

A FURTHER

ACCOUNT

OF

GOD'S DEALINGS

With the Reverend

Mr. GEORGE WHITEFIELD,

FROM

The Time of his ORDINATION to his
EMBARCKING for GEORGIA.

To which is Annex'd,

A Brief ACCOUNT of the *Rise, Progress, and
Present Situation*

OF THE

Orphan-House in GEORGIA.

In a LETTER to a FRIEND.

By GEORGE WHITEFIELD, A. B.
Late of Pembroke-College, OXON.

GENESIS xxxii. 10. *I am not worthy of the least of all the
Mercies, and of all the Truth, which thou hast shewed unto
thy Servant.*

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T H E

P R E F A C E.

 *H E Royal Psalmist, filled no doubt with a deep Sense of the Divine Goodness in general, and of the many Mercies conferred upon himself in particular, breaks out into this moving Language, Come all ye that fear God, and I will tell you what he hath done for my Soul.----And great Reason he had for so doing. Experience daily convinces devout Souls, that nothing has a more immediate Tendency to affect themselves, and recommend their glorious and bountiful Benefactor to the Choice and Adoration of others, than an artless, humble Narration of the many Favours, Spiritual or Temporal, which they have*
A 2 *received.*

received from him, in whom they live, and move, and have their Being.----This and such like Considerations (if I know any thing of my Heart) led me some Years ago to publish a short Account of God's Dealings with me, from the Time of my Birth, to my entering into Holy Orders.----And as it has pleased a Sovereign God to bless that little Tract in a manner I durst not expect, both at home and abroad, I now sit down, in his Fear, to fulfil a Promise made at the End of it, viz. To give a farther Account of the Lord's Dealing with me from that Time to my Embarking for America.



A

Further ACCOUNT, &c.



HAVING been ordained at *Gloucester*, on *Trinity Sunday 1736*, and preached my Sermon on the *Necessity and Benefit of religious Society*, to a very crowded Auditory, (in the Church in which I was baptized) the Lord's Day following, I set out the next *Wednesday* to *Oxford*, where I was received with great Joy by my religious Friends. — For about a Week I continued in my Servitor's Habit, and then took my Degree of *Batchelor of Arts*, after having been at the University three Years and three Quarters, and going on towards the 22d Year of my Age. My dear and honour'd Friends the Reverend Messrs. *John* and *Charles Wesley*, being now for some time embarked for *Georgia*, and one or two more having taken Orders, the Interest of *METHODISM*, as it was then and is now termed, had visibly declined, and very few of this reputed mad Way were left at the University. This somewhat discouraged me at times, but the Lord Jesus supported my Soul, and made me easy by giving me a strong Conviction, that I was where He would have me to be. My Degree I soon found was of Service to me, as it gave me Access to those I could not be free with when in an inferior Station; and, as Opportunity offered, I was enabled to converse with them about the Things which belonged to the Kingdom of *GOD*. — The Subscriptions for the poor Prisoners (which amounted to about *Fifty Pounds per Annum*)

Annum) were soon put into my Hands——Two or Three small Charity-Schools, maintained by the *Methodists*, were under my more immediate Inspection, which, with the Time I spent in following my Studies, private Retirement, and religious Converse, sweetly filled up the whole of my Day, and kept me from that unaccountable, but too common, Complaint of having any Time hang upon my Hands. The distributing Money and Books amongst the poor Prisoners, and employing such as could work, I found was of admirable Service:——For hereby they were kept from that worst of Goal Diseases, Idleness; and were not only convinced, that we bore a good Will towards them, but also laid them as it were under an Obligation to hear the Instructions we gave them from time to time.——This Practice was first taken up by the Messrs. *Wesleys*, and would to God all Ordinaries of Prisons would copy after their good Example——They would deserve well of the Common-wealth, and if actuated by the Love of God, would receive a glorious Reward from him who hath said, *I was sick and in Prison, and ye came unto me.*

