Instructions to Dr. Ayres as Agent of the Amer. Col. Soc. on the Coast of Africa.

Dr. Sir: 

You will see the instructions now given to Mr. Sureau, & will please to consult & co-operate with him in selecting & dispatching a vessel &c. from Bath to Messoardo. If no vessel that you think suitable can be had there, it will be best to proceed to Norfolk & take a vessel at that Port. But if practicable it is better to get one at Bath & let her call at Norfolk. If she calls at Annapolis, where the legislature is sitting, a collection of funds may be made there. And if these calls should seem necessary or desirable we would wish you to have them made as serviceable as possible.

When you arrive at Messoardo we wish you to reassume the care & government of our concerns, & do whatever seems best for the safety, comfort & prosperity of the Colony, & advise us of the State of things, & your operations as soon & as often as possible.
We wish you also to assist Mr. Gurley in endeavouring to interest some of the Batt Merchants, to take this vessel or a part of it, & make it a trading voyage for trade as well as for the transportation of our Colonists, guarding against any risque to the Society.

When you arrive at Africa you will make the proper enquiries and adjustment of the Bill drawn on us by Mr. Ashmun.

If the articles have been used for our people we will consider ourselves bound for their just value. If for the Govt's people, that is, the Captured Africans & the 39 labourers & their families, who are at the Govt's charge, you must draw for it on the Govt, & advise them about it. If they have not been used, but may be used to advantage, then take them at a fair price, either on our account or that of the Govt. as you think the most proper. If anything is to come from us on this Act, try & settle it with Cam-wood or other African articles. And at all events, to defray the expense of this voyage &c, try to make us some returns of Cam-wood or whatever else you can.
Separate our affairs & those of the Govt. & keep the accts. distinctly & separately.
Ascertain who are at the Govt' charge & how many at ours and let us know. Be careful not to implicate the government in any publications as connected with the Society or concerned in this Colony.

Write particularly whatever should be sent out by the next vessel, & how many Colonists can come, & endeavour to establish & introduce some sort of trade which may lessen the expenses of voyages for transporting colonists.

We leave it to you to determine upon the necessity or propriety of continuing Mr. Ashmun in the Colony. If he stays it must be in our employment as the Govt. will not employ two Agents.

As long as you think it expedient you may keep him at a reasonable compensation to be paid by us. And this he must endeavour to earn for us by his services, in promoting trade in Camwood & other things &c.

There are several abuses relative to the distribution of rations which must be remedied. No one should receive rations who is able to work, & who does not work, & do what ever the agent or those appointed over them require to be
done not only as to labor, but as to mounting guard & any & every other duty. Of course no special compensation should be given for keeping guard or other military duty, by any of the people under the Governt. or the Society, except where it may be convenient & proper to allow some little additional refreshment whilst on duty. All are bound to labor & to defend the property of the colony.

2nd. The amount of rations should be reduced. The person substitutes or for private purposes mission to use rations to hire labourers, & to trade with prevented as very improper & must be forbidden. It proves that the rations were too profusely distributed, and it tends to promote idleness & discontent.

3. Rations must cease to be distributed at the earliest time at which the people with care & diligence might provide for themselves. They have all been told that the cares of the Society as to provision did not extend beyond this.

A mistake seems to have prevailed among the people of the terms on which they engaged to go out, which ought to be corrected.

The Society did not solicit any to go, but agreed to take the people out for the benefit of themselves & their children. The Society receive no benefit, but the consolation of endeavoring to do good to their fellow creatures. The people were explicitly told that the provisions for the support to be made by the
society for their support would be of the plainest kind, with no superfluities, and that people for these must labor diligently & faithfully, & that they must expect many deprivations & to suffer many hardships, and they were explicitly & repeatedly told that, unless they were willing to encounter these difficulties & hardships, for the good of their people, their children & the people of Africa, that they had better not go. We are sorry to hear from many of them now a different language, and claims made upon the Society & its agents, which are not only not justified by their own agreement, but which they were expressly told not to expect, & many of which have been repeatedly forbidden to be given. We hope the good sense & piety of the people, as well as the fidelity of the agents will prevent in future a departure from these instructions.

