indigenous fruits &c of the Country, to is a very noble one. The Native plaintains &c as cassada could be here, and the man who cannot live (I do not say well) here cannot and does not live, i.e., [illegible] I mean to say this of such as are settled on their farms and have their health. For before they are so situated they cannot but suffer much. I think it likely that the Society is not aware of the length of time requisite for acclimation, or if so that they have not the means of prolonging the time of support which it calls for. At the expiration of six months the emigrants just begin to be able to work to advantage. At this time they are compelled to go with many of them penny less, to occupy their farms with the means of subsistence – or if they do – these they do do it by ~~[illegible]~~ involving themselves in debt from which they are long in extricating themselves. I certainly think therefore that either the term of support should be extended or that the penny less Colonists should be supplied with the means of building on leaving the receptacle. The present system is certainly very defective and I know from personal observation is productive of a great amount of suffering. I could give other evils such as sending out expeditions with a supply of provisions as both the last have been, but I forbear in order to give you a hasty glance of our own operations.

We have not yet extended our labours beyond this station. We preach in every Sabbath to the Colonists and the natives in the vicinity of Cape Palmas town. The congregation is small though small are attentive – and two or three of the former have been added to our church – amongst these is Mrs Russwurm, who traces her first impressions to the perusal of the Bible sent her by Miss Latrobe. There is, we are led to believe quite a spirit of enquiry amongst the natives at this time on the subject of religion. Brother Wilson admitted to his communion last Sabbath one adult native man of his male, and one of his female scholars. Thus is the Lord already beginning to show to his servants the fruits of their labours. You will pray with me that the numbers of returning prodigals may increased to scores and hundreds yea untill all shall know the Lord!

I have taken the liberty to return directing to your care the large hardware. It will be wholly useless here. You will please keep them untill directed by Mr Gay what disposition to make of them. We received all the things ordered through you by the Committee which we can compare. As you sent no account of bricks we cannot know any thing certain about them. You will greatly oblige me by forwarding to Mr Barroll of the Sailing of the Expeditions as he is not yet to know, not taking much interest in colonizing &c. Please present my respects to Mrs G. & Miss Latrobe and Mr Atkinson and believe me to be

Revd & dear Sir

Yrs truly

J. Payne

We are all well. Mrs P desires to be remembered to you. I forgot to say that Mr Appleby is with us in good health and warm heart.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

5. 1838