In a short Time I began to be more than content in my present State of Life. God was pleased to be with me of a Truth,——My Strength was proportioned to my Day, and I had Thoughts of abiding at the University, at least for some Years, to finish my Studies, and do what good I could amongst the poor despised *Methodists*.——But *God's Thoughts are not as Man's Thoughts, neither are our Ways as his Ways.*——By a Series of unforeseen, unexpected, and unfought for Providences, I was called in a short Time from my beloved Retirement to take a Journey to the Metropolis of *England*.——Whilst I was an Undergraduate, amongst other religious Friends, I was very intimate with one Mr. *B——n*, a professed *Methodist*, who had lately taken Orders, and was Curate at the *Tower of London*.——With him, when absent, I frequently corresponded, and when present took sweet Council, and walked to the House of God as Friends.

He mentioned me to that late good and great Man Sir *John Philips*. — And being called down for a while into *Hampshire*, he wrote to me to be of good Courage, and in the Strength of GOD, bid me hasten to Town to officiate in his Absence, and be refreshed with the Sight and Conversation of many who loved me for CHRIST's sake, and had for a long Time desired to see me. —

On *Wednesday August 4th*, (the Prisoners being provided for by the coming of Mr. *Harvey*, another young worthy Methodist, that had lately taken Deacon's Orders) with Fear and Trembling I obeyed the Summons, and went in the Stage-Coach to *London*. — There being no other Passenger, I employed myself, a good Part of the Way, in earnest Supplication to the God of all Grace to be my Guide and my Comforter; at the same time I could not help praising him for changing my Heart, and calling me to preach the Gospel at a Place to which, not many Years ago, I would have given much Money, would my Circumstances have permitted, to have went up and seen a Play. In the Evening I reached the Tower, and was kindly received by my dear Friend. — The Remainder of the Week was spent in visiting Sir *John Philips*, &c. who were too glad to see me. — But God sent me something to ballast it. — For as I passed along the Streets, many came out of their Shops, admiring to see so young a Person in a Gown and Cassock. One I remember in particular cried out, "*There's a Boy Parson.*" — which, as it served to mortify my Pride, put me also upon turning that apostolical Exhortation into Prayer, "*Let no Man despise thy Youth.*"

On *Sunday August 8th*, in the Afternoon, I preach'd at *Bishopgate Church*, the Largeness of which, and the Congregation together, at first a little dashed me; but by adverting to God, and considering in whose Name I was about to speak, my Mind was calmed, and I was enabled to preach with Power. — The Effect was immediate and visible to all; for as I went up the Stairs almost all seem'd to sneer at me on Account of
my

my Youth ; but they soon grew serious, and exceedingly attentive, and after I came down shewed me great Tokens of Respect, blessed me as I passed along, and made great Enquiry who I was.—The Question no one could answer, for I was quite a Stranger. I speedily slipped through the Crowd, and came to the *Tower*, blessing God for his Goodness to me the unworthiest of the Sons of Men.—

Here I continued for the Space of two Months, reading Prayers twice a Week, catechising and preaching once, besides visiting the Soldiers in the Infirmary and Barracks daily. I also read Prayers every Evening at *Wapping Chapel*, and preached at *Ludgate Prison* every *Tuesday*.—God was pleased to give me Favour in the Eyes of the Inhabitants of the *Tower*.—The Chapel was crowded on Lord's-Days — Religious Friends from divers Parts of the Town attended the Word, and several young Men came on Lord's-Day Morning, under serious Impressions, to hear me discourse about the *New-Birth*, and the *Necessity of renouncing all in Affection*, in order to follow J E S U S C H R I S T.

