Harper September 10. 1853

Dr. James Hall
Agent &c &c

Dear Sir

The "Shirley" sailed from this port on the 3. inst, and will probably leave the coast, the first week in October if not earlier. I am informed that she will have full freight home. Messrs Cassell & Prout are on board ~~the S.~~ I hope you have been able to arrange your plans, so as to admit of their speedy return. Not one word was said in regard to the payment of their passage; it is however presumed that you will defray all expenses.

The Frigate "Constitution" Commodore Mayo was in our harbor when the Shirley sailed. At my urgent request the Commodore touched at River Cavalla on his way down, and effected a treaty between tribes who have been at war over ten years in that neighborhood. We have repeatedly sent down commissioners to effect a settlement of difficulties, but always met with a repulse from the Barbos. The same game was tried with the Commodore, who threw in four and twenty balls as a hint that it would'nt do; he hammered them into compliance with his wishes. I herewith forward a copy of his communication from Riv. Cavalla.

For his demonstrations of friendship towards the Colony and its people Commodore Mayo deserves the highest encomiums of our patrons at home, and has our warmest thanks. Whether he has orders to render us assistance I cannot say, but really I have known, of no previous instance, in which a Commodore has been willing to do so much. In the future operations of the government, the occasional visits of American vessels of war will be of great service.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

11. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

12. January 1853--April 1855

1853