its mouth, and about two miles in a direct line from the sea. This settlement is deemed as healthy as any part of the state of Mississippi, and the land is rich. The territory purchased by the Mississippi society is narrow on the ocean, widening as it runs back, and contains over one hundred square miles.

An event occurred in the autumn of this year which cast a gloom over the infant, but prosperous settlement of Greenville, and in some measure, disturbed the peaceful relations existing between the colonists and the natives. About the 10th of September the Governor left Greenville for Monrovia on business, as well as for his health. On his way he attempted to visit Bassa Cove. Landing about two miles below the settlement, he was robbed and murdered by the natives. The Governor seems to have placed too much confidence in a native whom he had with him, and to whom he had exposed the fact of his having a large sum of money about him. The faithlessness of this fellow in disclosing the circumstance of the money, no doubt occasioned the murder. This outrage led to a war between the natives and the settlers of Bassa Cove, who had one or two of their people killed, several wounded, and some of their horses destroyed. Previous to the news of this outbreak, the most cheering intelligence had been received from the Bassa Cove settlement, of their health, their temporal and spiritual prosperity.

In May the schooner Columbia, Captain Franklin, carried out thirty-six emigrants to Cape Palmas; making the tenth expedition of the Maryland Colonization Society to their settlement. At the same time the Board of Managers of that society held a meeting, and resolved to proceed at once to the business of procuring and establishing a regular packet to their colony. The fall expedition of the Maryland society brought out fifty-three emigrants by the Oberon, with Dr. McDowall, now the Cape Palmas physician, and Dr. S. F. McGill, his assistant, a coloured man, graduated at Dartmouth College, New Hampshire.

About this time the State Colonization Society of Virginia proposed planting a new colony, to be called the "New Plantation." Like the Maryland society, their managers, in their report, approve of the principle of independent State action. Some of the evils anticipated by many of the friends of the American Colonization Society in the establishment of separate

settlements in Liberia, independent of each other, and under distinct governments, began now to be realized. In reference to this subject Lieutenant-Governor Williams, in a communication dated May 8th, 1838, wrote as follows: "I regret to say, our neighbours of Bassa Cove and Edina seem to entertain the most hostile feelings towards the old colony, and every thing connected with it. They have manifested such a disposition as will, if continued, lead to serious difficulties between the settlements. The policy which the colonizationists are now pursuing is assuredly a bad one, and will inevitably defeat the object they aim to accomplish. Nothing can be conceived more destructive to the general good, than separate and conflicting interests among the different colonies. And this consequence will certainly follow the establishment of separate and distinct sovereignties contiguous to each other. If societies must file off, and have separate establishments, their very existence depends upon their union by some general and well settled relations. They might be so far separated as to have peculiar local and internal regulations, but they should be controlled by general laws, and general supervision, and be so connected as to move on to one object in harmonious operation." The editor of the Liberia Herald expresses his views on the same subject, in these words: "The formation of colonies along the coast, is beyond doubt, the surest way of breaking up the slave trade, as far as their influence may extend. But while we view with much satisfaction, the success of the colonization scheme, and the formation of new settlements, we would observe, that we deem it highly necessary that the several, and all the colonies now in existence, and those that may hereafter be formed, should be under the guidance of general laws; such a connexion would promote union, without which they could never prosper. Each settlement independently, should have its own laws and regulations for its internal government, like the several States of the Union, in America, and like them should be bound and cemented together by one general government, and by one common interest. Such a union, of so much vital importance to the future prosperity and peace of the whole, would elevate the character of the colonies in a degree to which they could not otherwise attain. By it moreover, their strength would be increased, as well as their permanency, according to a common but true saying, "*united we stand.*"

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

XIV. Books
3.
A History of Colonization on the West Coast of Africa
by Archibald Alexander, Philadelphia, 1846