On the subject of complaints by the people we refer to our former instructions & letters. We feel assured that nothing on the part of the agents will be omitted, for the comfort of the people consistent with due economy. Our fund is a charity fund, and every cent wasted or improvidently expended is want of fidelity to the donors, and so far prevents the assistance to others. The person who is not willing to make
sacrifices for the good of the colony & of the cause is not a good member of the settlement. When therefore any grievance is stated that is reasonable & that ought to be granted within the rules above stated, it should be remedied, if otherwise it ought to be suppressed, & if repeated or improperly urged in a manner tending to insubordination, it should be promptly punished. Peace, harmony subordination & industry are essential not only to the well being but to very existence of the Colony, and must therefore be maintained and enforced at all hazards.

If yeas Mr. Nash should be able to go out in this vessel it is expected that he will have, under the direction of the agent, the conducting of the public worship & of religious instruction. In the discharge of these delicate & important duties, that the peace & harmony of the settlement will be maintained, without any unreasonable religious restraints upon the various denominations which may prevail; and we anticipate the cordial support & co-operation of the orderly & pious among the people, in the measures which may be deemed proper in the accomplishment of these objects. We hope that under any circumstances, religious feuds & contentions will not again disturb the harmony of the colony, or if they should arise, that they will be immediately suppressed.

W. Jones  E. B. Caldwell  F. S. Key  Acting Commee.

Washington Feby 7, 1823.
Washington, Feb. 28th, 1823.

United States Dr.

To E. Ayres.

To my Salary from 15th July 1823

to March 1st, 1824 at 2,000 per an.

for 7 ½ Months -------------------

$12,49.45

To Expenses at Freetown while

attending to business of U. S.

as pr. Receipt -------------------

4.60

To my traveling Expenses from

Baltimore to Washington to

settle accounts -------------------

5.85

$1259.90

E. Ayres, Agt. U. S.

for Capt. Africans

To the Hon. Sml. L. Southard

Washington, Sunday Evening
March 2, 1823.

My Dear Sir,

I have received your two letters. The one addressed to the Secretary of the Navy shall be delivered. You will find a part of it in the Report which I will send you tomorrow. I have conversed with Mr. Caldwell on the subject of the wishes of Mrs. Queens Son. Mr. Jones & himself have no objections to your taking him out under your protection. I have called on Mrs. Queen & though she seems reluctant to part
with her boy yet she will consent to his departure if you think best to receive him. She wishes you to write them particularly on the subject.

I have received a letter from Thomas Shore Esq. of Petersburg Va. enclosing one from John T. Raymond, Uriah Tyner & Anthony Williams, a Committee of a benevolent Society of Coloured people in which they recommend as Colonists for the present expedition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Character</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Family</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Williams</td>
<td>Moral</td>
<td>Boot &amp; Shoe Makers</td>
<td>Several</td>
<td>go out</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colston W. Waring</td>
<td>Religious</td>
<td>Ditto</td>
<td>Several</td>
<td>to return</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thos. Stewart</td>
<td>Moral</td>
<td>ditto</td>
<td>wife &amp; child</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lewis Smith</td>
<td>Moral</td>
<td>Farmer &amp; Labourer</td>
<td>Wife</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richard White</td>
<td>Religious</td>
<td>Carpenter</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>David White</td>
<td>Religious</td>
<td>Shoemaker</td>
<td>None</td>
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</table>
These persons wish to know when the vessel will sail and will be ready at Norfolk. Pray inform me if you think they can all be received. I shall probably be at Baltimore this week.

Yours in haste

R. R. Gurley.
Georgetown, 30 March, 1823.

Dear Sir,

We have our public meeting tonight at Georgetown — tomorrow at Alexandria.

Pray call immediately on the proprietor of the Steam Boat & request him to bring the people from Frenchtown tomorrow and I will settle with him. Your letter was handed to Mr. Key. He will see the Secretary on the subject. I intend to be with you on Thursday & hope you will sail this week.

God bless you.

Gurley.
Geo. Town
Apl. 1 - 23.

My Dear Sir,

I returned this evening from Alexandria & have not time enough left me before the mail closes, I fear, to give you as particular account as I wish, of what we have heard and done to day.

In the first place we have letters from Ashmun. Our people have undergone a great trial, but they have been happily preserved, & I trust are now safe. They have been twice attacked by a large body of the natives, whom they have repelled; though with a loss, in killed and badly wounded, of seven of their number.

A British frigate kindly re-inforced them with a midshipman & 13 marines, who were ordered to stay with them six weeks - and a British officer has since treated for them with the natives, & effected a truce, and an agreement to have their dispute to be settled by Govr. McCarty - and the natives have
agreed to abide by what he shall determine.

