in the direction of the native Camp. The messenger, of course, returned to his people. The Government had sent out from a military expedition, composed of some fifty or sixty Americans and about one hundred of his Rock. Grand Allies. A part of the Americans, with a field piece, attempted to cross the River in three Canoes to attack the natives. They were received pretty warmly. The Lady's Canoe, with the field piece and twenty four men, advanced near the landing, under a heavy fire, when by some mishap the Canoe sank, and the men all perished. The other two Canoes retreated immediately - as did the men left on the beach side of the River - pursued by the natives who killed two other men: making the American loss, twenty six of their best men. These occurrences were in sight of the settlements of Harper and Sabrola:- the settlers became panic stricken. And had the natives followed up the advantage the Americans would have been murdered or driven into the sea, almost I apprehend, without resistance - and Maryland in Liberia blotted out of existence. God avert it otherwise. After this inverse application, as you are aware, was made to this Republic for assistance; and your present here, just at that time, I scarcely need say, was most opportune. Had it not been for the pecuniary aid you afforded this Government it is very doubtful whether the President, at short purchase, could have supplied the necessary relief. And what the

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

13. May 1855--October 1857

1857