After I had been about a Month in Town, Letters came from the Messrs. *Wesleys*, and the Revd. Mr. *Ingham* their Fellow-Labourer, an *Israelite indeed*, from *Georgia*. Their Accounts fired my Soul, and made me even long to go abroad for God too.—But having no outward Call; and being, as I then thought, too weak in Body ever to undertake a Voyage to Sea, I endeavoured to lay aside all Thoughts of going abroad.—But my Endeavours were all in vain.—For I felt at times such a strong Attraction in my Soul towards *Georgia*, that I thought it almost irresistible.—I strove against it with all my Power, begged again and again with many Cries and Tears, that the Lord would not suffer me to be deluded, and at length opened my Mind to several dear Friends.—All agreed that Labourers were wanted at home, that I had as yet no visible Call abroad, and that it was my Duty not to be rash, but wait and see what Providence might

might point out to me. — To this I consented with my whole Heart, and having stayed in *London* till Mr. *B* — came out of the Country, I returned to my little Charge at *Oxford*, and waited upon my Deaconship according to the Measure of Grace imparted to me.

But, oh what a delightful Life did I lead there! What Communion did I daily enjoy with God! And how sweetly did my Hours in private glide away in reading and praying over Mr. *Henry's* Comment, upon the Scriptures! Whilst I am musing on and writing about it, the Fire I then felt again kindles in my Soul—Nor was I alone happy—For several dear Youths were quickened greatly, and met daily at my Room, to build up each other in their most holy Faith—God raised up Friends for our temporal Support—The late Honourable *Betty Hastings*, that elect Lady, allowed some of them two or three small Exhibitions. — I also partook of her Ladyship's Bounty; and a Gentleman, whose Heart was in an especial Manner knit to me when last at *London*, was stirred up, without being solicited, to send me not only Money for the Poor, but also a Sufficiency to discharge Debts I had contracted for Books before I took my Degree. Upon his Recommendation, I was chosen a corresponding Member of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, which I rejoiced in, as it gave me an Opportunity of procuring Books at a cheap and easy Rate for the poor People. — May the great high Priest and Apostle of our Profession continue to bless that Society, and prosper all their pious Undertakings, to the Advancement of his own Glory, and his Peoples eternal Good!

About the Middle of *November*, Providence once more called me from my beloved, though little, Scene of Action. — The Revd. Mr. *Kinchin*, now with God, had lately been awakned, and accordingly resolved to associate with the despised *Methodists*, determining to *know nothing but JESUS CHRIST and him crucified.* — He was then Minister of *Dummer* in

Hampshire, and being likely to be chosen Dean of *Corpus Christi* College, he desired me to come and officiate for him, till that Affair should be decided.— By the Advice of Friends, I went, and he came to supply my Place at *Oxford*.— His Parish consisting chiefly of poor and illiterate People, my proud Heart at first could not well brook it. — I would have given all the World for one of my *Oxford* Friends, and mourned for lack of them as a Dove that has lost her Mate.— But upon giving myself to Prayer, and reading Mr. *Lew*'s excellent Character of *Ouranius*, in his *Serious Call to a Devout Life*, my Mind was reconciled to such Conversation as the Place afforded me.— Before I came to *Dummer*, Mr. *Kinchin* had used his People, according to the Rubrick, to have publick Prayers twice a Day, viz. In the Morning, it being the Winter-season, before it was Light, and in the Evening after the People returned from their Work. He also catechised the Lambs of the Flock daily, and visited from House to House. — He loved his People, and was beloved by them. — I prosecuted his Plan, and generally divided the Day into three Parts, eight Hours for Study and Retirement, eight Hours for Sleep and Meals, and eight Hours for reading Prayers, catechising, and visiting the Parish. — The Profit I reaped by these Exercises, and conversing with the poor Country People, was unspeakable.— I soon began to be as much delighted with their artless Conversation, as I had been formerly with the Company of my *Oxford* Friends; and frequently learnt as much by an Afternoon's Visit, as in a Week's Study.— During my Stay here, an Invitation was sent me to a very profitable Curacy in *London*; but I had no Inclination to accept it.— The Thoughts of going to *Georgia* still crowded continually in upon me, and at length Providence seemed to point my Way thither. About the Middle of *December*, comes a Letter from Mr. *B——n*, informing me, that Mr. *Charles Wesley* was arrived at *London*. Soon after came a Letter from Mr. *Charles* himself,

