Their Bush neighbours, the Barrakahs, Saureekahs, and Boorobohs, are all anxious for free commercial and social intercourse with the colonists, and we doubt not their true interests will prompt them to perpetuate these good feelings. The Saureekahs already have schools established among them by the M. E. mission, and the Barrakahs have already petitioned for the same advantages. Mr. Seyes, the superintendent of the missions, was at Cape Palmas at the time of the sailing of the Pilot, and hoped to be able very soon to supply the principal towns with preachers and teachers.

The LIGHT HOUSE is at last fairly established on the cape, a most prominent and welcome sight to the African voyager. We are not informed of its actual elevation or the magnitude and intensity of the light, but it is distinctly visible off the Garroway Reef full twenty miles to the windward, and off Rockbockah about the same distance to the leeward. This light must save a vast deal of time at least in vessels running down the coast, close in shore, and accasionally a vessel and human life.—What grade in the scale of civilization does the establishment of a light house mark?

The orange trees in the colony are now producing abundantly; the cocoas have blossomed, and the sapotillas are in a thriving condition. We hope daily to recive still later advices.

Below will be seen a communication from Mr. Garrison Draper, containing a notice of a meeting of free coloured people in Govanstown, and the formation of a "Society of Enquiry" to obtain authentic information with regard to the colony of Liberia. The opposition of the free coloured people of Baltimore and its vicinity to Colonization, Liberia, and all interests connected with Africa, is so virulent and unrelenting, that we should consider any thing like the formation of a society for a free and candid inquiry upon the subject, as a hoax or possum game, so often played off in these parts, were it not vouched for by so respectable a man as Mr. Draper. Whether it will amount to any thing we leave time to determine, but certainly the measure is a laudable one, and we will most freely supply the members with a copy of our Journal gratis. If they pursue their enquiry in good faith, they will either become colonizationists, or have better reasons for not being so than most mouthers and railers now have, with old stale snake and Georgia stories. Mr. Draper shall have as much room in our columns as he pleases to occupy, and any one choosing to reply shall have the same privilege.

To the Editor Colonization Journal:

Sir,—At a meeting of free coloured people at Govanstown on Sunday the 6th of the present month, at their usual place of meeting, the Methodist Episcopal Church, Major Anthony Wood of Cape Palmas was present by special request of the authorities of said Church, and was requested to favour the meeting with such statements respecting the colony as he might consider interesting and useful to those present, which he accordingly did, and the association or society whose constitution I send you herewith was at that time formed. Should you see fit to publish it in your journal, you are at liberty to do so. Also should it meet with your approbation to supply each of the members with a copy of your journal gratis, it would be very

acceptable, for that seems to be the only channel by which the information sought for can be obtained.

I would add a few remarks. Within the last twenty years I have given much thought to the project of colonizing Africa with the free people of colour from the United States, and it appears to me that the right course is not pursued to induce them to emigrate, their fancy and senses are appealed to, and not their judgment. They are persuaded that by going to Africa, they can enjoy a life of ease and luxury, instead of labour and hardships. The object appears, to persuade and coax them to go. I think the solution of one or two questions would go far towards settling the matter of our *rights* in this country. What were the motives which induced the English, Scotch, Irish, French, and other European nations to emigrate to this country? Did they come of their own free will, and did they acquire according to the customs and usages of civilized nations, legal possession of the territory? Then I would ask, what was the condition and prospects of the Africans on coming to this country? Did they come of their own accord, and did they acquire legal possession of the territory? These are simple enquiries, but I think not the less important, and the answers to them will go far towards settling the strifes upon this subject. If you see fit to notice the few remarks here made, and desire it, I will hereafter pursue the subject further.

Your obedient servant, GARRISON DRAPER,
Forrest St. Old Town.

PREAMBLE AND CONSTITUTION

Whereas a settlement has been effected on the west coast of Africa by free persons of color, and manumitted slaves from the State of Maryland, and whereas, various and conflicting reports are in circulation respecting the moral and political condition of that colony in consequence of a want of any correct and systematic means of correspondence, and whereas we consider the interests of the free colored people now residents of this State are to a greater or less degree identified with the success of that colony, and that it is of the utmost importance that we do obtain correct information of all matters connected therewith, it is therefore,

Resolved, that we whose names are hereunto affixed, being free persons of color, natives and residents of the State of Maryland, do form ourselves into a Society for the sole purpose of obtaining and circulating among our friends correct information respecting the above described settlements in Western Africa, and we do agree to adopt the following rules and regulations for the future guidance of said Society.

Rule 1st. This Society shall be called the Govanstown Society of Inquiry, formed for the sole purpose of obtaining correct information relating to the political and religious advantages said to be enjoyed by such free persons of color who may emigrate to, and settle in the above described colony.

Rule 2nd. The officers of this Society shall be as follows, viz—one President, two Vice Presidents, and one Corresponding Secretary.

Rule 3d. This Society shall have no funds, consequently, no Treasurer.—The only qualification for membership shall be, the signing this instrument.

Rule 4th. Should necessary expenses at times be incurred by any member of the Society in pursuance of its object, the same shall be liquidated by its members at the next regular meeting.

Rule 5th. No correspondence of this Society shall be considered official unless executed by the Corresponding Secretary or other officers of the same.

Rule 6th. There shall be one stated meeting of this Society every year, unless otherwise directed by the officers of this Society; at which yearly meetings the Corresponding Secretary shall report in writing all transactions

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

XII. Newspapers
A. Maryland Colonization Journal

2. June 1841 (n.s. I, 1)--May 1861 (n.s. X, 24)

1844