a more delightful section of Country you never saw. — Could nine tenths of the Colonists sell their Town lots they would, & be off to morrow for the bush. I tell you what, you must send me a painter or scribbler to tell of matters here & touch up our good slave holders a bit. — Could they see things as they truly are, they would give their slaves not only liberty, but their plantations, & come out here themselves. 'Tis decidedly a most delightful Country (save fever) than America. —

Hoping for another opportunity to write soon, I subscribe myself

With much respect and esteem —

Your obedt. Servt.

James Hall,

Agt. Md. Col. Soc.

P.S. Please lay this aside as I have not copied it, & it may be called for. —

Cape Palmas Octr. 11. 1834.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of Maryland in Liberia held this day, to take into consideration subjects relative to its future welfare, Jacob Grolp was called to the Chair, and Wm. Polk appointed Secretary. — After some deliberation, it was resolved, that a Committee of five persons be chosen to make a report of the present situation of this Colony and its future prospects, to be addressed to the people of colour in the State of Maryland in the U. States of America. — Whereupon Jacob Grolp, Wm. Polk, Chs. Scotland, Anthony Wood, and Thomas Jackson were elected to constitute said Committee, and were requested to lay their report before a meeting of the Citizens to be held on Saturday the 25. Inst.

At an adjourned meeting held on the 25. October to hear the report of the Committee appointed on the 11. Inst. Wm. Cassell was called to

the chair, and Wm. Polk appointed Secretary. — All the members of the Colony were present, excepting two who were indisposed and unable to attend. — The report was then read as follows. —

To the People of colour in Maryland, U. S. America,

Dear Brethren,

Agreeable to a resolution of our fellow Citizens herewith enclosed, we now endeavour to lay before you a fair and impartial statement of the actual situation of this Colony, of our advantages and prospects both temporal and spiritual.

We are aware of the great difference of opinion which exists in America with respect to Colonization. — We are aware of the fierce contentions between its advocates and opposers; and we are of opinion that this contention among the well meaning is based principally upon the various and contradictory accounts concerning this Country and its advantages; received on the one hand from enthusiastic and visionary new comers who write without having made themselves at all acquainted with the true state of affairs in Africa; and on the other from the timorous, dispirited and disheartened, who long to return to their former degraded situation, and are willing to assign any reason however false and detrimental to their fellow Citizens, rather than the true one viz. that they are actually unfit, from want of virtue energy and capacity to become Freemen in any Country. —

We judge that the time which has elapsed since our first arrival (Eight months) has enabled us to form a pretty correct opinion of this our new Colony, of the climate and of the Extent of our Government. — Therefore we may safely say that we write not ignorantly, and as to the truth of our assertions, we here solemnly declare, once for all, that we write in the fear of God, and are fully sensible that we stand pledged to maintain them both here and hereafter. —

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
C. Foreign Letter Books

I. January 1834--November 1837

1834