under proper precautions, greatly benefit the agricultural interest of Liberia. I mean the formation of a National Society, which, under whatever name it may be called, shall be in effect a Liberian Agricultural Implement Society—having for its object the important task of providing your farmers with sugar mills, cotton gins, and such other machinery and implements of husbandry as they may require, besides the introduction of beasts of burden, at the original cost and expense of transportation to Liberia.

From want of ability to purchase the requisite implements, your farmers have not yet been able to prepare extensively for exportation the several products which are so well adapted to your soil and climate; although much has been done by the Colonization Societies and individual friends of Liberia to make up for this want. But if the Society now proposed should be formed, and its operations carried on in the spirit of its intention, there can be but little or no doubt that it will ultimately prove the medium through which every industrious farmer in the Republic may be furnished with the requisite machinery, for the preparation of whatever agricultural product he may consider most worthy of his especial attention.

This can only be done by the aid of capital, judiciously managed—and it is difficult to name any specific sum as being requisite, for scarce any, that might in reason be named, would be likely to exceed in amount that which could ultimately be made available. We will, however, assume that the Society should commence operations with a capital of \$3,000; all the bona fide contributions of Liberians, and paid into its Treasury prior to commencing operations.

With even this small amount in hand, it would then be in a position to remit and purchase a portion of the machinery which might be ordered by responsible individuals, and especially to urge its claims upon those friends in this country who have heretofore contributed so liberally in aid of the agricultural interest of Liberia.

Although in no way connected with your Government, or under its direction, this Society should be so entirely national as to represent, through its officers and Directors, the agricultural interest of each of your Counties. To secure this, its managers might consist of one member from each County, who should also be a member of the County Agricultural Society—besides, the President of each of these Societies as ex-officio members of the Board.

I would also respectfully suggest that the chief officers, consisting, perhaps, of a President, Secretary and Treasurer, might be residents of Monrovia or its vicinity, and that they should be not only men possessing the confidence of your entire community, but so well known and respected abroad, as to secure the generous and earnest co-operation of all friends of Liberia, who might desire to benefit her through the agency of such a Society.

I now ship by the Bark Cordelia, consigned to Mr. D. B. Warner, a sugar mill and two boilers—valued at \$150—with a request that they be delivered to the President of this Society, if it should be organized. The mill was given me by Mr. George Page, of this City, for the exercise of my own judgment in the donation of it; and the boilers are added as a gift from the firm with which I am connected.

Permit me, in conclusion, to add that it is with considerable hesitation that I thus take the liberty of pressing my views upon your consideration, and I should not have ventured so far without first obtaining the kind countenance of several prominent friends of Liberia, from some of whom I have received the letters herewith sent you.

Very truly and respectfully, your most obedient servant,

G. W. S. HALL.

The following Letters are all of them from well known friends of Liberia, and if our space admitted, we should add a very interesting one from the Rev. Joseph Tracy, of Boston, whose able article on the British Government and the African Slave Trade, will be found elsewhere in this Journal.

My Dear Sir,—The views which you have presented to me, in regard to a supply of Agricultural Implements to Liberians, at first cost, transportation added, are, apparently, as sound as they are benevolent. Should they prove practically efficient for the proposed end, Liberia will be greatly benefitted, and no one will more sincerely rejoice, than,

Yours, most truly,

JNO. H. B. LATROBE.

Pres. American Col. Society.

Feb. 9, 1861.

Colonization Office, Washington, Feb. 5, 1861.

My Dear Sir,—I not only entirely, but most cordially approve your suggestion in regard to the formation in Liberia of a Society for the introduction and sale, at cost and expenses, of Agricultural Implements. To such an Association something, I would hope much may be contributed, whether it might not be well to have as one object of the Society, the introduction of working animals, may perhaps deserve consideration. To encourage industrious agricultural labor in Liberia is vital to the prosperity of the people, and I trust your laudable design may prove entirely successful.

With great respect and regard, truly, your friend,

R. R. Gurley.
Cor. Sec. American Colonization Society.

Colonization Rooms, Washington, Feb. 7, 1861.

My Dear Sir,—I have duly considered your plan for establishing an Agricultural Society in Liberia, and I desire to express my high approval thereof. I hope you will push it forward with all your energy. This Society has been in the habit of sending out tools and implements to such persons as desired them, at cost and charges. It will relieve us if the Agricultural Association will assume the responsibility, and they can doubtless do it more satisfactorily than we can. When it is known in the United States that such an Association exists in Liberia, many manufacturers of agricultural implements will make donations to it, while others will put their prices lower than to their other customers. It is not necessary, however, for me to enumerate the many benefits which will result from the live existence of such an association. I write mainly to beg you not to become weary in well doing! for it will need plenty of patience, of energy and of perseverance, to make the Association live and prosper, after it is organized. Let me say if it will encourage any one, that I will help it all I can, while I am

Yours, most respectfully,

W. McLain.
Treas. Am. Col. Soc.

My Dear Sir,—I hope sincerely that you may be successful in carrying out your plan for the introduction into Liberia of Agricultural machinery and implements. The results produced by a division of labor are too patent to need more than a simple reference. Now, the furtherance of the interests of Colonization here at home; the diffusing of information: the collection and transportation of emigrants, and the providing for them for a season in Africa; are objects quite sufficient to occupy all the exertions and energies of our Colonization Societies. And the more they are relieved from other cares,

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

A. Maryland Colonization Journal

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