Dear Sir,

Several young men whom we have in our employ viz: Thomas Brent, John Edwards, Richard Edwards – Thorpe, also two young men connected with Mr. Canfield's mission have all been formally notified to appear on parade Saturday 26 inst. armed and equipped according to law by order of Capt Thomas Jackson, to whom they are to apply for muskets &c.

As I am inclined to think these notifications have been issued without your knowledge or direction, I write both on my own account and Mr. Canfield's to ascertain if such be the case, and will be obliged to you for a note in reply.

From Gov. Russwurm to J. L. Wilson

Dear Sir,

The subject of young men from Sierra Leone and Cape Coast being liable to do military duty in this Colony came up for discussion before the Vice Agent and myself last week, in my office, and we were both of the opinion, that they were as liable to be called upon for duty, as colonists from the U. S. Nothing was said about Mr. Canfield's young men.

From Rev. J. L. Wilson to Gov. Russwurm

Dear Sir,

An answer to your note yesterday afternoon has been unavoidably deferred until this morning.

It has occurred to me after perusing your favor, that the terms of agreement entered into between the Md. Col. So. and A. B. C. F. M. in July 1838, pertaining to the performance of military duty by persons connected with our mission, had either escaped from your recollection, or had been differently understood by the two Societies.

Dr. Anderson who furnished us with an official statement of that transaction, says in a letter which is now before me, "as the missionaries and assistant missionaries we send from this country into the colony, are to be regarded and treated as foreigners, so also are the native teachers we may bring from tribes not subject to the colony to be regarded."

This is a principle obvious in itself and understood between us. It having been stated in a previous part of his (Dr. A.) letter, as also in one addressed to him by Mr. Latrobe, which I have likewise in my possession, that foreigners in the colony, as well as in all other parts of the world, are exempt from military duty, serving as jurors &c.

If, however, this matter is differently understood by the Md. Col. Soc. or if you feel unwilling to acquiesce in the matter as set forth in Mr. Anderson's, I would respectfully request that the order requiring the young men from Cape Coast and Sierra Leone may be suspended until such a time as this matter may be once more

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