whatsoever, are during their residence within the said territory, a local and temporary allegiance to the said government by which is understood, obedience to the laws during their residence."

The sense of these enactments being so perfectly clear, it is superfluous to more than allude to the 41st sec: of the Ordinance for Temporary government, which enacts "That no person shall reside in the territory without permission of the Society or the Agent.

A moments consideration of the subject will justify the wisdom of such enactments. The Colony at Cape Palmas being very small in number, with imperfect means of defence and surrounded by barbarian tribes, is continually exposed to assaults or invasions which can only be repelled by every resident exerting his utmost energy in defence of the common weal. No one therefore of this small colony can be exempted from that military training which alone can prepare or enable a body of civilized and disciplined men to defend themselves successfully against a more numerous but undisciplined enemy. Nor can we suppose for a moment that in the hour of danger that the missionaries themselves would hesitate to take arms in the common defence rather than be massacred with their wives and children by a horde of barbarians. They are therefore personally interested in the defence of the Colony and considering the small number

of combatants to be found in the territory, they ought not to desire a single man to be unskilled in the management of weapons, or ignorant of that martial discipline in which their security must chiefly consist.

With respect to that part of Gov. Russwurm's letter intimating a desire to resign his agency. the Committee can only express their sincere hope that the Governor may be induced to reconsider the subject and to continue the exercise of functions that have been exerted so honorably to himself and so beneficially to the colony. We therefore recommend that the president of the Society shall be requested to write to Governor Russwurm and urge his continuance as Chief officer of the Colony at Cape Palmas under the various considerations of our deeming it of essential importance to the welfare of the Colony itself and as furnishing a striking instance of the capacity of colored men to govern themselves under as many favorable exhibitions of morality and intelligence as can be found in the history of any other race of men

J. A. McCulloh Chairman
Hugh Davey Evans
Wm. F. Giles

On motion it was

Resolved, That the letter of Gov. Russwurm above referred to, so far as it relates to his resignation as Governor of Md. in Liberia and Agent of the Society, be for the present laid upon

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

1841