

Office of the Col Society  
Washington  
Nov 21<sup>st</sup> 1831

Gurley R R



Sir,

You have, doubtless, observed, that public attention in Virginia, and other sections of our Southern Country is strongly excited on the subject of the coloured population & that many leading men are directing their thoughts to the plan of colonizing the free people of colour on the Coast of Africa. As you have already, been pleased to express, by a liberal donation to its funds, your favourable opinion of the Colonization Society, it has occurred to me, that you might also consent to favour us, at this time, with an exposition of your views of the principles & measures of this Society in all the great & various relations they sustain to our own Country & to Africa. I cannot doubt, Sir, that such an exposition at this crisis, from your pen, would

proof of immense service to a cause  
in the progress of which, you have  
evinced so deep & friendly an interest.  
I have reason to think, that the  
subject of African Colonization, will  
receive the solemn consideration of  
the Legislatures of Virginia & N Carolina  
at their next Session, and on this  
account, it seems especially desirable  
that the public should enjoy the benefit  
of the opinions of one, whose experience  
talents & Patriotism, all admire  
& revere. Be pleased, honoured Sir,  
to accept the assurance of  
my profound respect  
& to believe me

His Excellency

Ex President Madison.

Yours faithfully & obed<sup>t</sup>  
servant,  
R. R. Gurley

P.S. I venture to transmit herewith two numbers  
of the African, which I hope is forwarded  
regularly, as it should be. The September  
number contains an article on the most

influence of the Society, which I hope may  
receive your approbation

P. R. Gurley

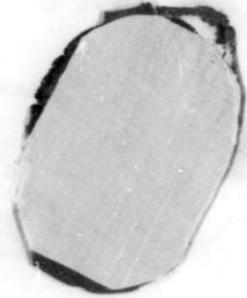
Nov. 21. 1831.

Free

The Excelsior  
by President Madison

Orange County

Virginia



*[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*