

not satisfied our claims it affords excellent ground for imprisoning all of that people we can seize, this is also "Matter factum" I have one now in prison, and am engaged in completing the jail so that a large number may be accommodated. They must either pay their debt, accept of our terms for peace or give us satisfaction for their rude and uncivil treatment.

We have had no palavers with our Cape Palmas neighbors but have to complain that the opposition of King Freeman and his tribe who are the friends, and of the family of River Caralla people, is the principal cause of our failure in bringing the war parties to terms. Freeman supplies arms and ammunition and urges the prosecution of the war hoping to drive the Half Caralla people from the point in which their town is located. We may raise objections to the imprisonment of the River people and may possibly oppose it, should he however resort to any other method than that of the payment of their debts for their release he will encounter difficulty. I have apprehended some movement of the kind and am prepared for it. The Cape Palmas people would send an armed force to aid the River people could they be assured of our protecting their town from an attack of the Rock town people during their absence. We conceive it to be for the best interest of our colony that the Half Caralla people should remain where they are, they serve as a check or restraint upon the other tribes, who would wish to annoy the Colony.

In the midst of our sufferings and privations good order and harmony has steadily prevailed in our community.

The depression of trade has caused a rapid falling off in the amount of Revenue, this must continue diminishing until the revival of trade. The Commonwealth is in debt, the issue of Treasury orders has exceeded the collections over one Hundred dollars to June 1<sup>st</sup>. since that period the current expenses have exceeded the amount of collection: with even brisk trade, it will require one half of next years Revenue to pay off present claim on the Treasury.

The recent famine has been the cause of severe and fatal disease among our Colonists, such food as they consumed for two or three months was innutritious and unwholesome: weakened and enfeebled by hunger, they soon became diseased by exposure to the rains or other agents upon procuring New Rice used it to freely cause very dangerous and protracted abdominal complaints. The proportion of natives who have died from the same causes was three to one greater than that of our Colonists. All the Caralla natives died from starvation.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received

A. Letter Books

10. 1847--1848--1849

1848