for the last six months has been very poor, having during that time been severely afflicted with Rheumatism; but I desire that in future nothing but absolute inability may prevent my answering all Letters of so important a nature. - I am not in good health yet though much improved. The arrival of the Anne with the emigrants for the settlement of Cape Palmas, and with emigrants North of the District of Columbia; (for it cannot and ought not to be concealed that sectionary feelings do prevail in our community) a subject of much rejoicing while impossibilities and improbabilities were thrown out by those opposed to the new settlement to deter volunteers from joining the expedition. - At the head of the opposition may be placed our worthy colonial physician Dr. G. P. Todsen, who used every exertion to keep those who felt disposed from joining; but all his efforts were of little avail, as he is not the most popular man that ever lived. It raises my indignation whenever I reflect on his meanness in every respect, and the Board paid but little regard to the wishes of our community in sending him back again to gull us with his exorbitant charges. But let the M. D. rest; I owe him no ill will, but only wish him safely across the Atlantic. - It appeared strange to me that Virginians should be opposed to Northern people joining the expedition as they have always wished us out of their way, but such was the fact. A little exertion however soon procured as many persons as Dr. Hall wishes to accompany him from this place,

O'Caldwell, and there is a likelihood that his number will be made up at Grand Bassa, Among the number from here are my father in law T. R. McGill, and my assistant James M. Thompson one of the best educated men in the Colony. Had my partnership affairs been settled it would have required but little to have carried me off also, so you see Dear Sir, that there are some of us who look with anxiety to the success which shall attend the operation of your Society. Let me speak plainly, things have not been well managed at home or here, and there is wide room for improvement in every department. how soon our citizens will perceive these errors I know not, but this I know that no Colony can never be considered as permanent until the produce of the Ground within its bounds is sufficient for the support of its proper labourers, at present we are far from it. We have no beasts of burden to assist the labourer & those engaged in tilling the Ground are to poor to procure them, What is to be done? The prospect to me is a dreary one. -

You enquire, what kind of houses are best for receptacles? In my opinion small houses two stories high capable of containing 8 or 10 persons are far to be preferred. All who build now make their houses of two stories, being sensible that they are healthier, cooler & more pleasant. Mrs. R. at my elbow, informs me that all houses at Gover are two stories even their kitchens are on the second story. I know that in the West Indies, all who can afford it prefer sleeping elevates from the Ground though their business is done in the lower part of the houses. -

Gover

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
C. Foreign Letter Books

1. January 1834--November 1837

1834