

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.*

L O N D O N :

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A LETTER from the Rev. Mr *Todd* at
Hanover, Virginia, to Mr *B. F.* Dated
November 18, 1758.

Dear SIR,

I BEG leave to inform you that I have with
unspeakable pleasure and satisfaction dis-
tributed the greatest part of the books I had
the happiness to receive from that charitable
SOCIETY, which I am persuaded is approved
of GOD, and is inexpressibly dear to multi-
tudes in this guilty and distant land. - The
blessing of many ready to perish I doubt not
will rest upon the good benefactors.

With uncommon eagerness, multitudes of
Negroes and *white* people flocked to my house
to get books, upon the first notice of my
having them to dispose of; they received them
with the utmost thankfulness, and with seri-
ous promises religiously to improve them. —
The poor *Slaves* are now commonly engaged
in learning to read; some of them can read
the Bible, others can only spell; and some
are just learning their letters. — But there is
a general alteration among them for the bet-
ter. The sacred hours of the *Sabbath*, that
used to be spent in frolicking, dancing, and
other profane courses, are now employed in
attending upon public ordinances, in learn-
ing to read at home, or in praying together,
and singing the praises of GOD and the Lamb.
A delightful change as to many, but espe-
cially

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cially in the pious few who give good evidence that it is in them a saving change.

What joy, what transport would it afford the truly pious among you, to see a goodly number of these poor *Africans* sit down at a sacramental table! not like frozen formalists, but like affectionate, serious Christians, unable to rise up from a table appointed to commemorate a Redeemer's love, with dry eyes!

It has given me great distress, that I have been forced to turn away *empty* several of these poor creatures, who frequently come to me for *Books*.—I am, with most unfeigned thanks to the SOCIETY for favours received,

Yours, &c.

JOHN TODD.

A LETTER from the Rev. Mr *Hutson* at *South Carolina*, to Mr *J. F.* Dated *July 11, 1758.*

THIS is accompanied with the warmest gratitude for the late parcel of *Books* received from the SOCIETY, to distribute among the poor with us. These may now inform you, that I have disposed of them in the best manner I could; and that they were received with abundant thanksgivings to their benefactors; praising GOD that he hath put it into the hearts of Christians to be thus useful.
Particularly