We conclude that in a few weeks after his last letter which is dated 13th Dec. the Cyanne, Capt. Spence must have got to the Coast, & the Secty. of the Navy read to us a paragraph of the orders under which he sailed. This required him to go directly from the West Indies to Messurado, & to give whatever aid might be needed to the Colony. The Secty. says he is sure that Spence while not, under these orders, have them, while there is the least prospect of danger. And he means to send despatches to him now by you, directing him to take every step necessary for their safety and not to leave them, till he is relieved by the arrival of another vessel to take his Station.

Ashmun also writes that they have had a present made to them of a fine Spanish prize Schooner well armed & fitted, & that he has employed an English Captain to command her. Our Com'g. waited on him today on the receipt of this intelligence, & he
seems determined to take all proper measures to put the Colony in a safe state, & hereafter to keep a vessel cruising near it for their protection.

As to the other matters about which I wrote the paper that Curley enclosed you, he agrees to put things on the footing stated in that paper (Send me a copy of it, & keep the original, which you may consider as coming officially from the Comrs. ) The house, Carts & Mills &c. he says you may purchase and any thing else that you consider absolutely necessary - But you must state them to be necessary & send a requisition for them, stating their cost, which we told him we presumed would not be more than 500$ - He says he will also put funds in your hands to pay those acts. of McCaulay's which they have been plaguing you & the auditor about, & that you must then send in proper vouchers for them. You had better let me know what they amount to, as he did not know.
You will consequently hereafter, charge the Govt. with whatever is necessary for the Captives & yourself & the 37 labourers, as originally intended - and if they make any difficulties hereafter about any charge, we will (we think) be able to remove them.

You ought to build a block house, directly you get there - & require now whatever may be necessary in the way of arms & ammunition &c.

Thus I trust our affairs notwithstanding the occurrences on the Coast, are in a promising way, & that the people you now take out will make the Colony strong enough (together with the aid promised by the Gov't.) to defy all the hostility of the natives.

Gurley will write you tomorrow more fully, & will either send or bring with him the next day.
copies of Ashmun's letters — so that you will see all that has happened & how matters now stand.

He writes that there has been but one death (except in battle) but that is poor Blake's wife.

We mentioned to the Secy. your plan about the trade. He favors the design of establishing such a Company; but thinks (& so do we) that you as Agent, ought not to be a Partner. He thinks it would interfere with your duties to the Gov't. & to the people under your charge & would produce certain dissatisfaction among them. I have not time to be more particular. He says yours instructions are the general ones originally given to the U. S. Agent on the Coast, & that he need not give any further. He may perhaps however see fit to do so, particularly
if you think necessary to require instructions on any points & he will send you dispatches to Capt. Spence, and you must not sail without them.

In haste

truly Yr. friend

F. S. Key.

P. S.

We are begging here, in the City and Alexia, but shall make out badly I fear.
Geo. Town
Ap. 5, 1823.

Dear Sir:

Since Curely left us yesterday, Genl. Mason & myself have had a further conference about this trading Company, & your participation in it. We tried (as we are anxious to accommodate your wishes & the Gentn. in Balt.) to devise a way in which this can be done.

The result of our conference was that we would go to the Secy. of the Navy, & see if it could not be managed in such a way as that you could undertake to superintend the business in Africa, without ita being liable to the objections I had stated. Our view was that you could be paid a certain compensation for your services to the Company, & not be interested as one of the firm.

We saw the Secy. & he concurred with us in thinking that the operations of such a Company & opening such a trade with the Colony was all important. He said therefore, that, as we told him you had partly agreed in such a scheme, he would make no objections to your engaging
in it, & even to your becoming a partner if it could not be effected otherwise. He saw it would greatly facilitate the operations of the Government to have such an intercourse with the Colony, and he would trust to your care & prudence, & desired we would ask you to be particularly careful that neither in this nor in any other way, any disturbance or dissatisfaction should arise between you & the people or among them.

Our Com[ee], will also concur in this view. Only saying that if you can engage in the business on a certain compensation for your services, it would perhaps be best - though not objecting to the other.

In our conversation with the Secy. two or three other things occurred. He wants you to state the amount due on McCaulay's acts - that is, as I understand it, what money you will have to pay in Africa - that he may authorize you to draw on England for that purpose.

We suggested that it would be desirable perhaps, that you should have a limited or discretionary power...
of drawing on England in case the
affairs of in Africa should at any
time make it necessary - & he
seemed to say that if you thought
it necessary & would write & require
or suggesting
it (stating the causes or circumstances
that might make it advisable that he
would give you such power.

