and no doubt can exist of its capacity to produce in the greatest perfection every tropical vegetable conducive to the support & happiness of man.—

The land in our immediate vicinity, is not quite so fertile as that more remote, but I think it advisable to lay out the first Township bordering on the beach & thence extend to the interior.— As I consider it of great importance to have the whole settlement connected that we may have good roads from one end to the other. With very little trouble & expense we can have the best of roads, surpassed by none in America, a thing very uncommon in American settlements.— The present productions of our Territory are Rice, Cassada, Yams, Tanias, Plantain, Bananna, Sweet potatoe, Sugar cane, egg plant, Okra, some excellent varieties of the pea, Guinea & Mashpelie pepper, many varieties of the prune & pea. These are all produced & cultivated by the natives in the greatest abundance, & to them may be added all the Garden & field Vegetables, as Beans, Peas, Turnips, Indian corn, Squashes, beets, carrots, parsnips, Cabbages, onions, melons, lettuce Cucumbers & tomatoes. These are all now growing in almost every garden on the Cape & more luxuriantly than I ever witnessed in any part of the World,— I have long since (two weeks at least) had my table supplied with summer squashes, beans, cucumbers & melons from our own Gardens & but three months have expired since we first broke ground.— As it regards animal food we are equally well supplied. There is no part of the Coast which furnishes such beef, (and I never before saw so fine in any tropical Country, nor any more fat even in the Boston market.— All British merchantmen, Ships of War, & Spanish & French slavers have time out of mind been in the habit of calling here for beef & Kroomen.— I should judge that there might be one thousand bullocks, (for they

call all neat Cattle Bullocks, a Cow is a woman bullock) belonging to this Town.— Sheep & goats are equally abundant, as also the Muscovy duck & fowls. They have wild game, such as wild bush hogs, & some variety of the deer, which are so plentiful as to be well worth the whole of spending a morning occasionally in the bush.— I never tasted better Venison, but the pork is very tough, although much esteemed by those accustomed to it, even more so than the domesticated pig.— The natives make no use of any animal except for eating, they milk neither Goats nor Cows, no care is taken of them at all.— How they would answer our purposes for yoking, hauling timber & other materials, or for milking I am unable to say but doubtless they would be equally useful with the Cattle in the N. S. or in the Spanish main, where they work them exceedingly hard.— We need horses & asses here very much, no doubt but they would thrive exceedingly well, my own Jack having gained so much since leaving Cape Mesurado, and we should be enabled to transport all timber & merchandize with the same ease & celerity as in the U. S. The want of good roads & the arrival of draught & burden has been a great hindrance to the growth & prosperity of the Colony at Cape Mesurado & could not be obviated there the face of the Country not admitting of good roads, without great expense.— Nothing is so prejudicial to Agriculture as the water communication or rather as the want of other communication than native Canoes.— The banks of most of our Rivers & Creeks in Africa are covered with Man-groves & cannot be cultivated to the Water's edge, & in most places the elevated land cannot be approached from the Water, consequently the farms are cut off from any feasible communication with the market of the Town, & in fact often from their neighbours as there are innumerable small creeks or gutters, running into the main river

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
C. Foreign Letter Books

1. January 1834—November 1837

1834