rienced, as has been uniformly the case when three voyages per annum have been attempted.

We calculate the ship will be able to take, on an average, about 1500 barrels in bulk of freight out, at each voyage, besides emigrants' effects, provisions and shipments necessarily made by the Society. That the Society may not suffer for lack of this freight, it is desirable that contracts should, if practicable, be made with associations or individuals for a given amount of freight at each voyage—or for all freight any party may have occasion to send, that could as well be sent by this ship. It is very desirable in all respects and most in harmony with the objects of the Society, that contracts of this nature should be made first with the Missionary Societies, especially those having missions within the colonies or their influence—and no doubt all such Associations would rather the Colonization Society should have any benefit or profit that might accrue from their freight, than other parties. The Society, too, may with confidence, expect the patronage of all the Missionary Societies in taking their passengers, not only to and from Liberia, as occasion may require, but while on the coast, passing up and down from port to port. The proposition has been entertained and strongly advocated of building a vessel for the express use of the various Missionaries of different denominations in Africa, to transport them to and fro as their business or state of health may require. Probably the great expense necessarily attendant upon the measure, was the sole cause of its not being adopted. We trust, that the Society's ship will go far to supply this *desideratum*, her arrangements for cabin passengers having been made, at great expense, for this express purpose. She has a full poop-deck cabin, 42 feet in length, with very large, well ventilated state rooms, a bathing room and every arrangement calculated to render an invalid passenger comfortable. At each voyage she will visit all the settlements twice, remaining from four to six weeks on the coast, thereby affording as much time for a sea excursion as any one would likely be able to spare from their duties on shore—especially if indulged in twice a year.

We hope the Secretaries of the Missionary Societies will early make arrangements with the American Colonization Society to secure the advantages which this ship offers for purposes above specified.

On her return voyage the ship will be able to take at least 2500 barrels freight in her lower hold, quite equal no doubt to all demands at any one voyage.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, *Harper, May* 30, 1856.

Dear Sir,—Believing that you are always anxious to know something about our doings, and how we fare in our momentous undertaking, I avail myself of this schooner, bound for New York, to inform you that the war between the Rock-town and Cape Palmas tribes, was settled a few weeks ago. A war, if we had permitted it to continue, would have proven disastrous to the whole of the neighboring country, and no doubt been the cause of hunger among all classes.

Commander Thomson, of the U S. Brig Dolphin, being in port at the time, was solicited to co-operate with the government in the affair, as we

had reasons to believe that one of the parties was inclined to be obstinate. The matter however, I am pleased to say, was adjusted with but little damage. The Rock-town tribe, for their downright obstinancy, lost a house, as we were compelled to throw a few shots over and into the towns before they would obey. Capt. Thomson, deserves much praise for his promptness and decision in the affair, and the interest he manifested for our welfare.

I am of the opinion, sir, that our decision, in this instance, will have a good effect all along the beach.

We had the good fortune to settle a war of long standing between the Trenabows themselves, living in the interior of the Garroway Territory. A few members of a town concerned in the war, are disposed to oppose peace, but those who hold the balance of power are in favor of it. No better point for rice and oil than at Garroway, especially, when the interior inhabitants are at peace.

It behooves us, on just and equitable principles, to struggle manfully to maintain our authority over the territory we own, for the purpose, in one sense, of realizing a sufficient trade to give a stronger impetus to foreign commerce, where from, we can only hope, for some time to come, to receive sufficient revenue to sustain the government, and it is encouraging to know that from this source, the State has received invaluable assistance—notwithstanding, the stagnation of a good deal of trade in consequence of inland commotions.

Produce, such as rice and oil, has been quite scarce for two months past, and as far as rice is concerned, many entertain fears of a decided scarcity. I have strong hopes, that in the course of a few months, it will be brought in abundantly, for since the conclusion of the war the prospect is brightening.

Most of our people are farming in a small way, and there can be seen now many thrifty farms, loaded with casava and potatoes and other vegetables. A man need never fear starvation in Africa, as you well know, if he will put his hands to the plough, and not look back. To press forward in this country, is happiness, comfort, a loaded farm, and sweet liberty—but to look and turn back, is mortification and disgrace.

I am sure, dear sir, that we will be thankful for any assistance which our friends may feel disposed to give to maintain peace among the natives, and for the opening of the roads.

A few hogsheads of tobacco, would greatly facilitate our present contemplated plans in making an effort to throw open the whole neighboring country, including the Cavalla river, by peaceful and friendly mediations, and of bringing the interior tribes as far as possible, subject to our rule and government by stipulations, which have heretofore been neglected.

I send you a printed copy of the State Constitution, executed at the Episcopal Mission printing press, at Cavalla.

My wishes for your welfare.

In haste, I have the honor, dear sir, to remain yours truly,

B. J. DRAYTON.

DR. JAMES HALL, *Baltimore, Gen. Agt.*

SHEA.—On the banks of the Niger, in Africa, they have a tree called the Shea, from which excellent butter is obtained. The tree is like our oak, and the fruit somewhat resembles the Spanish olive. The kernel of this fruit is dried in the sun and then boiled, and the butter thus obtained is whiter, firmer, and of a richer flavor than that obtained from the cow, besides keeping sweet a year without salt. The growth and preparation of this article is one of the leading objects of African industry, and constitutes the main article of their commerce.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

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A. Maryland Colonization Journal

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