You had therefore better do this.

Mr. Mason has given us two
Cannon called Grennades, 10
pounders, as Carley told you.
I shall look out for a waggon
to take them on & you may
expect them on Tuesday or
Wednesday.

Upon the matter of funds we are
grieved and surprised at your want of
success. Think you had better-
ask Bishop Kemp to try collections
in the churches.

These Grennades are to be mounted
in a peculiar way - & require a
cheap plain sort of Carriage. You
had better have them done, and consult
some of the Navy Officers about
them. Perhaps it would be better
for you to use them as field pieces.
We trust that if this trading company
goes on, you will exert yourself to
keep the people from complaining
about it, & try & conduct it in a way
to promote their interest & keep them
satisfied.

You may consider this letter as
official from the Comroe, as we each
good authorized to write in the name of
the whole. I would come on to Balt. but
have a Court to attend on Monday.

P. S. You will have a letter
from Caldwell enclosing one to Ashman.

Truly Yr. Friend,

F. S. Key.
Navy Department
April 7th, 1823.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 5th instant, and the enclosed communication to the Navy Agent at Baltimore, authorizes the purchase of the several articles that you deem necessary for the settlement at Cape Mesurado.

No order, in relation to your Salary, has been given by this Department, and it will be paid to you, or your Order, regularly as the same shall become due; and authority will be given to you to draw on the Messrs. Baring of London for a sum sufficient to enable you to liquidate the claim of K. Macaulay Esq.

It is desirable that you proceed with all possible despatch to the Coast of Africa, as your absence for so great a length of time must be a loss to the settlement. I have this day written to the District Attorney of Maryland respecting the eleven Africans to be brought into
the United States by Captain Chase, and if they consent to go to the settlement in Africa, receive them and then out with you in the Brig Oswego.

I am, very respectfully,

Sir, Your Most Obt. Servant,

Smith Thompson

Doctor Eli Ayres,
Agent of the U. S. for the Coast of Africa,

Baltimore.
My Dear Sir,

We have been informed since your departure, that much interest is felt in N. England in the cause of Colonization. The "Society for Enquiry" concerning missions at Andover have resolved to aid us, by every means in their power & have appointed a Committee of several individuals, to obtain & exhibit to the Society, all important information on the subject of our exertions. They are also desirous of consulting with the Board of Managers here, on the best methods to be adopted for exciting, in our favour, the public mind & securing the funds requisite to the accomplishment of the desired end. The Board have resolved, therefore, to hold
a special meeting in Washington, on
the first Monday in June, for deliberation
on the great designs of their Institution.
One or two Agents from the
Society in Andover are expected to
be present on the occasion as well
as delegates from the Gen. Assembly
Gen. Convention, & several other Religious
bodies. We indulge strong hope that
something will be done to render
our operations permanent, efficient
& extensive.

Mr. Caldwell, Mr. Key
& Rev. Mr. Meade are now, probably
about leaving Philadelphia where
they have been for since the
sessions of the Assembly & Convent.
accomplishing, I trust, much
for the cause of Africa. Mr.
Caldwell will I suppose be in
Baltimore before the Fidelity sails
& will determine who & how many
shall take passage in her. The Government have refused to send the recaptured Africans, alleging that they were born in Brazil & that they are unwilling to leave the Country. Gen. Harper says they are native Africans but that they are reluctant to sail to Africa & he would advise that they should remain a year or two in the United States. He has one or two of them, & the others are in good situations. We have done what we could at the present moment towards furnishing you with provisions & Clothing. We intend to fit out a large vessel early in the fall.

Pray write me very particularly concerning your necessities & prospects.

I send you the Boston Recorder & National Intelligencer. Let me be affectionately remembered.
to Mr. Ashmun & to all the people.
How did poor Blake endure the terrible
intelligence of his wife's death - God
preserve you and bless you & make
the Colony prosperous. Most truly

Your friend,

R. R. Gurley.

Dr. Eli Ayres,
Liberia,
Africa.
Baltimore, May 31st, 1823.

Dear Sir,

It gives me much pleasure to inform you that at the last meeting of the Maryland Academy of Science and Literature you were unanimously elected a member thereof. The Academy particularly invite your correspondence and will receive with much satisfaction any of the natural productions which your situation at Liberia may enable you to procure.

With great esteem,

I remain

Yr. Obt. Servt.

I. Macaulay,

Secretary.

