Harper, Cape Palmas, February 6, 1853

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 20th November, 1852, was received. All you have said in your official letters, through different mediums to the people, has had its due weight and effect. And I must assure you I feel that more praise, than was my due, has been given in favor of the first feeble steps taken on my part at self reliance.

The question of independence, of which, I suppose, you will be informed by your Agent, was voted last Monday without any opposition. The returns were 124. If I am to determine by the expression of satisfaction in the people, I must declare them to be in earnest; — but how well they will stand when the "pinch of the shoe comes on them", I cannot say. As for my part, all the glow, which the subject, at first, presented, for want of adequate means to make a fair trial at self support, I have shut out from my sight; and I now see none but better days and fair prospects a-head.

As the much lamented Mr Russwurm once said to me, when a boy, "Never think a thing too hard to accomplish, until you have fairly tried it"; — so say I now about our new government and the means for its support — And it is a principle which I shall labor to infuse in the minds of my fellow colonists.

You need not doubt my relying in you, and on what you have said; though, on one or two points, I was somewhat, at first, inclined to differ from you. But as a young man raised in Africa, with few — very few advantages, I have been obliged to yield to the force of your eloquence and rare ability, as illustrated in matters connected with this Colony; and I am persuaded, and in fact feel assured, that in all you have done and may do on the subject of African Colonization, your attention will be especially di-

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11. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

12. January 1853--April 1855

1853