the case with regard to mine, yet should it ever be the case I will father them, despite the threatened vengeance of any one — in fact I am always too willing for a row in a good cause.

List of Residential aspirants for 1864. S. A. Benson: D. B. Warner: Drayton, Gen. Lewis: Jas. S. Payne: D. Moore: A. F. Russell: J. M. Priest: Roye sometimes named J. J. Gibson, Dr. Smith: J. J. Roberts.

Warner is undoubtedly the best man, intelligent, honest, capable, true — he will have my support, yet I fear he will not be elected, as Warner is not a man pliant enough to conciliate the good will of the people by false promises — there are others who will promise anything. Should Benson get the contrabands and money, he will pay his way for another term.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

14. November 1857--November 1863

1862