

Articles of a treaty made and concluded in  
Korpe, Cape Palmas the fifteenth day of June, in the  
year of our Lord one thousand, eight hundred and fifty-two,  
by Saml. D. M<sup>r</sup>. Gill, Agent of the Maryland State  
Colonization Society and Governor of Maryland in Liberia,  
on the part of the American Colonists; and the King and  
Headmen of the native towns and people of Cape Palmas, as-  
sembled in Council, witnesseth:

Whereas the native Africans of Cape Palmas have  
reason to apprehend serious and fatal affrays between them-  
selves and the American Colonists, from the customs prac-  
tised by the former of administering an infusion of the  
Bark of Sassy tree, to individuals of their tribe accused of  
sorcery, and other crimes, whereby such as drink it, are fre-  
quently killed, and their bodies indecently exposed on the  
streets and roads of the American Colony: And whereas  
the American inhabitants of Cape Palmas, always express  
the greatest abhorrence to the custom, pronouncing it barbarous  
and inhuman, and often interfere to hinder and obstruct its  
operation, and have frequently rescued natives who were ad-  
judged to trial by this ordeal; and in one instance, re-  
cently, did rescue a native woman from which cause one of  
the colonists was seriously injured: And whereas the King  
and headmen of the Cape Palmas people are disposed to  
evince their disapprobation of this outrage on said colo-  
nists, to give satisfaction to the Governor for the same, and  
to guard against the possibility of similar complaints  
in future: And whereas the Governor of Maryland in  
Liberia being anxious to promote the peace, prosperity and  
happiness of his native friends, and being determined to use  
every means in his power to suppress the heathenish and  
inhuman custom of forcing poison on persons charged with  
offences - which only exist and are originated by ignorance  
and superstition -

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received  
A. Letter Books

11. 1850--1851--1852

1851