Baltimore Aug. 15th 1856 —

Revd Joseph Tracy.

My dear Sir, I took the liberty of requesting you to apply to certain parties in Boston, who have manifested a deep interest in our cause, to know at what rates, under the circumstances, they would be disposed to furnish certain articles requisite for the completion of the Colonization Ship. Among other items, the most important was that of Cordage, & it was their thought advisable to defer contracting for the same as long as practicable — on the presumption that it could be lower. Certainly the Russia Cordage — You intimated that Mr Ropes might be disposed to supply it at lower rates than I could get it elsewhere. The time for action has come & we shall soon need the articles. Will you, therefore, apply to Mr Ropes for the lowest terms on which he would supply what we may require for the Ship — Say, best quality Russia to be cut of lengths required, best quality of American — also of Manilla — We also building a 100 ton Schr, for a House in Liberia, the rigging for which may or may not be included in my order as Mr R. may say — Hoping you can call to aid the good cause prospering in your hands & dependence

I remain very truly yours

Thomas Kelso

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

III. Correspondence Sent
A. Letter Press Books

2. May 1856—August 1859

1856