Baltimore October 16th 1832

Gentlemen

When I arrived at the conclusion that the cause of humanity and the wellbeing of Society imposed upon me the action intimated in my Note of the 4th inst. I preferred making the enquiries therein stated, previous to informing my Servants of its purport; being unwilling to excite hopes which might end in disappointment, in the event of a failure of my application for means to carry it into effect.

Immediately after receiving your prompt and liberal acquiescence in the means of carrying into effect my views I made known the result to my People: but to my great surprise & disappointment, they did not readily and thankfully accept the proffered boon, but asked for time to make enquiries and deliberate how to act. Their request I deemed it expedient to accede to.

I offer these necessarily diffuse remarks, as explanatory & apologetick, in delaying to answer your respected Note of the 8th. I am now enabled to inform the Board that the freedom offered to all my Servants,

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

IV. Miscellaneous Letters and Minutes

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1832