

LETTERS

FROM THE

Rev. SAMUEL DAVIES,
and Others;

SHEWING,

The State of RELIGION in
Virginia, South Carolina, &c.

PARTICULARLY
Among the NEGROES.

PROV. XXV. 25.

*As cold Water to a thirsty Soul, so is good News
from a far Country.*

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A LETTER from the Rev Mr *Wright*
at *Virginia*, to Mr R. C. Dated *August* 30, 1758.

Dear SIR,

I HAVE been almost stupified for some time past by a complication of disorders, occasioned by being three days successively wet on a journey, which brought me to the brink of the world of spirits. But GOD appeared for my relief, and had pity on the poor flock over whom I am an overseer; and I trust we may both say, *It is good for us that I have been afflicted*; for I have preached with more spiritual dexterity, engagedness and solemnity than ever I did in my life before, and the effect was answerable; for from *May* to the middle of *June*, one hundred and thirty persons got under very hopeful religious impressions, among whom were about twenty *Ethiopians*, who spoke to me about their souls concerns. — The *black* communicants are as eminent Christians as I have in my congregation: had I time to relate to you the exercises of the most savage boy of them, you would not only be pleased but transported. — After I received the *Books* I gave notice thereof, and the *Sunday* following above seventy Negroes came to me after divine service was over, and it would have charmed your very heart to see their earnestness for books; I could not supply them all, and they were like to quarrel

quarrel with me and one another for more *Books*. Upon relating what the good people of *England* did for them, they were roused out of their savage and spiritual lethargy, to a rational and vigorous attempt to read the divine Oracles. And believe me, those that are religious among them are the most docile, unenthusiastic converts I ever saw or read of.

A LETTER from the Rev. Mr *Davies* in *Virginia*, to Mr *J. F.* Dated *August* 26, 1758.

Dear SIR,

HEaven and earth seem to conspire to assist me and my fellow-labourers in this remote corner of the world, in promoting Christianity among the *Out-casts* of mankind. The large collection of Books sent from the SOCIETY, and other Benefactors, have been distributed in various parts of the country by my own hands, or those equally faithful; and it is with great pleasure I take this opportunity to renew my grateful acknowledgments, and to give you an account of the reception they have met with.

I think, SIR, I can honestly declare, I never felt so much gratitude to any personal benefactor in all my life, as I have felt to those generous friends to religion and mankind, who have done me the honour of making

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