To

Dr. Eli Ayres.
Sierra Leone, 11th July, 1823.

Sir,

I received yours of the 3rd June by Lieut. Dr. Shiell who I am sorry to add is now no more.

I enclose you a Bill of Parcels of all the Articles I can procure of your List sent by Lieut. Dr. Shiell.

I see no occasion for you to come up here as you can draw the Bills & Send us.

Mr. Ashmun sent Mr. K. Macaulay a Bill which has been also protested in consequence of which he wrote to me not to give further Credit. But I trust you will arrange all that without any further trouble.

I enclose a
the Bill desired by Mr. Ashmun
I suppose his Bill to K. M. was for
the payment of this sum.

I cannot procure Arrow root or
the Physic Nuts at present.

I remain Sir,
Yours very respectfully,

Jos. Eaton

for K. Macaulay.
I do not imagine that our Government would allow entrance to American Property on any terms.

Indeed the Duties now would be too high even if it was admitted, being 6 per cent on Forfeiting and 6 per cent as a Transient Duty, besides Wharfage and various other Expenses.

African Produce, Viz Palm Oil
Ivory, Gum, Wax, Camwood
Gold Dust &c will be received free of all Charge Duty or Expense in payment or Barter.
Gentlemen:

Your communication of the 21st May last, addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury in relation to exchange for £1350 drawn by Mr. C. Wiltberger has been referred to this Depart.

On the 8th April last I have the honor to forward to you the signature of Dr. Eli Ayres, Agent for this Depart. on the Coast of Africa, accompanied by a request that you would protect his drafts to the amount of $5000. This sum it was supposed would have been sufficient to liquidate all the claims against him. The receipt of your advice rendered this supposition erroneous and I have therefore to request you to extend to him a further credit of $3000, making an aggregate of $8000 and protect his drafts to that amount. It is probable that Dr. Ayres will substitute his own drafts for those of Mr. Wiltberger, to which change you will please attend particularly, debiting this Department with the amount, and charging the same to account
of any moneys in your hands to the credit of
the fund for the prohibition of the Slave trade.

You will transmit all future accounts
for expenditures under this head to this Depart.
the appropriations having been transferred to its
control.

Mr. Ashmun is unknown to this
Depart. in any capacity whatever, under the Law
for the prohibition of the Slave trade, and no advice
therefore, can be given in relation to his drafts.

I have the honor to be
Gentlemen,

Your obt. servt.
(Signed) Smith Thompson.

Messrs Earing Brothers & Co.

Bankers,

London.
Duplicate
No. 2

I, John Boggs from the City of Philadelphia, promise to pay to the authorized agent or order of the American Colonization Society, the sum of fifty dollars, on demand, for value received in a passage to Africa afforded me by the Sd. Society, per Brig Oswego.

It is expressly understood that the foregoing obligation is not to take effect, provided that I, being now about to return to the United States, shall, with my family, rejoin the colony at this place, at my own proper expense, within ten months from this date, provided the sailing of another expedition from Baltimore within that time, afford me the opportunity of returning

 Witness

 J. Ashmun.
Navy Depart.  

21st July 1823.

Sir,

On the 8th day of April last, letters were addressed to the Messrs. Baring Brothers & Co. of London, requesting them to protect your drafts to the amount of $5000\frac{50}{100}. The amount was thus limited in consequence of the estimate furnished by yourself of the sum necessary to extricate your Agency from an unpleasant embarrassment. Since that period, advices have been secured from that house, notifying bills to the amount of Ll350, drawn by a Mr. Wiltsberger, and Ll8.18 drawn by Mr. Ashmun, and requesting instructions how to dispose of them.

In consequence of this information your credit with them has been extended $3000 making in all $3000 to which amount they will protect your drafts. A copy of the letter addressed to the Messrs. B. B. & Co. on the 19th of this month, is herewith transmitted.

I have the honor to be

Eli Ayres, Esq. Sir, Your obt. sv.
Principal Agent Smith Thompson.
for the
Prohibition of
the Slave Trade.
Dr. Ayres,

Sir,

I and Mr. Carey would have come over yesterday, but having such pains on my feet prevents me from coming, but I believe I shall be able tomorrow. Mr. C. will be very much obliged to you if you will send him 15 bars Tobacco and charge it to his Account and you will oblige

Your humble Servant,

John S. Mill.

August 27th
1823.
Copy of the Letter sent to Mr. Ashmun.

Georgetown 25 Sept 1823.

