The British government commenced the punishment of the Natives of Labo, in November last for the massacre of the Crew of the Schr. "Mersine" of London.

They have destroyed every town from Rabokah to Basaw including the latter, without I learn killing a single native. Two vessels are stationed off Grand Labo. I learn that it is the intention of the Admiral to land & force to pursue the Natives into the interior where they have fled, and are established.

The Poor River people have succeeded in driving off the Peddy people, and taken possession of the territory purchased of the latter by your Agent in 1850. They were warned against this encroachment on our rights, and told that we should be forced to undertake their expulsion; they scorn our threat and defy us. Our Colonists are anxious to punish them, but I question the prudence of an undertaking of this kind, at this particular period. It would require the whole force of our Colony to inflict upon them the punishment they deserve, as we should have to contend with both Poor River & Garraway tribes. It would not be prudent either to involve the Colony in a war just at the moment when I am about to retire from office, The Council will propose an application to Commodore Mayo for aid, I am not inclined to favor it for reasons above stated, and shall urge them to wait the return of our Commissioners before declaring war.

We have in the Agency Store near two thousand ears of Rice.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

11. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

12. January 1853--April 1855

1854