Baltimore Apl 15th 1859

To R. M. Hirsch Esq
New Orleans La.

Dear Sir I have your favor of the 6th in regard to a colored Steamer. It is difficult to say what can be done in his case. I have done much to advance the interests of Liberia, but have to a greater or less extent failed, Many difficulties are in the way. In 1846 I built the Latrobe Packet & intended to have her officered & manned by people of colour. I did get a good Mate. 2d Mate. of course but a fit man for Capt I could not find although I visited N.Y. Providence, Boston & Salem to find one. I could not even find a fit man for Mate, & I should owe Mate to the — Commander. Hastily I had to give it up. I did not venture the 4th attempt in the Ship M. E. Stevens, merely taking a colored crew — I made the first voyage in her, & found much evil resulting from even a colored crew. They seem, to be, strong, not a fair lot, what might be called a lazy crew, but we are always liable to get sick. In the first place with a lazy full of emigrants it is often difficult for the Master to distinguish them from the crew, or the crew from them, before they become well acquainted. Then it is next to impossible to keep the crew from the emigrants skin. Especially at night. & the

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III. Correspondence Sent
B. Letter Press Books, Shipping

2. December 1858--May 1860

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