to be able to inform the Legislature, that at an interview held this morning with James Hall, Esq., M. D., (the founder and patron of the settlements at Cape Palmas, and now acting as Agent of the Maryland State Colonization Society,) he kindly proffered a sufficient loan to this Government, to enable her to tender such assistance to our sister State, as will, it is hoped, once more restore peace, safety and order.

I am confident in the belief, gentlemen, that you will not hesitate to give Governor Drayton's communication as favorable a consideration as the claims of humanity demand. Considering that they are of our race, and have a common destiny with us; that we emigrated from the same country, with the same objects in view, namely, the establishment of an asylum on this continent for our oppressed race, and the moral and intellectual improvement of the aborigines; and considering further, gentlemen, that they are our friends, our acquaintances, and our relatives, I am sanguine that you will direct such prompt and judicious action thereon, as will be in perfect consonance with humanity and justice.

I beg to assure you, that it will be very gratifying to me, (though pressed with many other public engagements,) to carry out most promptly such provisions and recommendations as you may authorize; and upon requisition, I shall feel most happy to impart to the Legislature any further information on the subject, of which I may be in possession, that will tend to assist you in arriving at a just conclusion on the subject.

I have the honor to be,
Your obedient servant,
STEPHEN A. BENSON.

Act of the Legislature of Liberia.

WHEREAS, the cause of Truth, Humanity and Religion requires the extension and perpetuity of the Christian settlements that have, under the direction of Divine Providence, been formed on the Western Coast of Africa, which settlements, we believe, are designed by Heaven to be the honored instruments of effecting the evangelization and civilization of this benighted continent; and whereas, our sister State, Maryland in Liberia, is in a most perilous condition, in consequence of the sad realities of an unsuccessful warfare against fearful odds; their small number has been greatly reduced, their means of defence are very limited, and their ordinary supplies cut off to a great extent, and their savage foes, by late disasters attending the Americo-Liberian arms, are greatly emboldened, and, with their overwhelming numbers, may fall upon that infant State and destroy it; and as the people of the State of Maryland, in their extremity, have appealed to the Republic of Liberia for assistance; therefore,

In the name of Humanity, of Religion, and of our GOD, though embarrassed by recent difficulties ourselves, we feel willing to extend the helping hand, and rely upon Jehovah and the friends of humanity to sustain us in our feeble efforts to avert the blow aimed to destroy our sister State; therefore,

It is Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia, in Legislature assembled—

SEC. 1. That the President be and he is hereby authorized and requested, for the relief of the State of Maryland in Liberia, to adopt measures for the formation of an allied military force, offensive and defensive, of volunteers in this Republic, to assist the State of Maryland in Liberia to settle the difficulties subsisting between that State and those of the aboriginal inhabitants who are hostile within its jurisdiction. The officers of said volunteer army shall be approved of and commissioned

by the President, and shall be governed by the militia laws and regulations of the Republic of Liberia. Each volunteer of said military corps shall be also entitled to two months payment in advance, and a premium of one town lot and one hundred acres of farm land, and shall be required to continue until the cessation of hostilities.

SEC. 2. It is also *Resolved*, That the President is further authorized and directed to assume the expenses and payment of the forces provided by the first section of this resolution, and to endorse for the State of Maryland in Liberia, or borrow, on the credit of this Government, any amount of money not exceeding ten thousand dollars, for the safety and security of Maryland in Liberia; and to inform the Government of the State of Maryland in Liberia, that the Republic of Liberia has tendered the aid required by that Government, by means of money borrowed by the Republic of Liberia for the specific purpose, in good faith, in behalf of the State of Maryland in Liberia, and requires the Government of the State of Maryland in Liberia to reimburse the Government of the Republic of Liberia for all expenditures incurred by the Republic for the relief of the State of Maryland in Liberia.

SEC. 3. It is *Resolved*, That the President is further authorized and directed to forward to the State of Maryland in Liberia, in addition to the outfit of military equipments and munitions of war furnished the allied forces of this Government to the State of Maryland in Liberia, the following munitions of war: viz.

200 Round Shot.
200 Pounds Buck Shot.
10 Barrels of Powder.
500 Pounds Lead.
75 Muskets.

SEC. 4. That, in order to render efficient aid and assistance to the State of Maryland in Liberia, and to continue the friendly feelings that exist between the two nations, a Minister be delegated from this Government to the State of Maryland in Liberia, with full instructions from the President.

SEC. 5. That the President is authorized and requested to establish postal arrangements between the two Governments, to continue during the continuance of hostilities; and to employ an armed vessel of this Government, as far as circumstances will admit, to assist and strengthen the State of Maryland in Liberia.

(Signed,) M. A. RAND,
Speaker Ho. Rep. R. L.
(Signed,) BEVERLY PAGE YATES, *Pres. Senate, V. P. R. L.*

Approved, February 7, 1857.
STEPHEN A. BENSON, *President Rep. Lib.*

Treaty of Peace between the Government of Maryland in Liberia and the Grebo People.

TREATY.

The following acknowledgments, declarations and stipulations have been duly considered, and are now solemnly adopted and proclaimed by the undersigned, that is to say—the Governor of the State of Maryland in Liberia, and the two Commissioners, on the part of the said State, and three Commissioners, appointed by the Republic of Liberia, according to treaty stipulations, duly entered into between the two Governments. That from and after the signing of this treaty between the Governments of the State of Maryland in Liberia, and the Cape Palmas and Grahway Tribes, hostilities between the several tribes and the State of Maryland in Liberia shall cease; and perpetual peace and friendship shall exist. The said tribes do

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

VIII. Commissions and Reports

D. Reports of the Board of Managers
1858