Dear Sir,

We regret to say that the Board of Managers of our Society cannot in the present state of their resources accede to proposition made to them in your recent communication.

Although measures have been adopted which will probably increase our means, we do not, considering the uncertainty connected with the future, feel justified in making the arrangement & salary appropriating the funds you desire, however that Dr. Ayres may have the benefit of your assistance, the Board will
engage to compensate you for any services you may render to the affairs of the Colony, at the request of Dr. Ayres, as fully & liberally as their funds will permit.

All the necessary expenses for a comfortable support while thus employed in behalf of the Society Colony will of course be borne by our Society. We are also instructed to say that there exists, on the part of the Board no objections to your becoming a sharer in the trade of the Baltimore Company.

If upon these terms you can consent to remain
with Dr. Ayres, it will be gratifying
to the Board; & we hope it will
suit your convenience to do
so. With Sincere wishes for
your health & happiness
respectfully yours

Signed by
J. Mason
E. B. Caldwell
F. S. Key

Acting Committee

J. Ashmun, Esq.
Georgetown 26 Sept. 1823.

Dear Sir,

The two following resolutions were yesterday adopted by our Board.

Resolved, "That the Acting Committee be requested to inform Mr. Ashmun that the Board in the present state of its resources, cannot make the arrangement & appropriate the salary he requires - that nevertheless the Board will engage to compensate Mr. Ashmun for any services he may be desired by Dr. Ayres to render to the affairs of the Colony & to assure
him that the Board will make him as full & liberal a compensation for any services he may so render as their funds will enable them to do - and that while residing with Dr. Ayres & employed in assisting him he shall be maintained & provided for at the expense of the Society - and also that he be informed that there will be no objection on the part of the Board to his being engaged in the concerns of the trading company (agreeably to his request) now established in Baltimore.

Resolved,

That in all cases until otherwise ordered of the death or absence of the principal Agent, or his failure
to designate a successor the person next in authority to him in the Colony shall assume exercise for the time being the principal authority, & that the Acting Committee be instructed to communicate this information to the Colony."

In a letter of this date, to Mr. Ashmun, we have communicated to him the substance of the first of these resolutions. We presume that if he is engaged with this trading Company, he will be satisfied to remain with you, as he will receive from us a support, & be compensated for his services as far as our means will allow.

We have now several Agents engaged in obtaining contributions & establishing Auxiliaries in the
Northern States - Also in Maryland and Delaware & hope to receive considerable accessions both to funds & friends.

We are making every exertion to despatch a vessel which we trust will sail in the course of one or two months. But we are sensible that the Colonists must not increase upon you too fast. It is important that they should be comfortably situated, & provided with houses before the rains. Unless therefore we are informed by the return of the Fidelity, that you can provide for more, we shall perhaps send but one vessel this season. This will depend however in some measure upon the expectations of the Coloured
people & the exertions of our friends & therefore if more should arrive, you must make the best provision for them you can. Be good enough to inform us how many in your opinion can be accommodated in a season.

A Committee appointed by our Board have consulted with the Secretary of the Navy on the subject of your accounts & our Agent will communicate the result.

We are well convinced that energetic measures are indispensable to the management of the Colony & we hope you will adopt them.

We approve entirely of your plan of providing
for the Captured Africans in a separate establishment; & have no but doubt that the Secretary will approve of your providing for such an arrangement & everything necessary for it.

We have heard nothing, lately, about the Captives in Georgia, but presume that in the course of the year their case will be finally decided.

We are making every exertion to send out a missionary, and hope to be enabled to do so when our vessel sails. We have been disappointed about Mr. N. Nash, & have applied to his brother; & are expecting daily to hear from him.

Earnestly hoping
that your health is restored, &
that your useful services will
be continued to our cause
& wishing you success & happiness

We are

Very respectfully

Yours,

H. Mason
E. B. Caldwell
F. S. Key

) Acting Comme.

A. C. S.

Dr. Ayres

Agent for Ab C. S. on
the Coast of Africa.

I send you a copy of the letter
transmitted to Mr. Ashmun - R. R. Gurber.
Georgetown, 3d Oct., 1823.

My Dear Sir,

I have delayed writing you until this late hour, from the expectation which was indulged for several days that I might visit the Colony. I have now abandoned the idea of taking passage in the Fidelity & must therefore give you a concise account of our operations since your departure.

