its maintenance, at the rate of one dollar per week, as long as the child may be likely to become a public charge. If the mother will not testify to the parentage of the child, and she is not able to support the child, she is hired out from time to time to pay the public charge of supporting the child. If the mother is able to support the child, she gives bond and security for the maintenance of the child. Without virtue is sustained by this people. they can never sustain a civilized life. In my walk I came into a clearing outside of the town lots. Here I found a woman from North Carolina, by the name of Sheridan. She had six children, four of them (two sons and two daughters) were over fifteen years of age, and under twenty-two years. She came to this place seven months ago. She refused to take a town lot, and while living the six months in the Receptacle, she took her four oldest children (and some days the other two children,) when their health and her own health would allow it, and commenced working on the land she is now living on. She cut down the timber and burnt it on the ground, and planted cassada, eddoes, sweet potatoes, beans, pawpaw, plantain, and American corn, as she prepared the land. She built a log house with two rooms, so that when the six months expired, she left the Receptacle, and moved into her own house, having four acres cleared. That woman will live in Liberia with many comforts about her. She was warned not to make the improvements, for she could not draw the land as farm land; nor could she expect to receive compensation for her labor from the Government. But she gave no heed to the warning. She had raised and laid aside a barrel of corn, that she might be certain to have some to plant the next season. I got two ears of it. It was of the fourteen rowed kind, hard, and well filled out. The ears were seven inches long. The American corn is planted in February or March, and is fit to gather in four months. The African corn, which in length, and the size of the kernel, is like unto our pop corn, is longer getting its growth than the American corn. The land this woman had squatted down on was a rich clay mixed with sand. I reminded her of the poor sandy soil near to Elizabeth City, North Carolina, where she came from, and she would launch forth in her own style about what she had done, and what she enjoyed in her adopted home. I shall remember this Carolina woman for her industry and perseverance, and for having the good judgment to leave a large towering cotton tree within two hundred yards of her front door, which looked out on the Atlantic ocean."

What struck Mr. C. unfavorably at Cape Mount and as justly censurable was the placing Emigrants on small lots in town and not on their farm lands—also the want or scarcity of lands suitable for farming purposes, or extensive enough to supply any considerable number of farms in the vicinity of the town. After spending four days at this place, tramping over the entire mountain, seeing every body and every thing, he closes his remarks therefrom thus:

"I came to several conclusions at the end of my day's work. 1. No more emigrants should be landed at Robertsport, who are farmers, for the present. 2. That the emigrants already located here should have land surveyed out to them as soon as possible, and be furnished with it according to the law of Liberia, in distributing farm lands to emigrants. 3. That masters and executors, who send emigrants to Liberia, have a just claim upon the Liberian Government to have no emigrants located where there is no farm lands for farmers to draw on their arrival at the

place. They should be able to draw land, that while they are supported by the society, they may have it ready for their occupancy at the end of the six months. 5. There is a great risk run, that emigrants, who have families to support, and have no farm land to assist them to do it, will become dissatisfied and anxious to return to their old homes."

"This settlement is so recent in its commencement, that the condition and prospect of its inhabitants cannot be a test of what Liberia is to the black man, who exchanges a residence in the United States for it. What I saw, spoke favorably for the people as a community, and showed that they could get a good living if they had land to do it on. The germ of society was seen, that could, under the favorable circumstances of temporal advantages, make the place a good home. But to have a home, we want all the advantages that our business in life requires us to have, to prosecute with vigor, and get the fruit."

Mr. C. next visits Monrovia, and thus records his impressions on landing.

"When I went on shore, and passed through the streets, I was struck with the fact I was in the land of Africans. All the dwellers in Robertsport were blacks—but here, the town was laid out and improved. The race here presented themselves in an advanced state of improvement in every particular, of a distinct community. I had indescribable feelings, not of mistrust for my personal safety, nor of disgust at the race claiming and expecting equality of social position with me, but at seeing them in their present position in the absence of white persons. Here was to be seen the moulding of their own body politic. I saw around me respectful manners, business habits, and their attendant consequences, good dwellings. What I came to see, if it were practicable, that the black man could show a care of himself, that exhibited order, self-respect, comfort, social and political government, that was compatible with its continuance, I had evidence of it before my eyes. I was convinced I was in a well regulated town in its morals, its order, and cleanliness. I called on the President and others and delivered my letters of introduction. As I was in Rome, I meant to conform to Romanism in social intercourse, as it became my errand to the country. President Benson is a tall, slender framed gentleman, easy in his manners, plain in his personal appearance, and very ready of speech. He is a descendant of the African race in a *direct line.* He removed with his father from Maryland to Liberia, 1822. He was six years old at that time—consequently he must be forty-two years of age now. He has received his education and formation of character in Liberia. He has been a Senator, a Judge, and Vice-President of the Liberian Republic, and is now the people's President; for he has been selected to the office without opposition. The officers of the Government of Liberia are elected by citizens who own real estate. None others can vote. The President holds his office for two years, but is re-eligible to it. It is an office of great patronage. He nominates, and with the advice and consent of the senate, appoints, and commissions, besides the members of his cabinet, and the embassadors, ministers and consuls, all judges of courts, sheriffs, coroners, marshals, justices of the peace, clerks of courts, registers, notaries of public, and all other offices of state, civil and military, whose appointment has not been provided for by the constitution or standing law. He can require information and advice from any public officers touching matters pertaining to his office."

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)

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