Our last acct. Sales coastwise does not exceed $7000, collections almost nothing, sales in this place since last accounts rendered not over $1000.

We have collected from Colbeck & Co Bassa on your account $210 02/100 Campbell at Cape Mount, had no Oil to pay in August. —

Ruzzel will not start for Madeira this month, probably will in Nov. then we shall have the services of his Schooner, when it is our purpose to send Frank in her to Bassa & Sinoe in order to pick up any Oil that may have accumulated on your account. We have no promise from you of sending out a vessel early, nor have we given you any encouragement to do so, because it would be impossible for us to secure a return Cargo.

You have frequently expressed surprise that we had not offered to purchase the "Benson" when we were in want of a vessel of her tonnage, and we have frequently made efforts to explain to you why we had not. We now beg to state that we would like to purchase next year a vessel of 200 tons, or of a capacity to carry 50.000 Gall's Palm Oil — we think that your Brig "Palmas" would serve our purpose if thoroughly repaired, rigging, sails, hull & copper. We would not require the vessel before next May or June — Now can you make us an offer that we can accept? yet we would not have you neglect any fair offer that you might receive in any other direction.

We are sadly in want of articles ordered from you in Feb. last on our private account, without them we shall be forced to purchase on the coast at pretty large prices.

— We are yet in the midst of preparations for the threatened attack of the Spaniards — Our Cannon are planted on all the hill sides commanding the beach, bar, and Krootown, whilst our battery of twelve guns on the Cape is constantly manned — Every able bodied man among us is required to be at his post when the alarm is sounded, and we are all determined to fight. We feel confident of our ability to repel any attack that can be made by the Spanish authorities on the coast at present — should Spain however send out vessels and men for the express purpose of destroying us, she will of course succeed, yet even in that case it will prove a dearly purchased victory. — Our rulers are only intent on measures of defense & the neglect of efforts for the pacific adjustment of difficulties —

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

14. November 1857—November 1863