bed upon a high post field bedstead & was favoured the while by mine host with Paddy Carey, and sundry other popular airs upon a fine toned chamber Organ. The room was ornamented with many good English Engravings, a large looking glass, & contained the common useful articles of chairs & tables &c. Owing to the jealousy existing between these people & the gentry, who accompanied me I deemed it advisable to stop but a short time. From this to Cavally river a distance of eight miles as near as I could judge I took what is termed the bush path; & it led me through a most delightful Country; the greater part of which is included in our purchase. The surface is gently undulating & covered with a quick growth of small wood, the whole having been cleared for Rice & Cassada & we passed many fields of these vegetables which are the main articles of food of this Country. To an enthusiastic admirer of nature nothing could have been more charming than a stroll along the border of these beautiful fields, winding occasionally among almost impervious clusters of young palm trees, whose shreading branches exclude every ray of the scorching Sun; then opening suddenly upon an immense rice field of the most delicate sea green, skirted by the beautiful broad leaved plantain & bananna literally groaning under the immense masses of their golden fruit. I say to such an one, this paint would have been delightful; but to me, ill at ease fatigued with riding upon my ass, winding along a narrow native path, my feet mauled by every step of the fallen bush, my clothes seized upon by every projecting thorn of the palm, my hat displaced whenever I made an attempt at the perpendicular - laughed at by the natives, & hooted at by the monkeys skipping over head; it was quite otherwise. However I reached the Cavally River about two

miles above its mouth, at a very considerable Town subject to Bapkro King of Grand Cavally. This is a most splendid river, near a mile in width, running with great velocity into the Sea, perfectly fresh even to its mouth. It could be entered by Vessels of 200 Tons or more; but it comes down with such force that meeting the tide it causes immense breakers, which prevents boats & Canoes from passing except in the dry Season. How far the river is navigable for small craft I can form no conception, as we cannot depend at all upon the statement of the natives, they however say that canoes have passed up it for six days, without reaching its source. Others say that it connects with the river of Grand Sisters, which I think highly probable as it is so common for Rivers on this Continent to intersect at great distances from the Sea. From the best information I can obtain I should say this of the Cavally River; that it was navigable for Schooners of 30 Tons or so to the distance of 50 miles, but this understand me is bare conjecture & not a matter of fact. I was exceedingly anxious to ascend it & half gave orders a number of times to get ready, but prudence forbid. It would take me some days & in our present precarious situation I could not leave the Colony. Besides this matter may as well be deferred to the next drier (as we term the dry Season here) for at present we can have no occasion to use the River. I arrived at Grand Cavally the town of our liege subject King Bapkro, about two O'clock P. M. & was received with all the attention I could expect considering so important a personage as my Jack was at the same time welcomed. This town is situated at the River mouth & has a fine landing inside the bar, but the beach landing is bad owing to the heavy surf, there being no rock or curvature in the coast line sufficient to break the swell. I should think the Town contained about 1000 Inhabitants but I may overrate

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
C. Foreign Letter Books

1. January 1834--November 1837

1834