The quarterly meeting of our Board in June was one of much interest & importance. It was attended by two delegates from the Society of inquiry concerning missions at Andover, Mass. & by individuals from several auxiliary institutions. Resolutions were adopted
to this effect, that efforts should be made to fit out several vessels for the Colony during the present season. That Agents should be appointed to form Auxiliary Societies & solicit contributions in various parts of the country & that an address containing an account of the condition & prospects of the Colony should be immediately published.

Our new & I think I may say, vigorous exertions have excited a powerful spirit of opposition. Mr. Walsh with whose name you are acquainted, is our determined enemy. But our cause advanced. Of its ultimate success I feel certain.
We shall not, however, be able to accomplish all we desired,
this fall. One, perhaps two vessels will, I think, sail for Cape Mountserado before December. The coloured people of Petersburg, have since the return of Mr. Waring become greatly engaged in the objects of our Institution, & more than one hundred have put down their names to the next expedition.

The prevalence of sickness among the passengers in the Oswego & the deaths which have occurred have rendered some persons incredulous & hostile. Some letters, written by one or two old women in the Colony in a tone of complaint & despondency have terrified the coloured people in Baltimore & they remain hesitating, cold & inactive.
Agents are making exertions for us in various parts of the Country & many literary & Religious publications seem disposed to advocate our cause.

Our Board have resolved to establish, as soon as the number of subscriber will justify it, a monthly work, to be entitled the African Repository & Colonial Journal. I transmit to you a prospectus. Allow me to say that we shall look to yourself for many important communications. You will of course receive our work whenever it may appear.

I transmit by the Fidelity a file of the National Intelligence
the Boston Recorder & all the pamphlets which have been received for yourself since your departure. You will learn something concerning the interest which exists on the subject of our Society from these papers.

I was one of a Committee appointed to visit the Secretary of the Navy to ascertain your standing with the Government. It is I believe just what you could wish. We were told that since you left the Country $3000 have been placed at your disposal in the hands of Baring & Co. London, & that your salary would be paid as it became due, so that this information will relieve you
from all embarrassment. You will receive by the Packet, letters from the Secretary on this subject.

Yesterday

I returned from Baltimore, which I visited to purchase a few such articles (as our friends would allow) to send to the Colony. You receive two looms and some cotton which I hope may promote industry. I have ventured without any positive instructions from the Board, to obtain for you twenty dozen of Porter. God grant it may preserve your health. Some tools will also arrive in the Packet. I wish they were more.

Mr. Key is now sick but I hope he may recover. Mr. Coale will transmit for the Fidelity for Mr. Key, articles of trade to the
amount of five dollars which you will please to exchange for some curiosities & a little of the cotton & coffee of Africa. A bow & arrows is particularly requested.

The Secretary of the Navy (Judge Southard - do not forget) is making arrangements to send by this vessel most of the recaptured Africans of Baltimore. I have spent three days past, with the most interesting coloured man I ever saw, a native African from the Rio Ponges by the name of Richard Wilkinson who speaks three African languages & has conversed directly with seven of the poor Captives just mentioned & through
of these seven with two of the remaining three - one of them is a powerful prince from the Neighborhood of Montserado - most of them from your vicinity.

I am indebted to Mr. Wilkinson who is a Gentleman of great intelligence, for much important information concerning Africa. He expects to return to this Country. A year hence should God preserve my life, I may accompany him to Africa.

I cannot but regret that our Board have given so little encouragement to Mr. Ashmun. You know I have always been dispose favourably disposed towards this gentleman. I hope you may retain him at the Colony.
Your first letter was received just at the time when the terrible report was sent abroad from Boston that the Colony was destroyed. It was therefore published. I now think its publication an inadvertent one. You must forgive it. God help you my Dear friend.

With great respect & esteem yours

R. R. Gurley.
Sierra Leone,
17th October, 1823.

Sir,

I have acknowledged the receipt of your favor of the 28th August and that of Mr. Ashmuns of the same date, enclosing a Bill of Exchange for £350 97/100 Dollars on Messrs. Barings in lieu of one protested - but as this Bill has been drawn in favor of Mr. Kenneth Macaulay, I have deferred forwarding it until his arrival, as it will require his Indorsement before it can be negotiated.

