And that very justly too, that a combination had entered into having for its object the consumation of the discovered insurrection, the treatment tendered our Commissioners, was the effect of that consolidated scheme, which lead us to infer it was not over, further that the Government had not yet penetrated all the meanderings of this Diabolical plot, amongst the many insults tendered by the Gravayians one was the land was theirs, and, they would not pay any respect to no Governor, but Sovereah. the Government right to this section of Territory by purchase is clear and, Unquestionable, after this, the Government having availed itself of all the Adviser within its immediate reach, collected all the information of importance to enable the Government to act, disentitrale from the surrounding elements of popular commotion, the necessary precaution in the event they shouldn't take armed Umenage to the Government decision, and immediatly resort to arms. The Government encouraged the hope that the question might possibly be disposed of without appeal to hostilities, with this feeling a proposition was happily prepared to be submitted to the Cape Palmas people. The Government could but be seriously impressed with the Responsibility of her charge, to provide them a home, the Government was obliged to be just in the settlement of this matter yet tempered with mercy.

Monday Dec 22. 1856. The Executive, His Honor the Pt Sec: The Secty of State, met in the Executive Chambers, at seven o clock A.M. the Palmas Delegation was informed of the Governors readiness to have an Audience for the definite decision of this vexed question a third and, fourth messenger left no hope for the pacific solution of this baneful question, The Government and advisers, paused during the space, The Government was cognizant of their obstinacy, still hoped to be successful without an appeal to coercive measure on the one

of upholding great principals by pacific measure, but for a minute lease without further checks, for which years of seductive toil, and stringent Legislation could never ~~atone~~, avail the Government for its tardy action on this important occasion, every indication seemed, pregnant with favorable omen. The time, the season, all pointed to this epoch to vindicate the down trodden rights, and upheld the strong arms of the majesty of Law and Order, the Palmas people had abused their opportunities the Government and people, had lost their confidence in that people, the wonted forbearance of the Govt had been exhausted, their was no more claims on the charity of the Government to be extended, the chain had been severed asunder, the fact of the premeditated massacre was too obvious, their was no pausing this point without applying to that act the Government most solemn disapprobation, yet withal tempering the means so as to rice ourselves of all the inflamatory materials from our immediate vicinage by peaceful method, yet those patient means was treated, with marked disrespect, at eleven o clock A.M. The Order was given to open fire on the large Town, from the battery on the Cape, at twelve o clock (M) the three Towns was in ashes, the natives retreated through Doe Walls field to the Bush, some on the Lake to Gravay, they fired several unprotected Buildings amongst which the Baptist church, on their way to the Bush County and twenty they killed one American, wounded one on the Cape, the number of natives wounded, and killed is not known, but it is the opinion their are many members. The first chapter of war, in the St of Ml (S) in Liberia, closes.

Maryland Historical Society

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II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

13. May 1855--October 1857

1857