see how the gathering of native African youth into missionary schools at Cape Palmas, & the employment of the more advanced & promising pupils as helpers in the mission, can become in any manner dangerous to the interests of the Colonization Society; nor do they see how it can conduce to those interests to have the native Africans, who come from independent tribes in the neighborhood, & have but a temporary connection with the mission, trained to the martial spirit, the use of warlike instruments, & the various arts of war; it being much more probable, in the opinion of the Committee, that this species of training would prove a source of danger & injury to the interests of the whole community, in the circumstances supposed.

"Resolved, – That the continuing of the native assistants & pupils of the mission, belonging to independent tribes, to do military duty, cannot fail to prove injurious, if not destructive, to the welfare of the mission, which was established by the Board, with the consent & approbation of the Managers of the Maryland Colonization Society, & with no reason whatever, on the part of the Prudential Committee or the missionaries, to anticipate a requisition so repugnant ~~to the~~ views & principles on which the Board conducts its missions; & any attempts, on the part of any agents of the Colonization Society, to compel the native helpers & pupils of the mission, coming from independent tribes, to do military duty, cannot but be regarded by the Committee as interference to the mission.

"Resolved, – That the Prudential Committee feel bound, in justice to their missionaries, to enter their serious & earnest protest against the enforcement of the thirty-second section of the ordinance of the Maryland Colonization Society for the temporary government of the colony, relating to military service, so far as the missionaries & assistant missionaries of this Board are concerned.

"Resolved, – That the Prudential Committee respectfully request the Board of Managers of the Maryland State Colonization Society to give their agent at Cape Palmas such instructions, as will effectually prevent any agitation of this subject in future."

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

7. 1841—1842

1841