I now send you the several Accounts alluded to in your letter made out agreeable to the form you enclosed. You will find that the Sum of £32.13.9 charged on the 16th May 1822 in Account No. 3 is the amount of three Orders presented by Mr. Hunter for payment on the same day - and the only error which appears on examination to have been made in the former Accounts settled with Mr. K. Macaulay is in the sum of £2 for 20 rice bags, which I have now included in Account No. 1 sent herewith - the subsequent No. 4 forwarded to you by Mr. Easton, has also been corrected and the change is now Arrow root & Coffee Plants omitted, as these articles were

Dr. Ayres
not sent to Cape Mesurado - the total Sum now amounting to L776.1.4 - there will still be a small balance due by you upon the final arrangement of these Accounts - which can be settled on the arrival of Mr. K. M. who I daily expect.

With best wishes for your health

I Remain Sir,

Your very Obed. humble Servant

Robert Dougan.
Nov. the 16th 1823.

Dear Sir,

I received with pleasure and very glad of hearing from you, but was before very uneasy not hearing or seeing any Draft from your Colony, as I expected and indeed waited daily for a Vessel or Craft, for I told you that it was rather a long distance to carry produce. But however I am glad to hear it is still your wish of keeping a Factory, as I am able to furnish you with whatever trade you wish in the Produce line as the Crew men will let you know the particulars. I cannot just now come down as I am yet Busy but I expect to be shortly down, therefore I send by the Crew men 1 Prime Tooth. You will give the weight when you see me, I would have send you four or five Prime Ivory, but the Crew men said that the Canoe was too
small as they came by Sea, which I will bring down myself shortly as the rains are most over now, for I suffered a little by the rains in coming up my Tobs got most wet and clothes, being so much rain all the way from as the dries is coming up now I shall take up a large sum for Ivory and camwood &c. for I will come down there three or four times in a Month in the Dries, but not in the rains, which terms I will make when I come down as there is not a Boat with you to send up. I Beg of you Sir if in case you have landed any Corals, there not to Dispose of them elsewhere, but to send me them by the Crew men in a weeks time and I will bring the Ivory down. If they are four or five strings I can pay for them, you know very well the Price of a String, even if they should be in the hands of the other Gentlemen too beg him for me and send them up and I will give you the price of them.
Dr. Ayres dear and esteem sir,

However extraordinary the arrival of this communication may appear to you, I am very conscious that the integrity of my design will be a sufficient apology for the freedom that I have taken to address this letter to your person.

Dear Sir, I have just arrived here from America in the Schooner Fidelity.
While I was in that Country I had the good fortune to become acquainted with Messrs. Joseph Ring & T. Tyson for whom I was informed that you were an agent in my Country, which gave me much satisfaction indeed, to think that so able a Gentleman had undertaken to transact business and to establish an American Colony in my Country. In your endeavours for this laudable undertaking I sincerely invoke the aid & protection of kind homes.

After I had been some months in your Country, Mr. Ring & Tyson became pleased with me and entered an engagement with me to open a
commercial correspondence with the
natives of his Country, and themselves which
proposition I readily complied with and
brought a cargo of tobacco & other salable articles
for this Country.

And as a testimony of my gratitude
and acknowledgement to them for their
kind hospitality & humanity to me,
while I was in their Country, I offer
myself as a Joint Agent with yourself
in selling & purchasing African produce
for the American market.
And do herein offer you my assistance
in any branch of business in which I can
render you any kind of service, that may
tend to the furtherance of your business.
I shall always feel myself highly gratified
in receiving communications from
you, should this proposition meet
your approbation.

I am extremely happy to inform you
that on my arrival here I found my
Country in profound peace & good
health. I am under the painful necessity
of intimating the late death of a Brother but
my grief is assuaged in his case by consider-
ing that this is nature's law.
I was informed by Captain Thompson of your serious indisposition but as the badness of the season was nearly over I have entertained very favorable hope of your speedy restoration to good health and strength again. Dear Sir the newness of my correspondence does not allow me to be too free in this letter, I shall therefore close this letter and trust to Captain G. C. the conveyance Thompson for whatever intelligence which curiosity or inclination may suggest. And I humbly hope my dear sir that you will receive my most cordial & best respects and allow me to remain your very sincere though unknown friend through life.

Richard Wilkinson.

This letter is from a native of Africa of the Ris Ponges Africa.

E. Ayres.
I have sent you the answer of the letter you sent by me to King Shearker; you will receive by the Crew men,

From yr. Obedt. humble Servt.,

John Caulker,

P. S. My kind respects to you and the other Gentleman &c.

As for making any other offer or trade with any Petty ones is Useless for our factory will be well ablw to supply you, and there will be not so much trouble, as having two or three factorys.

E. Ayres, Agent

the American Colonists

at Mountserrado.