which it — On the morning of Sunday, Oct 25th I had an interview with the King Ach. but neither of us was disposed to touch upon the main problem. He was much cast down in consequence of the sickness of one of his young wives. I offered to look at her, at which he appeared gratified. I found her labouring under severe inflammation of the whole contents of the abdomen & in excruciating agony. I informed the King that but little hope remained of effecting a cure, but temporary relief could be produced. I applied a blister of an extremely acrid root of the Country, gave a pill dose of Laudanum & put her into a warm bath. Speedy relief from pain ensued & the patient soon fell into a profound sleep. This effected a total change in the King. he called my head man, told him I must go when & where I pleased: had a bullock killed & a large quantity of rice prepared for our journey. I gave him to understand that I duly appreciated his kindness, talking of the proposed roads across the Country, of the advantages that intercourse with the Americans would be to his people etc. He said his Country was large & the people few, that he would be glad to make any arrangements relative to the possession of a part of it by the Americans, that I might propose. I promised to come to his Country & dell that palaver at some future day.

This I shall endeavour to effect as soon as circumstances will permit & I have but little doubt but this man will become one of the most effective & useful allies to the Colony. His territory is very extensive, in fact unbounded on the N.W. & East, that is, no boundaries have as yet been established, not having come in contact with his neighbours in their farming operations. Up the river his dominions extend at least eight miles on both sides. The main line as you will perceive by any map forms a very material curve, leaving this the

most westerly point for some miles: of course the most desirable spot at which to intersect it with a road from Cape Palmas. Above this we could hardly expect to reach it. & no point below would be so desirable. You will therefore readily see the most important of the proposed arrangement with King Ach. I regret not having been better supplied with funds, that I might have secured Napatia & Ashe-so in my course up. In that case the whole of what is termed the half-bush country would have been unalterably ours. Of the face of the country from Mount Ararat here, I have said little. In fact there is little of variety to say. Picture to yourself a magnificent deep river, moving smoothly onwards, with an even colour unruffled surface; banks elevated from ten to forty feet above its bed, indicating by their frequent ruptures an incredible depth of the richest soil that any combination of earthy matter is capable of forming. Gently as you glide down the stream, alternately on either side the tops of the banks skirted with a heavy thick growth of impenetrable Spear grass, the ready successor to a crop of vegetables or grain: or perhaps still teeming with its wavering harvest of the Indian Corn, occasionally of rice, interspersed with occasional clusters of the Indian Corn. occasionally on the very edge of the bank you are astonished to behold one of those large forest trees, from which the Indians extract their inimitable canoes, left as if to declare to the enquiring passenger, we are the original possessors of the soil. On the opposite side you are no less charmed with the time, in Nature's own garb. The banks are less elevated are covered with all the vanities of the African forest trees, from the very tops of which a broad expanse of network descends & sweeps the passing current.

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II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

2. 1834--1835

1835