I could in justice do no less than acknowledge it. Some days after this the King came up in order to secure his goods, presents &c. On being told what was done he affected to be in a great rage, & pretended that other articles to a great amount were due, and among the rest 1 puncheon of rum. I knew this was a mere sham and only a pretext to extort something from me at this time knowing my present necessity for provisions. I stated the matter of our purchase, and the amount paid and called evidence, reasoned, coaxed and threatened but all to no purpose. They well knew that this was the last time they would have the like advantage, and they were determined to improve it. I affected at last to believe that the interpreter had misunderstood me at the time of purchase, and compromised matters, by giving them about 800 lbs. of Tobacco which was so bad that I could never trade it off, and 2 1/4 yds cloth, together with what property belonged to them. This was hard, but any extremity rather than mischief. I must either pursue this course or fight for sustenance. Besides I was sensible that I put it into them pretty well at our first purchase. After this palaver was fairly set, trade again commenced, and we have now on hand some hundred bushels of rice, but I find it impossible to keep any quantity of it cleaned, and must procure a farther supply in the hull. Nothing however was done respecting the thievery until one Wm. Davis a brother of the King who had been some years at Sierra Leone came home. He is a shrewd, cunning, energetic fellow, and was very soon convinced that matters were badly managed in town, and set himself about breaking up the business. We very soon had some half dozen hoes, axes, hatchets, crows, &c. &c. returned that had been long missing. I cannot but hope that in a short time we can make some permanent arrangement that will render the

property of the Colonists more secure. A short time since I received a mat & dash from Miah King of Half Cavally. I endeavoured to open negotiations for his Territory (which you will recollect is excepted in our purchase, although lying within our limits) but I found that it would not be advisable to press it at present, but wait until schools had been established at Grahway & the Cavally River, then they will see the advantage of being "America Men" and eagerly come forward and give up their Territory to our controul. King Tom a mighty old chief on the Cavally River also sent me an embassy and dash. He no doubt would be glad to come in & join us, but I think it best to wait awhile, until they see clearly the advantages which the inhabitants of Cape Palmas, Grahway & Cavally enjoy, and they will be glad to have us settle among them, for no other consideration than the establishment of schools and a few presents to the head men. When I make any addition, I think it will be better to grasp the whole from Sarroway to the Cavally River, or even to Tabou Point, & have them all come into a league offensive and defensive, to have all matters of difference between any two Towns, adjusted by the Agent here, in fact to unite them under one Government, and perfect that Government by degrees as they become capable of bearing it. But as I said above 'tis not time yet: we must have more people here, and more mercantile men, for they cannot attach any consequence to any people who have not a plenty of Guns, Powder, Tobacco & Cloth.

The time for which I promised rations expired about the middle of August, but in consideration that I had generally allowed but 2 1/2 lbs meat & five quarts of bread stuff, I continued the same four weeks longer. At the expiration of this time no one had any means of subsistence except labouring for the public. I have before informed you that we arrived too late to do any thing at farming this year, and even had we arrived one or two months sooner, I doubt whether much might have been done.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
C. Foreign Letter Books

1. January 1834--November 1837

1834