Ninth Annual Report continued.

up under their shadow, full protection was provided for the natives.

The views of the Board of Managers were much forwarded in this particular respect by the immediate connection which their colony formed with the missionary operations of three large sects of christians. The Episcopal, Presbyterian and Methodist Episcopal churches, cotemporaneously almost with the founding of the colony, established missionaries at Cape Palmas, who, through wholly separate from the Society in all respects other than as residents in its territories, still rendered it important services, in the promotion of its views towards the natives, by offering to those last the blessings of religious instruction, and teaching them the arts and learning of civilization.

The Board thus prominently notic these facts in their Report, because one of the most gratifying circumstances connected with the existance of the colony, has been its total exemption from native wars - and one of the most valuable qualifications of Governor Russwurm is the calm, firm and moderate manner in which he has at all times met occasions that threatned collision with the natives. During the last year this has been the more remarkable because the Colony at Cape Palmas has been the only one on the coast in which the military and the natives have not been in hostile array against each other. The enemies of Colonization, in their allegations against it, have always dwelt upon the tendency of a civilized emigration, to encroach upon and finally to exterminate the aborigines of the country to which it went - and prophecied the same results towards the natives of Africa, that had been exhibited in the case of the Indians of the western continent. Every thing that disproves this charge must be hailed with peculiar satisfaction by the christian and philanthropist; and even the politician who looks to Colonization but as the means of removing what he deems to be an evil, will consider it as all the more commended to his favor, by the fact, that its results are in every other respect promotive of the happiness of the human race.

Of course it is not pretended that the settlement of the emigrants at Cape Palmas has wrought such a change among the natives, as to prevent their ever giving cause of offence, or indulging in the propensities towards theft and falsehood, which are the characteristics of savages and which are the fruitful sources of dispute and war, when they come into contact with civilized man. The people governed by the kings around Cape Palmas, claim no exemption from the charges made against the other natives along the coast - all of whom have had the disadvantage of a three hundred

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

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

4. June 1838—October 1851

1842