you renew your efforts in view of certain success. Allow me to say to you Sir, that when you commence your operations to collect Emigrants, say and say no more, that this is the colored mans home, one that will offer him more comforts than America, this you are authorised to say in my name, where I am, and where I am not known. — I am here, but know not how I am to return to America, as the Agent has expended his Colonial fund to promote his public works, and I, myself, am without any of my own, but hope notwithstanding to return in the Spring or Summer, if I survive the fever. —

With much respect, I subscribe myself,
Your friend & humble Servant
Richd B. F. Gould

Rev^d Wm. McKenney —

N.B. Please receive as an apology for not revising & correcting the many errors of the above the want of time. — R. B. F. G.

P. S. Our Emigrants had a meeting and drew up some resolutions expressing their satisfaction, but I have not time to put them in proper order, and also think it will have a better effect to send them hereafter. —

Cape Palmas March 1st 1835 —

My dear Sir,

Since my last by the Brig Bourne, I have suffered severely from a dysentery, supplementary to my long course of fever; which has reduced me very much, and I feared at one time had so far undermined my constitution as to render recovery impossible, without a change of location: even now I am apprehensive of repeated attacks, many of which I am sure I could not survive. I however consider myself as decidedly convalescent and hope by a prudent course of management to be able to attend to business in a few weeks: but be assured recovery from so long an illness is not to be effected

thoroughly nor even partially in a twinkling. I had hoped inasmuch as the understanding with Mr. Gould was, that he was to succeed me if dead, or run away, that he might be induced to tarry and let me have the only chance of a perfect recovery by returning to America, but notwithstanding all my entreaties he absolutely declines. I also solicited Mr. Wilson barely to take the nominal charge of the Colony for a few months but he refused on the ground that many of the supporters of the Union were anti-Colonizationists, & he did not wish to incur their censure. I have therefore but one course to pursue, and that is stand it out and run the risk. — I have written to a Mr. Snetter of Cape Mesurado appointing him Assistant Agent, but as yet know not that he will accept, as I have not made any addition to the salary which he now enjoys viz, $300 pr. ann. I know Snetter to be a capable enterprising popular fellow, & feel that I could intrust the Colony with him in case of accident with more confidence than any other colored man in Liberia, especially when connected with Mr. Thomson. He is much better calculated to keep the troublesome ones in cow than Thomson, — possesses more energy of character, and in fact I think he will one day be a man of consequence in this Liberia. I am thoroughly convinced from the immense and almost certain sacrifice of health and life which almost every European must make in visiting this Coast & residing here as Agent, and the consequent frequent changes and interregnums which must occur, that if ever a Colony flourishes it must be under the direction of some spirited, intelligent, patriotic colored man acting as Agent of the Board of Managers. — I am sorry my health will not enable me more fully to state facts, connected with the old Colony, to prove this & render it worthy the full investigation & deliberation of the Board, but writing is almost sure to bring on a relapse. I have however freely communicated with Mr. Gould upon the subject

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
C. Foreign Letter Books

1. January 1834—November 1837

1835