II A 23

145

Executive Dep.
Harper Decr 20/57

A Proclamation

Whereas recent indications as developed in the proceedings of a court of Inquiry held on Monday Decr 15. that a conspiracy have been in existance for the avowed object, through the nefarious instrument insurrection to destroy the Public tranquility, the diabolical extermination of our fellow citizens lives by Massacre under all the calamatious circumstances of savage brutalities outrages so shocking to religious humanity when committed by heathenish stealth, it appears that a combination have been formed therein to resist the constitutional function of the Government, and thus in effect subvert by sedition all present and constitutional legal authority, the moral as well as well as religious subversion of principle. A glanced citation of facts, a full conferance of the principle headmen of the Palmas tribe. the fact was incontestible, and there remaineth not a shadow of doubt the reported insults of the Government, as tendered by the Gravayans when in the course of the Constitutional, and demanding reparation for just claims of of our fellow citizens, the Government have forborne to act from impulse have availed itself of every feasible method within its reach, to the most easy and salutary solution of the question that the adjustment now may place the State firmly planted upon the contemplated decision of the Government, the most sure, firm, and solid, compatible with its national dignity, security for the future and it further appearing that combinations within the territorial jurisdiction are endeavoring by the agency of emissaries and otherwise induce massacre by stealth upon the lives of our peaceful and inoffensive fellow citizens, and whereas the expose of the concocted plans for the nefarious determination the subversion of peace, the sudden anarchy, the melancholy catastrophy of savage ferocity, Men, Women, and Children butchered in cold blood without a moment warning, the attemp to destroy the blessing of our future

Maryland Historical Society
The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers
II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books
14. November 1857—November 1863
1857