himself, wherein he informed me, that he was come over to procure Labourers ; but, added he, “ *I dare not prevent God’s Nomination.*” — In a few Days after this, came another Letter from Mr. *John Wesley*, wherein were these Words, “ *Only Mr. Delamott is with me, till God shall stir up the Hearts of some of his Servants, who putting their Lives in his Hands, shall come over and help us, where the Harvest is so great, and the Labourers so few. What if thou art the Man, Mr. Whitefield?*” In another Letter were these Words, “ *Do you ask me what you shall have? Food to eat, and Raiment to put on, a House to lay your Head in; such as your Lord had not; and a Crown of Glory that fadeth not away.*” Upon reading this my Heart leaped within me, and as it were echoed to the Call. — Many things concurred to make my Way clear. — Mr. *Kirchin* was now elected Dean of *Corpus Christi College*, and being thereby obliged to reside at *Oxford*, he willingly took upon him the Charge of the Prisoners. — Mr. *Harvy* was ready to serve the Cure of *Dummer*. — Mr. *Wesley* was my dear Friend, and I thought it would be a great Advantage to me to be under his Tuition — *Georgia* was an infant, and likely to be an encreasing Colony ; and the Government seemed to have its Welfare much at heart. — I had heard many *Indians* were near it, and thought it a Matter of great Importance, that serious Clergymen should be sent there. Retirement and Privacy was what my Soul delighted in. — A Voyage to Sea would, in all Probability, not do my Constitution much hurt : nay, I had heard the Sea was sometimes beneficial to weakly People. And supposing the worst, as I must necessarily return to take Priest’s Orders, it would then be left to my Choice, whether I would fix in my native Country, or go abroad any more. — These things being thoroughly weighed, I at length resolved within myself to embark for *Georgia*: and knowing that I should never put my Resolution into Practice, if I conferred with Flesh and Blood, I wrote to my Re-

lations to inform them of my Design, and withal told them, “ If they would promise not to dissuade me
 “ from my intended Voyage, I would come and take
 “ a personal Leave of them ; if otherwise, knowing
 “ my own Weakness, I was determined to embark
 “ without visiting them at all.” A few Days after
 Mr. *Kinchin* came to *Dummer*, and introduced Mr.
Harvy into the Cure. — I apprised them of my In-
 tention. — They gave me some friendly Council, and
 having spent the Beginning of *Christmas* sweetly toge-
 ther, and taken an affectionate Leave of the *Dummer*
 People, I returned once more to *Oxford*, to bid adieu
 to my Friends, who were as dear to me as my own
 Soul. — My Resolution at first a little shocked them,
 but having Reason to think, from my Relation of
 Circumstances, that, I had a Call from Providence,
 most of them said, “ *The Will of the Lord be done.*”

On *New-Year's-Day*, 1736-7, I went to *Gloucester*
 in order to hear the Bishop's *Opinion*, and to take my
 Leave of my Mother and other Relations. — His
 Lordship received me, as he always did, like a Fa-
 ther, approved of my Design, wished me much Suc-
 cess, and said, “ He did not doubt but God would
 “ bless me, and that I should do much Good abroad.”
 My own Relations at first were not so passive. — My
 aged Mother wept sore, and others urged what pretty
 Preferment I might have, if I would stay at home —
 But at length they grew more quiet, and finding me
 so fixed, gainsayed no longer. — During my Stay
 here, I began to grow a little popular. God gave
 me Honour for a while, even in my own Country. —
 I preached twice on the Sabbaths. Congregations
 were very large, and the Power of God attended the
 Word; and some I have Reason to believe were truly
 converted, who will be my Joy and Crown of rejoicing
 in the Day of the Lord J E S U S.

