pupils were liable to be called upon at any time to act in arms against them. And further, that in the United States the exemption claimed was fully granted; and again, that the demand for military service was never anticipated when the mission was founded. The representatives of both these missions frankly avow, that in no possible contingency, even if the alternative was the extirpation of the colony, could the missionaries, consistently, either take arms to defend it against native aggression, or advise the colonists in the use of them, - although they say, that the aid which they could afford, as mediators between the natives and colonists, in the event of collisions between them, would be more important than any accession of physical strength to be obtained by enforcing the 32nd section of the ordinance; and that their influence as mediators would be in proportion to the belief of the natives, founded on the fact, that the missions and the colony were totally distinct.

To these views the Board have been obliged to reply, that the ordinance was in force before the missions were established - that the scant population of the colony, in the midst of barbarous tribes, for the present at least would not justify them in extending the exemptions from military duty beyond the white men at the mission - that they could not delegate to the missionaries the right to say who should by becoming a member of a mission family, enjoy such protection as the colony could afford without being obliged to

defend the government under which he lived, - that if the mission boarding schools increased as they had done, there would soon be a body of civilized natives in the colony better instructed, perhaps, than even the colonists, who, owing no obligation to the government, nor to the barbarous laws of their own native Kings, would have no temporal superiors but the missionaries themselves; and who would have been brought up by the missionaries without one object of common interest with the colonists with whom it was the Board's object to unite them - that the result would be an imperium in imperio, with all the evils attending such a state of things. - that whether the operation of the 32nd section of the ordinance at the missions would add any thing to the physical strength of the colony, the grounds on which it was sought to be avoided was of itself a sufficient reason for the Board's action in enforcing it - for the state society never for a single moment could recognise the principle which made the missionaries the mediators between the natives and colonists - as this was in effect to make them superior to both; nor could they favor any measures, the possible tendency of which might be to transfer any portion of political power from the government house at Cape Palmas to the missionary establishments in its vicinity.

It was not hastily that the Board came to these conclusions, and at last they did so with much regret; for they had for years been acting in the hope, that the

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