The first murder that ever occurred in the colony, was committed this year. A recaptured African, of the Congo tribe, named Joe Waldburgh, was murdered by an Ebo, named John Demony, at the instigation of Waldburgh's wife. The crime was marked by the most aggravating circumstances. The parties were tried, Governor Skinner presiding, and condemned to be hung. The execution took place on the 22d of July.

The Maryland colony at Cape Palmas continued to prosper. From the commencement of this settlement in 1833, the society had sent out seven expeditions, containing in all about three hundred emigrants. The village of Harper contained about twenty-five private houses, and several public buildings; a public farm of ten acres had been cleared, and thirty acres were under cultivation by the colonists. Their influence on the natives was salutary: schools were established in the settlement, and the people were pronounced by their late excellent governor, Dr. Hall, moral, industrious, religious, and happy. This gentleman had resigned his office, and J. B. Russwurm, former editor of the Liberia Herald, was appointed to that station. In addition to the number of missionaries already engaged in this settlement, the brig Niobe from Baltimore, in December, brought out Thomas Savage, M. D., missionary of the Protestant Episcopal Church, Rev. D. White and lady, of the American Board, Mr. James, a coloured printer, sent out by the same Board as assistant missionary, and Mr. David James, a coloured missionary of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Rev. Mr. Seyes, who had recently returned from a visit to the United States, and brought with him one white and one coloured Methodist preacher, writes under date of December 21: "I preached in Krootown this afternoon, to a congregation of Kroomen. I spoke without an interpreter, in broken English, compounded of the most common words of our language, and many that are peculiar to Africa, and which were familiar to me from my infancy. They listened to us with deep attention, and when we went to prayer, in conclusion, they came around us, and not content to kneel simply, they bowed down their faces to the earth. O let me urge it upon the church to have pity upon this intelligent and teachable tribe. O send us a missionary for Kroo Settra. They beg, they intreat us to send them a teacher—a man of God. We shall

make an additional effort to plant the standard of the Redeemer among the Condoes."

While Dr. Hall was Governor of the Maryland colony, he was a good deal annoyed by the pilfering propensities of King Freeman's people. In order to defend himself, he informed the king that he should hold him responsible for the thefts of his people. The king complied for some time, but the cases were so frequent and his authority over the tribe so easily eluded, that he gave up in despair, and applied to the Governor for the secret of the influence which made the colonists so orderly and obedient. On being informed that all his laws were manufactured by the Society's Board in Baltimore, King Freeman resolved to send his head-man, Simleh Balla, to Baltimore, to get him a book of laws made. Simleh, accordingly, took ship for Baltimore. He was introduced to the Board, and of course kindly received by them. He then stated the object of his mission in the following speech, as nearly as it could be written at the time:

"I be Balla, head-man for King Freeman of Cape Palmas. Him send me this country. I come for peak his word. Pose him sava book, I no come; he make book and send him; but cause he no sava make book, I come for look country and speak him words.

"Long time past, slave man come we country. He do we bad too much, he make slave, he tief plenty man for sell. By and by all slave man knock off. This time we no sell slave, no man come for tief him. All man glad this palaver done sit. Beside that we have plenty trouble. All man have to go for ship for get him ting, iron, cloth, tobacco, guns, powder, and plenty, plenty, little ting. Some time canoe capsize, man lose all him money. Some time he die, plenty water kill him, him can't come up. This hurt we too much, and make we heart sorry. By and by one white man come we country. He bring plenty black American man. Him buy we country—we give him land for sit down. Him say he come for do country good. Him build house—put all him money shore—make farm—make road—make all country fine. This time all good ting live shore—no more go ship. Ebery man can buy that ting him want. No money lose—no man lose. This make all men heart glad—make king's heart glad. King tell me, 'Balla, go that country, see how this ting be. Tell them people all we

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XIV. Books

3.

A History of Colonization on the West Coast of Africa
by Archibald Alexander, Philadelphia, 1846