much their power, it will occur to you & the gentlemen of the Board, why did I not thus & so, or why did I thus & so. — But I trust that in case my acts do not meet your approval you will make all allowance for the difference of our position, the different standpoints from which we view the subject. My first impulse was to proceed immediately to Cape Palmas, & try to settle the palaver through my influence with the Natives — but remember the Natives were suing for peace on almost any terms short of extermination. & from all I could learn of Doughty's character & proceedings, I could not hope to influence him — I was anxious to see Dr McGill before I left, hoping all the while that he might have been able to settle the palaver. His arrival however entirely changed the aspect of affairs. The condition of the Colony as represented by Dr McGill & Mr Hoffman was critical if not desperate. Doughty applies for aid to the last source to which he could apply, with an express determination still to exterminate the Gabo tribe or drive them out of their old territory. He knew I was here or shortly to be here & yet made me no communication — Neither of the Consuls could render any assistance. Had I then gone down alone & failed to effect a reconciliation or even a suspension of hostilities, which was most likely, much delay would have been incurred, the use of the Ship could not have been obtained to transport troops. Even if troops could have been obtained I could not venture to go down with them. — I thought of going to Sierra Leone, the English Consul promising his assistance in endeavoring to get a man of war, from that place if any one happened to be in port. But this would have consumed very a month of precious time & an even chance that we should find no vessel on our return