Of our Government. We declare that we have enjoyed (and the same is forever guaranteed to us by our Constitution) all and every civil and religious right and privilege which we have ever known enjoyed by the white citizens of the United States, excepting the election of our chief Magistrate who is appointed by the Board of Managers of the Maryland State Colonization Society. All other Officers are appointed or elected from the Colonists. Freedom of speech & the press, election by ballot, trial by Jury, the right to bear arms, and the liberty of worshiping God, agreeable to the dictates of our own Consciences, are rendered forever inviolate by the Constitution.—

Salubrity of the Climate. Every Foreigner upon arriving in this Country is liable to an attack of a peculiar fever, which proves more or less severe in different individuals, but is uniformly over in from ten to twenty days, so that the person can move about, but the system is more or less debilitated from one to six months. What will be the average fatality of this disease ultimately we cannot say.— Of the Eighteen emigrants from Baltimore per Brig Ann we lost a child by dysentery, some weeks after the fever, which probably induced it.— One woman also died very suddenly, two months after recovery from her first attack, which perhaps might be attributable to the climate although not the fever.— But it ought to be remarked, that we were at that time all lodged in very open, leaky houses, and the beds of the sick were almost constantly wet.— This evil however need not again occur.—

Independent of this fever, from which every new Emigrant has long since been free, we have reason to believe this as healthy as any tropical climate in the World; and we can affirm from the experience of many of our number, and the observations of credible persons, that this place is decidedly more healthy than any of the unnamed settlements

Sierra Leone or Monrovia.—

Those of us who came from the lower districts in Maryland, believe this Country far more salubrious. The weather is exceedingly pleasant, and the temperature uniform.—

A thermometer kept in the Colony has never since our arrival been below Seventy degrees, nor above Eighty four.

The soil in our immediate vicinity is much better than that on the American Seaboard, equal to any part of the land on the Chesapeake bay, and the farther we have penetrated into the interior, it has increased in richness.— We have not tried it as yet to any great extent, but the immense quantities of rice shipped from this Section of the Coast, is a sufficient guarantee of the richness of the soil.— Nearly all the Garden vegetables with which we were acquainted in America, have been tried in our gardens, and been found to do well; as also small quantities of the American Cotton.— The natural eatable productions of this Country are Plantain, Bannana, Sweet potatoe, Cassada, Yams, Rice, Corn, Pumpkins, Beans, Peas, Okra, Egg plant, Tomatas, Sugar cane, Pawpaws, Palm Cabbage and Palm oil.— This last is, no doubt, one of the most valuable productions in the World,— It is by most, esteemed preferable to hogs lard for Cooking, and produces as good a light as the fish oil, without that disagreeable smell.— All the above productions can be raised in this Country to any extent desirable.— The animals which we found here are a fine breed of small, plump, neat cattle, sheep, ducks & fowls.— These are all domesticated, and very abundant, and propagate much faster than in America.— Wild Game is also plentiful as hogs, deer, bush cats, monkeys and a great variety of birds.— We have the best of timber for building and cabinet work.— Inexhaustible quarries of good rock,— and five or six hundred bushels of lime, have been prepared from shells.— We have erected

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
C. Foreign Letter Books

1. January 1834—November 1837

1834