of the judges are well defined, and will save among an ignorant community, much contention. I have not heard even a murmur against the code, though it strikes at the root of many pre-conceived opinions. There are few of us, old residents in Africa, who can prize the committee. The want of such a code we have long felt, and our belief is, that our sister colonies will be for adopting it, if their parent societies do not give them one soon.

The currency answers all our fond expectations. Its direct tendency is, to draw all business to the Society's store; not the least difficulty exists in circulating it among the natives; frequently they inquire for it, when goods are tendered in payment; and as for the colonists, they are now unwilling to take all their pay in goods without some currency. Its tendency on their minds, has been to put by a part, instead of taking up as formerly every cent of their earnings. I think our next step will be the establishment of a savings bank, or a benefit society, for mutual relief in cases of sickness. I have not lost sight of a market. Here in Africa, time is essential to effect the least object, more particularly, a revolution in the habits and feelings of the natives. Selfish as man is, he must be first convinced, it will be for his advantage to change; and ignorant as our natives are, still their minds must undergo some process, before they can arrive at the truth.

Health of the Colonists.—The degree of health enjoyed by the older colonists is as good as usual, though several of them are still troubled with chills and fevers.

All the new emigrants have passed through their first and second attacks of the fever, but a majority of them are daily down with chills. I am sorry to say, that the single men do not display half the resolution of the married, but generally give up whenever attacked, and take to their beds. All advice from physician or friends is in vain; they put no restraint on their appetites, and it will not astonish me, if my next letter should report the deaths of two or three from over-eating and want of exercise. They are a lazy and discontented set.

Agriculture.—We have been unable to do much on the public farm lately, from the scarcity of help. Natives are not to be procured, because all are engaged at their rice farms. It is my intention to give the cotton seed a fair trial again, after breaking up, and well manuring the ground. Corn I am satisfied, will grow finely if the land is strong enough.

Roads.—You must be pleased to hear, that our roads have never been in so fine a state as at present; but I have been obliged to take the part near Mount Vaughan into my own hands, and expend upwards of one hundred and fifty dollars, in making a causeway, bridges, and cross-ditches. The least rain made it impassable for foot passengers, and as in duty bound to give the missionaries a good road into town, I concluded to make it good at once. The effect has been a happy one on our selectmen, as the Mount Vaughan causeway is quoted as the McAdam standard for road making. Hence the repairs on the road have been more substantial, and the physical force spent is, perhaps, greater than in the three preceding years. Holmes' road has been extended; and Mr. McGill, is now opening another back of Mount Vaughan, running parallel with Maryland Avenue. Every one who passes over the causeway, exclaims, that it looks like civilization if nothing else in the colony does.

Had the light wagon arrived, something like comfort might now be taken in driving in different directions.

Ammunition.—We were glad to receive the new field piece by the Niobe, but it is entirely too heavy as light artillery. A piece light enough to be pulled by six men over a common road, is what we want. I suppose, '*en militaire*,' it is called flying artillery. The cases of guns, mentioned as being on board, have not come to hand. If the society will send out one hundred United States muskets and cartridge boxes, for the use of the military, I will see that proper care is taken of them. A few kegs of buck-shot ought to be sent out, partly for the military; and also, to retail at the store, as game is very plenty around.

Jacks.—Since our last advices, we have lost four jacks, not from fever, but from old age and debility. The seller at Cape de Verde, imposed very much

on Mr. Payne, by putting off such animals upon him. They cheated him also in two horses which he bought for the mission, both of which are now dead. Do send us some more jennies and some mares, as our present stock is too limited to meet present wants. Those sent out have not been strong enough yet, to be of much service.

Summary.—The fourth anniversary of the colony was celebrated in due form on February 22d. Big guns, as the natives say, indicating the age of the colony, were discharged at sunrise; the number of the states of the A. Union, at noon, and one at sunset, upon lowering the flag. The order of the day was, a procession of the civil and military officers, &c. of the colony, escorted by the Latrobe artillery and Howard volunteers, from the government house to the Methodist church, where a very appropriate oration was delivered by the colonial secretary, before a crowded auditory. It was replete with good sense. Afterwards, the missionaries, and civil and military officers dined with me. The day passed off very pleasantly.

I am sorry to see from the extracts published from despatches by Dr. Holmes, no notice taken of R. A. H. Oldfield's subscription as life member of the society; nor of the thermometrical journal and communications by Mr. Revey.

Yours, &c. JOHN B. RUSSWURM, *A. Md. S. C. S.*

To JOHN H. B. LATROBE, *Esq. Pres't.*

OFFICERS OF MARYLAND IN LIBERIA,

APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE MARYLAND STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY, FOR 1838.

Governor—JOHN B. RUSSWURM.
Assistant Agent.—George R. McGill.
Colonial Physician.—Robert McDowell.
Assistant Physician.—Samuel F. McGill.

OFFICERS ELECTED BY THE PEOPLE AT AN ANNUAL ELECTION AT CAPE PALMAS, 1838.

Returns of the annual election held at Harper, Maryland colony in Liberia, on the first Monday in March, 1838, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year, viz:

Vice Agent.—Anthony Wood.
Councillors.—Charles Snetter, Alexander Hance.
High Sheriff.—William Hawkins.
Register.—O. A. Chambers.
Selectmen.—William Delany, Osmond Tubman, Mordecai Harris.
Committee on New Emigrants.—Antony Howard, Benjamin Johnson, George Hardy.

Harper, March 6, 1838.

I do hereby certify that the above is a true list of colonial officers—and that the same are lawful citizens of this colony residing within the same, and that the election took place in the manner and time above described.

JOHN REVEY, *Col. Sec'ry.*

APPOINTMENTS BY THE AGENT.

Colonial Secretary.—John Revey.
Justices of the Peace.—Thomas Jackson, John Bowen, Benjamin Johnson,
Collector of Customs.—Anthony Howard.
Acting Storekeeper.—William A. Prout.
Measurer of Lumber and Inspector of Shingles.—John Bowen.
Auctioneer.—William Hawkins.
Constables.—Jeremiah Stewart, William Reynolds.

Harper, March 8, 1838. JOHN REVEY, *Col. Sec.*

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

VIII. Commissions and Reports

D. Reports of the Board of Managers
1835-47