inimical to missionary operations within the Colony — this latter charge is a matter of serious import to your Society, for if sustained, one of your strongest claims upon a christian public for support will be gone, and many who have heretofore given you liberally of their means as the surest method of doing something for benighted Africa, will turn away from you in sorrow if not in anger — What facts have the Committee (of which Chancellor Walworth was Chairman) brought to sustain this grave charge? None except the four allegations of which we shall speak hereafter appear in the report.

Near its conclusion — "your Committee are, however, of opinion that the real cause of the difficulty of continuing missionary operations there, to extend christianity to the native tribes, lies in the fact that the local authorities find or at least suppose, that the temporal interests of the Colony as such, necessarily conflict with the objects of the Board in establishing its stations in the Colony or its neighbourhood, to civilize and christianize the native inhabitants. It is perfectly natural that the government of a Colony professing territorial jurisdiction and exercising civil power therein should direct its attention to the increase of the wealth, the supply of the temporal wants, and the security of the personal safety of the colonists, rather than to the spiritual good of the native inhabitants of the country in which such Colony is

planted, while the attention of the missionaries is devoted to the latter object. The result of this conflict of duties and interests has been in this case to render the Colonists hostile to the inhabitants of the coast and the missionaries &c." — The undersigned are at a loss to perceive any conflict between the duties and interests thus assigned by Chancellor Walworth respectively, to the government of the Colony and the Missionaries and they hear it for the first time, that the colonists are hostile to the natives and the missionaries. They are constrained to believe, that the highly respectable committee, whose report they are now reviewing, when making this assertion, must have been greatly in error of the facts of the case — upon this part of the report, as it charges a hostile feeling to exist in the Colony at Cape Palmas, to the missionaries, we are fortunate in being able to refer to a living witness now in this country, who occupies a most important station in the Colony, and who, from the very nature of his profession & possesses opportunities of becoming acquainted with the feelings of the Colonists inferior to none — and as the undersigned have known him for years, they would add, one upon whose statements every reliance can be placed they allude to Dr. McGill whose manly defence of the Government and people of his adopted home will add new laurels to his present well earned fame. Dr. McGill in his letter says "that it is untrue that we, as a people, are in any way opposed to the most extensive prosecution of Missionary labours among the natives within the limits of the Colony and its vicinity, and it is not a fact that the Government of 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

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