Chapel Hill, NC. November 21st, 1818.

It is the duty of every people to assist all who are laboring under the heavy yoke of oppression, it is also a noble principle to listen to the cries of humanity, and as far as lies in their power to comply with their heartfelt petitions. But when a compliance with those entreatings would be to the disadvantage of those who engage in the laudable undertaking, it cannot be any part of their duty to engage in the attempt. However strange my sentiments may appear, yet a cool and dispassionate decision made from reason prompts me to these suggestions: We all equally agree in the curse of slavery; and we equally deplore the wretched situation of that part of mankind which has been compelled to endure this bitter draught for a number of years. Before there is any measure entered into it remains necessary to consider both the many good and bad effects, which will originate from this measure. Otherwise, it will be a reason to be obscured by the kind professions of humanity and it will be like changing the most virtuous medicine into the worst of poison. This small effort towards emancipation, has already added much to those who have taken an active part in it; no doubt but their principles are worthy to be registered in the heavens with umbrellas so that they might be read by the world. But it is feared, the progress of this society will not fulfill the sanguine expectations of its warm advocates, as there is a probability of its being attended with many disadvantage. There are but two places in which this colony can be established; it is then necessary to consider what will be the consequences which will attend this colony if planted in either of the other places.