In about three Weeks I went to *Bristol*, to take
 leave of some more of my Relations who lived there
 As it was my constant Practice, go where I would
 to attend on the daily publick Offices of the Church,

I went, the *Thursday* after my coming, to hear a Sermon at *St. John's Church*. Whilst the Psalm was singing, after Prayers, the Minister came to my Seat, and asked me to give the Congregation a Sermon. Having my Notes about me, I complied. The Hearers seemed startled, and after Sermon Enquiry was made, who I was? The next Day there was another Lecture at *St. Stephens*. Many crowded thither in Expectation of hearing me again. The Lecturer asked me to preach, as the other did the Day before. I again complied, and the Alarm given here was so general, that on the following Lord's-Day, many of all Denominations were obliged to return from the Churches where I preached for want of Room. Afterwards I was called by the Mayor to preach before him, and the Corporation. And for some time following, I preached all the Lectures on Week-Days, and twice on *Sundays*, besides visiting the religious Societies. The Word, through the mighty Power of God, was sharper than a two-edged Sword. The Doctrine of the *New Birth* and *Justification* by *Faith in Jesus Christ* (though I was not so clear in it as afterwards) made its Way like Lightning into the Hearers Consciences. The *Arrows* of *Conviction* stuck fast; and my whole Time between one Lecture and another, except what was spent in necessary Refreshment, was wholly taken up in talking with poor Souls under Concern. Large Offers were made me, if I would stay at *Bristol*; and many I believe would have almost plucked out their own Eyes to have given me! All wondered that I would go to *Georgia*, who might be so well provided for at home! And some urged, if I had a Mind to convert *Indians*, I might go amongst the *King's-Wood* Colliers, and find *Indians* enough. But none of these Things moved me. Having put my Hand to the Plow, I was determined thro' divine Grace, not to look back. And therefore, at length, I took my leave, but with what mutual Affection and Concern cannot easily be expressed.

During

During my Stay at *Bristol*, I made a little Elopement to *Bath*, where I was kindly received by a dear Friend the Reverend Mr. *Chapman*, and some elect and honourable Women who befriended the *Oxford* Methodists. I preached at the Abbey-Church twice. — The late Dr. *Cockman* was pleased to thank me for my Sermon ; and Application was made to me by several to print both my Discourses. But I scarce allowed such a Thought to enter, much less to lodge within my Heart.

It was now about the Middle of *February*. *Lent* was at hand, and I was obliged to be at *Oxford* to perform the Remainder of my College-Exercise, which they call *Determining*. I went through *Gloucester*, as it lay in my Way, and abode there a Week, visiting the Prisoners, and encouraging the awakened Souls. Having staid about ten Days at the University, I took, as I thought, my last Farewel of my dear Friends, and came up to *London* in the Beginning of *March*, in order to wait upon *James Oglethorp*, Esq; and the Honourable *Trustees*. I was kindly received by both. The former introduced me to his Grace the present *Arch-Bishop* of *Canterbury* ; and the Revd. Mr. *Arthur Bedford*, at the Desire of the latter, (with whom I dined at their publick Anniversary) went with me to the present Lord Bishop of *London*. Both approved of my going abroad ; the former was pleased to say, “ He
“ would take particular Notice of such as went to
“ *Georgia*, if they did not go out of any *sinister* View. This put me upon Enquiry what were my Motives in going ? And, after the strictest Examination, my Conscience answered, “ *Not to please any Man living*
“ *upon Earth, nor out of any sinister View; but simply*
“ *to comply with what I believe to be thy Will, O God,*
“ *and to promote thy Glory, thou great Shepherd and*
“ *Bishop of Souls.*”

I continued at *London* about three Weeks, waiting for Mr. *Oglethorp*, who expected to sail every Day. In this Season I preached more frequently than when there before. Many more came to hear me, and the
last

last *Sunday* I was in Town, I read Prayers twice, and preached four times. — But finding Mr. *Oglethorp* was not likely to go for some time, and having lain under particular Obligation to the Revd. Mr. *Sampson Harris*, Minister of *Stone-House*, in *Gloucestershire*, I went down thither, at his Request, to supply his Place, whilst he came up to dispatch some Affairs in Town.

