And now I beg you to accept for yourself, & for your co-workers in this benevolent cause, my unfeigned thanks for the honour which you have done me in offering me an appointment which nothing but an imperative sense of duty causes me to decline. - Make my best regards to Mr. Shepherd. I am, dear Sir, your obliged & humble servant

R. Baird.

R. Baird
July 31st
Declining
the appointment
of general agent
of the Md. State Col. Soc.

(Envelope)

(Post)

John H. B. Latrobe, Esquire.
Com. of the Md. Col. Soc.
Chairman of the Committee.
Baltimore.
Md.

(Frank)

To John H. B. Latrobe Esq.
Chmn: Com.tee. Md. Col. Society.

Philadelphia July 31. - 33.

Dear Sir.

I had the honour of receiving your favour of the 29th on yesterday, conveying to me a vote of your Board, appointing me General Agent of the Maryland Colonization Society, - for which I beg leave to express to you my sincere thanks. I was on the point of writing to you when your letter came to hand. Indeed I should have written to you sooner, had I been able to decide the question of accepting your appointment at an earlier day. -

After having bestowed much attention on the subject & considered well the state of the Society for which I now labour, I have come to the determination that it is not my duty to leave the service of the American C.S. Union at this time, nor at an earlier date than next May or June if even then. The reasons for this I need hardly detail to you - the chief is that it would greatly embarrass the operations of this Society, at a time when the most

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

1. May 1827--December 1833

1833