the two Societies and their agents on this general subject.

Our understanding is, that the members of our mission who have been sent from this country, of whatever color, and the persons in our employment at our Station within your colony, who come from native tribes not under your colonial government or from other colonies, and the pupils in our boarding school who are not from tribes subject to you, are all exempt from military duty, as standing in the same general relation to your colony, our committee feel assured, that no other position would be compatible with the well being of the mission, and that you will view the subject in this light. Whatever objections might be thought of in a merely theoretical contemplation of the case, there will be no evils in practice: and as for the accession of physical strength which would arise from having and exercising the right to call on a portion of our missionary force to do military duty, I think the colony would realize more from our being regarded by the natives as totally separated from the colony, and that experience, in some well known instances, has shewn the correctness of this remark.

Native boys, coming from tribes not subject to you, are foreign lads sent to an institution within the bounds of your government for education. So our teachers and helpers from such tribes, are foreigners. So are our helpers from other colonies than your own, unless they have been

naturalized, so to speak, by some process that is sanctioned by the usages of nations. This is the view, the only view, we are able to take of the matter in question. It appears reasonable in all its aspects. I trust it will seem so to you and your associates.

Besides, if the natives see members of our mission (and they cannot make distinctions between the different classes of laborers) training in your military companies, and in case of apprehended disturbance, called out with arms to contend with them; our missionaries will lose all their moral power to influence the native minds.

As we wish to send out definite and positive instructions to our missionaries at Cape Palmas by some one of the vessels which are to sail about the first of next month, I will thank you to favor me with your views in reply to this as soon as may be convenient. I would write you at more length, but it is not necessary. I believe the case is clearly stated and there is a mutual desire between us to act on those principles which will preserve the harmony, and at the mean time the officers of the joint enterprises in which we are engaged.

I am, dear sir, with great respect
very truly yours
R. Anderson Secy.

Correspondence between Gov. Russwurm & Rev. J. L. Wilson
From Rev. J. L. Wilson to Gov. Russwurm.

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