Early the following morning I received a letter from Mr J. - acknowledging the truth of the rep of a criminal connection with Sally" - this took place during his wifes Pregnancy -
He denied the truth of the report of his connection with Jacks wife and of his attempts upon Frances and martha
~~Committed, as it appears~~ The Crime confessed was committed as it appears from his letter, before his appointment by our Board and he professed repentance, and spoke of an accusing conscience. I could say that he had not repented and reformed before he began his labours in connection with our mission - This profession of repentance seemed to me, however to arrise more from a dread of the results then from a sense of sin committed - against heaven and in the sight of god -
I was therefore embarrased in regard to a proper course of action, and wrote him requesting more definite information before I could decide positively what to do - in answer to my letter Mr Thomson gave me his second Confession - viz -
of an illicit carnal intercourse with a native woman of Robookah - This was committed since his connection with our mission - The letter which brought forth this confession is the one which was said to contain a "sacred promise" to conceal crime! Remember the ground of his acquittal - which was that the confession of his guilt was drawn forth by me through a sacred promise of concealment! by which his confession was

was drawn forth. - (a copy of the said letter will be found in page No) It had been reported to both the Board of Colonization and our Board of Missions, that a great prejudice existed among the colonist against Mr Thomson and that it arose from a strict honest and faithful discharge of his duties while engaged in the Colonial store -
I arrived here with the same impression on my mind - Mr Thomson in his letters beg of me not to expose him till he had got out of the reach of his enemies - In the 3rd paragraph of my letter, you will read as follows "Nothing can be gained by the Church of Christ by Blazing forth to a wicked world the Crimes of those who who profess to be Members of the pure body of the Son of God" My meaning in that paragraph was that I should not unnecessarily expose him That his enemies and his persecutors would have no unjust grounds for Triumph - I feel myself in duty bound to say, now, that I am fully satisfied, that the unfavourable standing of Mr Thomson in the colony did not arise from an unjust prejudice and jeloisy in the minds of the Colonist - I would here ask Is the above paragraph a sacred promise is it a promise at all to conceal his Crime and screen him from the just demands of your laws? the only promise to be found in that letter, was, that I would so conduct the affair as far as it lay in my power, that it should turn out best for the Cause of Missions to this benighted people and the

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

1837