Harper January 1. 1842

Jno. H. B. Latrobe Esqr
Pres.t Md. S. Col. Soc.y

Hon.d Sir

The expected arrival of a vessel from the U. States at an early period induces me to prepare the report of the health of our Colony during the year 1841.

Up to the month of June there were not many fatal cases of disease; on that period and until the termination of the year I regret to say that the number on the sick list have been large, and and an unusual number have died. On a reference to the following list you will discover that the age, and complaints of several, fully accounts for their decease, and I trust I may add yet another cause in my view so much reduced is my stock of medicines, that suitable articles could not be had to treat them with. Of this I have heretofore written, and as I hope at an early period to receive a fresh supply, the present year will likely produce more favorable results.

Deaths in Cape Palmas during the Year Ending November 1841

Names	Ages	Disease
1. Cleopatra Mc Gill.	14	Phthisis Pulmonalis.
2. William Reynolds	40.	Dropsy.
3. Jane Wilson.	25.	Pleuro-Splenitis.
4. Ezekiel Harrington.	42.	Chronic Rheumatism.
5. Mary Hobbs.	40.	do do
6. Frank Banks	80	Erysipelas Sanguineum
7. Saml Saunders Sen.r	79	Yellow Fever.
8. Henry Johnson	65	Epistaxis.
9. Sal.r Wall Infantum	5	
10. Nath.l Edmonson	80	Fatal Sore Throat
11. Elizabeth Spriggs.	65	Dysentery
12. Sophia Martin	57	Dysentery.
13. Charles Jennings	22	Dysentery.
14. James Stewart	29	Phthisis Pulmonalis
15. David James	10	Dropsy.
16. Jimsby Jackson	40	Incipient Peripneumonia.

Deaths Total 16.

Births in Cape Palmas during the year Ending Nov.r 1841

Mrs Chas. Harmon	1
Mr Brooks.	1
Priscilla Young	1
Mrs Sal. Bishop	1
Mrs Donaldson	1
Mrs Neal.	1
Mrs H. Harmon	1
Mrs Jno. Banks	1
Mrs Mellen.	1
Mrs Sal. Payne.	1
Mr. Brock.	1
Mrs J. H. Mc Gill.	1
Mrs J. B. Underwood.	1
Mrs Jno. Davis.	1
Sylvia Lee	1
Mrs Hall Scotland	1
Mrs Simpson	1
Mrs Geo. Hardy.	1
Mrs Emmanuel Davenport	1
Mrs Benj. Fulman	1
Mrs Maniah Hunter	1
Mrs Shadrach Fulman	1
Mrs Jacob Fulman	1

Births. Total 25.

In the months of September and October of last year our Colony was visited with an Epidemic Dysentery, during the period of its prevalence, fifty three individuals were seized with it. Fourteen of this number labored under the disease in a most severe form. The Natives, who reside near our Settlement, were in some instances exempt from the disease, but in 1840 when the disease visited the natives alone in Cape Palmas, were the subjects of it. To the Windward at Fish Town it raged with great violence, carrying off ten and twelve a day; at Trekway and Cavally it was equally severe. To the Leward as far as the Gold Coast we have heard of its existence and its terrible fatality.

You have been from time to time apprized of the number of cases of chronic disease that have come under my notice, such as the cases of Reynolds, Harrington, Hobbs, Wilson, and Stuart. For the cure of such cases my labour is spent in vain; altho' they have all the care that could possibly be rendered, yet without a change of climate and habits, they cannot recover.

Notwithstanding the unusually large number of deaths, you will discover that there has still been an increase in the Colony. The children are generally healthy and stout; far more so than before my arrival in the Colony. A foolish notion once existed, that an infant must eat of all substances of which the mother partook in its crude state, the consequence was that they sickened and died. Since my arrival nearly all have been induced to feed them on milk alone so that we can defy the world, for the production of a more stout, and thriving set of children. I could not evenmindly ascertain the sex of each infant, but think that there is a majority female.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

7. 1841—1842

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