Sec. 6th. All officers shall reside in the State, and all Lieutenant, Deputy or other officers, within that, and respective Counties, Districts, Cantons or towns, shall keep their respective offices at such places therein as shall best meet the convenience of the people, and all civil & military officers shall reside within the bounds of the divisions, and districts, regiment, battalion or companies to which they may severally belong.

Sec. 7th. The Governor of the State alone shall have power to purchase all lands from the Natives for the use of the Public, by the advice, consent and direction of the Legislative Assembly, and all individual persons contracting with the aboriginals for land, for his or their own, or for the advantage of others, such contracts or deeds shall be considered of no force or effect in law.

Sec. 8th. The right to a certain proportion of land or territory for the settlement of immigrants, secured to the State Society by treaty executed in Baltimore in the State of Maryland, between the said Society and dignitaries on the part of this Commonwealth, shall never be violated, unless in situations which may hereafter, in consequence of a dissolution of said Society, [illegible] of Public Account and Government.

Sec. 9th. The holding of real Estate in this State only persons who are not citizens of Liberia, is contrary to the spirit and intent of this Constitution, and ought not to be allowed. Nevertheless, there is nothing in this section to be implied as to interfere with the rights of lawful property or estate in which the State Society may hereafter compact, or Missionary, Educational or other Christian or benevolent institutions, so long as the same, property or estate, is applied to the legitimate purposes of such institutions.

Sec. 10th. All officers elected or appointed under the provisions of this Constitution, shall before entering upon the duties of their respective offices, take and subscribe a solemn oath or affirmation to support the Constitution of this State, and faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of such office. The presiding Officer of the Senate shall administer such oath or affirmation to the Governor, in presence of both Houses, and the Governor to the Lieutenant Governor and to the Senators and to the Delegates in like manner. Whenever the Governor is unable to attend the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court may administer the oath to him at any place, and also to the Lieutenant Governor, Senators and Delegates in consultation. Other officers may take such oath or affirmation before the Governor, Chief Justice, or any other person who may be designated by law.

Sec. 11th. Treason against this State shall consist only in levying war against it, or in adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

XIII. Colonization Pamphlets

1. The Declaration of Rights,
The Constitution of the
State of Md. in Liberia
(rough draft, engrossed copy, printed copy)