from Cape Palmas, and despatched my friend to the King in a canoe, with a small dash - that he may expect us to-morrow. The news reached here some days before us, and we had fifty or a hundred off to see us at this distance; all begging for rum & tobacco.

Feby. 15th Came to anchor to day at four o'clock P.M., in the harbour of Cape Palmas - The Bay at the north side of the Cape is very secure, and well barred by a reef from the sea. The vessel lies in seven fathoms of water; sandy bottom about one mile from the town which is located at the south of the river. — The appearance of the country, the bay, & river is exceedingly fine, & no place could be more desirable for a settlement. The natives evince the utmost anxiety that we should stay with them; but many difficulties will doubtless be thrown in the way by the other towns who are extremely jealous; however, I shall visit the King tomorrow, and arrange matters as speedily as possible.

Feby. 12th Presented myself to day to the King of Cape Palmas in due form, and stated our object in visiting his Majesty; entering into a detail of all matters connected with the present expedition - desiring his assent to our proposals of locating our emigrants & establishing a town &c., which he readily & cordially gave, and we only await the morrow to consummate the matter with him, King of Cavalley & Grahway; both of whom he has promised to have convened in due form — Have this afternoon ascended the river three or four miles, and find it very much like the Mesurado absolutely walled in by the Mangroves although not of the same width. — We often passed little avenues for landing which gave us a fine view of cultivated fields. — I am informed that as you ascend the river, the land is more elevated & highly cultivated or covered with a heavy growth of timber.

Feby. 13th We this day held a palaver with the following Kings; Freeman of Cape Palmas, Will of Grahway and Joe Holland of Grand Cavalley, which terminated in executing and signing the enclosed deed, which includes all the possessions of the above named Kings in this Country generally penetrating about twenty miles in the interior & to the same extent of sea board. — This purchase is all that we could possibly desire, and far, far more than we had reason to expect, and the compensation therefor much less than any one acquainted with the African character could have anticipated. And I will venture to say that no treaty of the kind was ever effected, or a palaver of this magnitude set with the natives of this country in so short a time.

I have not time to enter into a detail of the general conduct of our palaver, but I will just observe that so much had been said to the Headmen who we brought from Monrovia, on the subject of ardent spirits, that they

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II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

2. 1834--1835

1834