for a proper understanding of which, it is necessary briefly to refer to the state of things which he found existing on his arrival in the Republic of Liberia.

The Government of Maryland in Liberia having found itself less able than it had anticipated, to carry on the war in which it was engaged, having been defeated in an attack made upon the natives, in which twenty-six of its citizens, including many of the most active, enterprising and valuable class of its population had perished; and apprehending danger to the very continued existence of the State, should the natives prosecute with vigor an attack upon it, had made to the Republic of Liberia a most urgent appeal for succor, a copy of which will be found among the documents referred to the Committee. On reaching Monrovia, Dr. Hall found that the sympathies of the Government and people had been warmly excited in favor of their suffering brethren, and that every disposition existed to afford them substantial aid and relief; but that owing to their own financial embarrassments, growing out of the expensive wars in which the Republic herself had recently been engaged, there was little, if any prospect of her being enabled to act with the promptness which the emergency required. The Government was willing to incur, in the first instance, the expenditure necessary for the immediate dispatch of an expedition of sufficient force to secure the safety of the neighboring state, but had not the funds at their command. Believing, and as your Committee are satisfied, on good grounds that if succor was delayed, the whole settlement at Cape Palmas was in danger of destruction, and that the civilized community which had been originally planted, and had been for so many years nourished and fostered by the laborers of this Society, might be swept from existence; Dr. Hall, at this juncture, proffered to the Government of Liberia, as Agent of the Maryland State Colonization Society, a loan of such amount, not exceeding eight thousand dollars, as might be required for the purpose above specified. This proposal was accepted by the Legislature, a sufficient armed force was immediately organized, and dispatched with Dr. Hall, in the American Colonization Society's vessel, the M. C. Stevens, accompanied by Mr. Roberts, the distinguished Ex-President of Liberia, as Commissioner and Minister of the Republic. The result was a speedy termination of hostilities, and the adjustment of all difficulties by a treaty of peace between the contending parties, on equitable terms.

In view of all the circumstances of the case, your Committee are of opinion that the thanks of this Board are eminently due to Dr. Hall, for his conduct in so important a crisis in the affairs of the former Colonists of this Society. Removed as they had been to land of their forefathers, under the auspices of the Maryland Society. although they had been by mutual agreement released from all political subordination to their founders, yet when they were seen to be menaced with utter destruction by a savage foe, it was in the judgment of your Committee, incumbent on every officer and Agent of the Society, to adopt at all hazards, whatever measures were found to be necessary for their protection and safety. In assuming therefore the responsibilities which he has done, Dr. Hall has, in the opinion of your Committee, acted precisely as the Board would have had him to do, in the pressing emergency which presented itself.

Other expenditures were made, and liabilities incurred by the General Agent, for another object, which your Committee recognize as equally praiseworthy. Being informed at Monrovia, on reliable authority, that there was at Cape Palmas a great scarcity of provisions, and that from the interruption of all communication with the country, by the existing hostilities, many of the settlers, especially among the poorer class, were likely to be exposed to extreme suffering, Dr. Hall made purchases to a limited extent of various articles of food, which he carried with him to the Cape. Some of these may be disposed of to parties who are able to purchase, but it is probable that most of them will have been distributed gratuitously among those who were most in want, but who had been by the events of the war, temporarily deprived

of the means of self-support. In this case, likewise, your Committee believe that Dr. Hall did no more than the Board would have expected him to do, and would have directed, had an opportunity been afforded of expressing their wishes.

The aggregate amount advanced by Dr. Hall to the Republic of Liberia, and which was given by his drafts on the Treasurer of this Society, was $5000; for which he holds ten bonds of the Republic for $500 each, payable, one in 1859, and one in each succeeding year thereafter, in United States currency, with six per cent. interest, and which at maturity are also receivable by the Republic for all public dues or customs. The amount expended for provisions and supplies for Cape Palmas, for which he made payments by advances of his own funds, was $1533.60. A list of all said drafts drawn, and expenditures made by him, has been furnished by Dr. Hall, and is herewith submitted. Believing, for the reasons above stated, that all the means and credit of the Society, should unquestionably be used to protect and meet these drafts as they respectively will become due, and to repay the advances made by Dr. Hall, your Committee ask leave to present herewith a resolution to that effect.

The next subject which will require the mature consideration and deliberate action of the Board, will be that of the future position of this Society, and its relations both with the Republic of Liberia, and with the American Colonization Society. It appears that when Dr. Hall offered to supply the Republic with the means of sending an expedition to the relief of Cape Palmas, knowing that the views of this Board had been decidedly adverse to the annexation of Cape Palmas as a County, to the Republic, he expressly stipulated that the aid to be furnished by the latter, was in no wise to be conditional upon, or connected with any such project of annexation. This was at once cheerfully assented to, as being merely in conformity with the high sentiments of honor and delicacy expressed by the President of Liberia, in his reply to Dr. Hall. It appears, however, that when by the aid and intervention of Commissioner Roberts, and the Liberian auxiliaries, peace had been restored at Maryland in Liberia, the citizens of that State seeing the dangers to which they had been exposed, and believing that their surest safe-guard against a recurrence of them would be found in annexing themselves to the neighboring Republic, spontaneously took measures for the accomplishment of that object. There had at all times been a considerable party in the community, in favor of incorporating themselves into the Republic as a County, on a similar footing with the other Counties of which Liberia is composed; others advocated a union or confederation as of two independent States. The latter plan had been thought by this Board the best, if it could be effected, in view of the future extent and population of the Americo-African settlements, which it is apprehended cannot at a day not far distant, prosper under one central or consolidated government. But the late troubles seem to have brought over the whole of the citizens of Maryland in Liberia, to the opinion that their best interests, if not their actual safety, required immediate annexation, and as it had long been understood that objections were entertained in Liberia against a union on any other terms than what was called "County annexation," it was determined so to annex the Maryland State.

A vote of the citizens having been taken, in pursuance to an act passed by the Legislature for that purpose, they unanimously approved of the plan of county annexation, and elected Gov. Boston J. Drayton, Lieut. Gov. Joseph M. Gibson and Senator Thomas Fuller, Commissioners, "with full powers to confer with the Commissioner of the Republic of Liberia near this Goveanment," (that of Maryland in Liberia) "and to settle and arrange with him, without further recourse, all matters necessary to the consummation of County annexation to the Republic of Liberia." Commissioner Roberts declined entering upon any such negotiation, having no powers from his Government for such purpose, but as he expressed the opinion that no objection would be raised by the Republic to County annexation, and that the people

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VIII. Commissions and Reports

D. Reports of the Board of Managers
1858