From the moment of our embarkation from our native land, until the present, we have experienced but one uninterrupted series of prosperous events. When on the mighty deep, He caused the storm to cease, and the waves thereof to be still, and timely brought us to the haven where we would be. He so disposed the hearts of the heathen that they kindly welcomed us to their delightful shores, and granted us their soil as our home forever. The season has been uncommonly favorable to the prosecution of our designs. The early rains have been deferred until we are well prepared for their approach. The earth has yielded a quick and needful reward to the labors of the husbandman. The pestilence, which has ever begirt this coast as a wall of fire, has passed lightly over us, and claimed but a solitary victim; cheerfulness and contentment reign throughout our little settlement; peace rests upon our borders.

Being therefore impressed with a deep sense of favors so signally bestowed upon us, by the Great Disposer of events, I do hereby appoint Friday, the 4th day of July next, as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, and I do request that all the inhabitants of this colony will, on that day, cease from any unnecessary labor; and that they shall assemble at our usual place of public worship, and there join in rendering fervent thanks to Almighty God, for his abundant mercies, and special favors bestowed upon us individually, and as a community: that we repent us of our numerous offences, counter to His revealed law, and to the dictates of our own consciences:—that we earnestly supplicate a continuance of His guardian care and providence, and that He may so endow us with His divine influence, that all our doings may be acceptable to Him, beneficial to ourselves as individuals, and alike honorable and patriotic as members of this infant republic.

Done at Cape Palmas, this twentieth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four.

(Signed,) JAMES HALL, *Governor.*

(Subsequent advices to the 17th August, bring equally satisfactory intelligence.)

COPY OF A LETTER FROM REV. R. R. GURLEY, SEC. AM. COL. SOC'Y.

Washington, Jan. 7, 1835.

DEAR SIR,—I have great pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of your very friendly favor, enclosing an interesting paper relating to your promising colony at Cape Palmas, as well as the valuable maps describing your settlement, and the coast and country in its vicinity.

You may rest assured that the Managers of the American Colonization Society feel a deep concern for the success of all efforts to plant civilization and christianity on the African coast, and that they rejoice in the encouraging prospects of your institution. We shall be happy to cultivate a friendly correspondence at all times, and I shall have the honor of submitting your late communication to our Board at its next meeting.

Believe me with true respect,

Your obd't serv't,

R. R. GURLEY.

J. H. B. Latrobe. Esq., Cor. Sec. Md. St. Col. Soc'y.

DEED FOR MARYLAND IN LIBERIA.

KNOW all men by these presents, that for considerations hereinafter mentioned, we King Freeman, alias Parmah, of Cape Palmas; King Will, alias Weah Boleo, of Grahway; and King Joe Holland, alias Baphro, of Grand Cavally; have granted and sold, and do by these presents grant and sell to the Maryland State Colonization Society of Maryland, in the United States of North America, the following tract of land, of which we are at this time lawfully seized, by right of possession and descent, viz: commencing on the sea beach about three miles to the north-west of Cape Palmas at a cocoanut tree, known as the large cocoanut, separating this territory from that of the King of Rock Town; thence running in about an east-north-east direction, one day's journey, until it shall reach the territory of Gavah, King of the interior, from thence running east-south-east six hours walk, until it shall reach the town of King Tom, on the Cavally river, then down the Cavally river to its mouth, then running along the beach, passing the town of Cavally, Grahway, and Cape Palmas, to the point of starting, viz: the large cocoanut tree; including all the rivers, bays, creeks, anchorages, timber and mines on the same, excepting as follows, a tract of land deeded and given some time since, by the above named King Will, alias Weah Boleo, of Grahway, to King Yellow Will, of Little Cavally. Also, excepting so much of the said territory as is now under cultivation by the inhabitants thereof, or such places as are occupied by us or our dependants as towns and villages; reserving also the right of passing and repassing up and down all rivers and creeks, and of traversing all sections of the country, not inhabited by colonists of the said society; the said society to have and to hold the said land for its own special benefit and behoof forever; and we do agree to warrant and defend the same against the claims of all persons whatever; and it, the said society, shall have power, by its factors or agents, to exercise all authority in the above named territory, reserving to ourselves and our descendants, the right of governing and setting all palavers among our own people, so long as we shall see fit to occupy any part of said territory. And we do hereby acknowledge ourselves as members of the colony of Maryland in Liberia, so far as to unite in common defence, in case of war or foreign aggression.

We do also acknowledge the receipt of the following articles of merchandize of James Hall, Esq., agent of the said society, and governor of said territory, as a full and ample compensation therefor, viz: 4 cases of muskets, 20 kegs of powder, 110 pieces of cloths, 10 neptunes, 10 brass kettles, 20 hats, 100 cutlasses, 200 lbs. of beads, 1500 lbs. of iron pots, 6 dozen looking glasses, 4 framed ditto, 24 iron bars, 100 trade knives, 100 wash basins, 3 hhds. of tobacco, 50 tumblers, 50 wine glasses, 2 kegs of flints, 6 dozen locks, 24 decanters, 10 boxes pipes, 24 stone jugs, 10 demijohns, 3 suits of clothes, 3 cocked hats, 25 razors in cases, 50 pitchers, 50 mugs, 50 bowls, 3 pair of brass barrelled pistols, 1000 fish hooks, 50 pair of scissors, 50

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

VIII. Commissions and Reports

D. Reports of the Board of Managers
1835-47