Cape Palmas April 16th 1834 –

My dear Sir As a vessel is passing this morning I snatch a few moments to inform you of the present posture of affairs. Mr Mersey left us about two weeks since to my great sorrow & regret. I was then too ill to write & he promised to give you all information in his power concerning the colony when he should arrive at the Cape. Our new emigrants are all well or convalescent from the fever without the loss of a single one, although our houses have been very open & leaky. Those from the Cape are mostly in their own houses & their town lots are mostly fenced in. Our expedition as I apprehended was so late that nothing can be done at farming this season, so one year to them is lost. My long tedious illness of more than a month has rendered matters still worse as the people needed constant spurring to effect any thing with them. I detained the Brig Ann but three days on her return from the Cape & it was owing to my fatigue & exertion in discharging her that I suffered so severely. The Capt remains no disposition to forward matters & throughout the whole he has done every thing to retard the expedition & not to infringe upon our profit the charter. The Rum that I judged we should want for the Infirmary was stowed on deck in my presence excepting three casks in the hold & I could not wait to see them up, as trouble with the natives called me on shore but I gave orders to the Capt & mate to empty them on deck & the empty casks came on shore. The natives robbed us of ten casks of powder & many valuable articles when landing & we were very nigh having an engagement. The King & Head men shortly sanctioned the business. I yesterday had a convention of the Kings & Chiefs to agree upon a standard price of trade as they refused to sell any produce without it. & I find that throwing our necessity

Samuel Hall
Cape Palmas, April 16. 1834.

relative to the wants of the colony, &c &c.
Recorded in "Foreign Letter Book" No 1 folio 288 &c.

Rec'd Aug 28

Hon Jos Kent
Chief Md S. Col Society
Baltimore
Md.

Maryland Historical Society
The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers
II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books
2. 1834--1835
1834