Baltimore May 9th 1859

To Messrs Phelps & Spalding.

My dear Sirs. Your proposition in regard to the Shipment of lumber by the M.C. Strong has received full consideration. The great object in having a Ship was to give our Lumbermen in Sending produce to this Country; or rather to a Market, any Market. & I shall be ready & disposed to co-operate with all parties having your right to trade. But even to begin by an Experiment, I do not feel that we ought to stop for lost, or allow the Society to do so. I should be willing to put the first lot of lumber at a rate that would pay the detention of the Ship. & the lowest rate of remuneration. Of this you can judge as well as myself. as She lies in your port, or roadstead, without actually feed of passengers or emigrants at 4 to 5 per day.

Now you know the Shipping of lumber is a very slow business. & attended with considerable ~~expense~~ expense especially as our Ship is so high out of water. Again, it occurred to me that the lumber might be at Sunk & hinder the necessity of another anchorage &c. besides not having a good loading or Shipping place. All these things are to be weighed & you can of course judge how difficult it is for me to fix a rate of freight at this time. even dependent upon contingencies

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

III. Correspondence Sent
B. Letter Press Books, Shipping

2. December 1858—May 1860

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