

APPENDIX.

*Extracts of Letters received at the Colonization Office, from
Governor McGill.*

HARPER, CAPE PALMAS, January 28, 1853.

JNO. H. B. LATROBE, Esq., President Md. State Col. Soc.

Hon. Sir:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of despatches from the Board, dated November last, by the Bark Shirley; an opportunity was afforded me on the day of their arrival, of laying before a full meeting of the citizens, such portions of their contents as referred to the subject of our independence.

I have also furnished the citizens with several copies of the Report of your committee, and the accompanying resolution, as well as of your letter, and have caused it to be proclaimed, that the polls will be opened Monday next, the 30th inst. to receive the votes of the people, so that the result, either for or against "Independence" may be made known to the Board by the return voyage of the Shirley.†

I am happy to inform you that nothing has transpired within the last half year injurious to the peace and tranquility of the Colony.

We are blessed in having an abundance of grain, and other articles of food to supply all the wants of the colonists; the steady and increasing demand for mechanical, and other labor, leaves no industrious man without the means of procuring all of the necessaries and many of the luxuries of life.

There are now in progress of erection in the Colony eleven dwelling houses, owned by young men raised in the Colony; besides these a large stone church is being erected by the Methodists. A stone building designed for a Female Orphan Asylum, has been commenced by the Protestant Episcopal Missionaries.

King Freeman died in the early part of the present month without naming a successor to the throne. The intimate and friendly relations that had so long existed between the deceased King and our government, and motives of sound policy, induced us to render the deceased extraordinary funeral honors. Beneath the flag of our Colony, with the attendance of all the civil officers and the entire military, his remains were borne to their final resting place. A large number of natives from neighboring tribes were here at the funeral, and as is customary all were under arms; there was a great deal of gunpowder consumed, and all were delighted with our demonstrations of sorrow.

In consideration of the funeral honors rendered the King, it was conceded to us, that no one was required to drink the "red water;" we have therefore been instrumental in saving the lives of some half dozen persons who were accused of "making witch for King."

†The proceedings of the Board here referred to, will be found published with their Report of Jan'y 1st, 1853.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

VIII. Commissions and Reports

D. Reports of the Board of Managers
1856