they attempted to impose upon the agent: and temporary estrangement was the consequence. Firmness and consistency have great effect upon them; and the Board have every reason to believe that the good will which now exists on both sides, will not be again interrupted. The policy of the Board is to improve their condition, and to raise them to a level with the colonists, so that, apt as they are for civilization, the colonization scheme may be to them also a blessing; and not, as in the colonizing of this country, a plan for the extirpation of the aborigines.

The Board have it in view to procure during the current year a vessel of their own. This has been recommended to them by their experience since the founding of the colony; and they are satisfied that, besides the facilities that it will afford for carrying on their operations, it will, on the score of economy, be highly important. The trade from Baltimore to Africa is already such as to ensure at all times full freight from other quarters, should the society not be able to furnish it.

In conducting the affairs of the society from its commencement, the Board of Managers have had to rely upon the support of the managers of the state fund, when they failed to collect from the public, funds adequate to their wants. The policy of the state in establishing a separate colony for the reception of her emigrants, has in this manner, however, been fully corroborated; and the colony at Cape Palmas is now adequate to meet all the wants of colonization in Maryland, and to receive in comfort (offering them every prospect of happiness and prosperity) as many persons as it is probable will be found ready, in any one year, to emigrate. Still the wants of the society, that cannot be supplied from the state fund, are many and pressing, and make it necessary that the friends of the cause should be called upon for assistance from time to time. During the coming year it is the intention of the Board to direct their agents to call upon all who feel an interest in the cause, for such aid as it is in their power to give, for the purpose of raising the sum of four thousand dollars annually, for the ensuing four years. This sum will put it in the power of the Board to do many things for the colony in the advancement of agriculture, the promotion of education, and the introduction of a proper system of internal improvement, which are of vital importance, and in which the expenditure in the first instance of a comparatively small amount will be productive of the most permanent benefits.

Hitherto the Board have had to rely, in a great degree, upon the missionaries, established at the colony, for the means of educating the children of the emigrants; for although fully sensible of the importance of at once establishing a system of schools, yet the absolute and more pressing necessities incident to the founding of the settlement, prevented the Board, in the first instance, from doing more than provide in the 'ordinances' for the future wants and obligations of the colonists in this respect.

By the 31st section of 'An ordinance for the temporary government of the territory of the Maryland State Colonization Society, in Africa, called Maryland in Liberia, it is provided: 'That there shall be at least one public school in every township of the territory, the teacher whereof shall be appointed by the agent in council. It shall be the duty of every parent to send his or her children, and of every guardian, the child or children under his or her care, of a fit age, to school, when there is a public school in the township, until they shall learn to read, write, and cast accounts; and every father, and if there is no father, then mother, and if there is neither father nor mother, then guardian, the children of whom, or under whose care, are not sent to school, after being notified thereto by the selectmen, shall be fined at the discretion of the selectmen, not less than twelve and a half cents, nor more than twenty-five cents, for every month that each child is not sent to school; which fines may be collected as small debts are, before a justice of the peace, and shall be appropriated for the use of public schools.'

The 19th section of the ordinance provides, among other things, 'that all male coloured people, who have subscribed the oath to support the constitution, and hold land in the territory in their own right, or who, not holding land, shall pay a tax of not less than one dollar, per annum, for *the support of education* and the purposes of government, shall be entitled to vote (being of full age) at elections.'

The 29th section provides, 'that no person shall serve as a juryman, unless he be of the age of twenty-five years, of good name and repute, *and shall know how to read and write.*'

The 5th article of the 'constitution' provides 'that no taxes shall be laid in the territory, except for the purposes of defence, of internal improvement, *education*, and the support of the local government of the territory.'

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VIII. Commissions and Reports

D. Reports of the Board of Managers
1835-47