rules, regulations & ordinances for the government of the Territory, acquired by them in Africa, called Maryland in Liberia, not repugnant to the provisions of this Constitution, until the State Society shall withdraw their Agents, and yield the government wholly into the hands of the people of the territory

Article 2. Every Emigrant of full age, before he or she shall be received in Maryland in Liberia, shall read or have read to him or her this Constitution, and sign a declaration to support the same; and they shall in so doing bind themselves to refrain from the use of ardent spirit except in case of sickness,

Article 3 No person shall hold any office in the said Territory who either uses ardent spirit, with the above exception or traffics in it; and the State Society are pledged to carry the principle of abstaining from it, and preventing a traffic in it, into the local government of the territory and have all the powers necessary for that purpose

Article 4. Religion, Morality and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged. The utmost good faith shall always be observed towards the natives; their land and property shall not be taken from them, without their consent; and in their property, rights and liberty, they shall never be invaded or disturbed, unless it may become necessary to do so, to repel aggression on their part: but laws founded in justice & humanity shall from time to time be made for preventing wrongs being done to them, and

for preserving peace & friendship with them

Article 5. No taxes shall be laid in the territory except for the purpose of defence of internal improvement, education and the support of the local government of the territory. Duties and Port charges for the same purposes of revenue shall be imposed from time to time at the discretion of the State Society

Article 6 All elections shall be by ballott, the qualifications of Voters to be fixed by the State Society

Article 7. That the great and essential principles of liberty and free government may be recognized and forever unalterably established, it is hereby declared, as part and parcel of this Constitution

1st All men have a natural and unalienable right to worship Almighty God, according to the dictates of their own consciences, and no one shall be hurt, molested or restrained in his person liberty or estate, for worshipping God in the manner and season most agreeable to the dictates of his own conscience nor for his religious professions or sentiments, provided he does not disturb the public peace nor obstruct others in their religious worship; and all persons demeaning themselves peaceably as good members of the community shall be equally under the protection of the laws; and no subordination or preference of any one sect or denomination to another shall ever be established by Law; nor shall any religious test be required as a qualification for any office or trust in the community; and all religious societies in the community shall at all times

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

I. Minutes
A. Records of the Meetings of the Board of Managers

2. March 1832—December 1834

1833