Hither I had Reason to think God sent me in Answer to Prayer : For there was a little sweet Society of seeking Souls, who had heard me preach at an adjacent Town, and wrestled with God, if it was his Will, to send me amongst them. They received me with all Joy, and most of the Parishioners were very civil, when I came to visit them from House to House. Upon Examination I found them more knowing than I expected. Their Pastor had used to catechise the little Ones in the Summer-season, and expounded the four Lessons every Lord's-Day in the Church. I followed his good Example, and found great Freedom and Assistance given me both in my publick and private Administrations. Having the Use of the Parsonage-House, I expounded every Night. Many that were not Parishioners came to hear, and were edified. On *Sundays*, besides expounding the Lessons, catechising and preaching, I repeated my Sermons to the Society. Neither Church or House could contain the People that came. I found uncommon Manifestations granted me from above. Early in the Morning, at Noon-Day, Evening, and Midnight, nay all the Day long, did the blessed JESUS visit and refresh my Heart. Could the Trees of a certain Wood, near *Stone-House*, speak, they would tell what sweet Communion I and some more dear Souls enjoyed with the ever blessed God there. Sometimes as I have been walking, my Soul would make such Sallies as though it would go out of the Body. At other times I would be so overpowered with a Sense of God's infinite Majesty, that I would be constrained to throw myself prostrate on the Ground, and
offer

offer my Soul as a Blank in his Hands, to write on it what he pleased. One Night was a Time never to be forgotten. It happened to lighten exceedingly. I had been expounding to many People, and some being afraid to go home, I thought it my Duty to accompany them, and improve the Occasion, to stir them up to prepare for the coming of the Son of Man, But O what did my Soul feel! In my Return to the Parsonage-House, whilst others were rising from their Beds, and frightned almost to Death, to see the Lightning run upon the Ground, and shine from one Part of the Heaven unto the other, I and another, a poor, but pious, Countryman, were in the Field, praying to, praising of, and exulting in our God, and longing for that Time, when JESUS should be revealed from Heaven in a Flame of Fire! Oh that my Soul may be in a like Frame, when he shall actually come to call me! For I think I never had been happier than that Night, or, all things considered, more blessed than during my Abode at *Stone-House*. Every Week the Congregations increased; and on *Ascension-Day*, when I took my leave, the Concern they shewed at my Departure was inexpressible. Their Sighs and Tears almost broke my Heart. Many cried out with *Ruth*, *Whither thou goest I will go, where thou lodgest I will lodge*. But I only took one with me, who proved a good Servant, and is, I believe, a true Follower of our ever Blessed JESUS.

The Incumbent being returned from *London*, and the People of *Bristol* having given me repeated Invitations, nay having insisted upon my coming again, since the Time of my embarking was deferred; on *May 23d*, I paid them a second Visit. Multitudes came on Foot, and many in Coaches a Mile without the City to meet me, and almost all saluted and blessed me as I went along the Street. Upon my coming here, I received Letters from *London*, informing me, that Mr. *Oglethorp* would not embark these two Months. This gladden'd many Hearts, though I cannot say it did mine; because I counted the Hours,

as it were, till I went abroad. I preached as usual, about five times a Week; but the Congregations grew, if possible, larger and larger. It was wonderful to see how the People hung upon the Rails of the Organ-Loft, climbed upon the Leads of the Church, and made the Church itself so hot with their Breath, that the Steam would fall from the Pillars like Drops of Rain. Sometimes almost as many would go away for want of Room as came in, and it was with great Difficulty I got into the Desk to read Prayers, or preach. Persons of all Denominations flocked to hear. Persons of all Ranks, not only publickly attended my Ministry, but gave me private Invitations to their Houses. A private Society or two were erected. I preached and collected for the poor Prisoners in *Newgate* twice or thrice a Week, and many made me large Offers if I would not go abroad.

During my Stay here I paid another Visit to *Bath*, and preached three times in the *Abbey-Church*, and once in *Queen's-Chapel*. People crowded, and were affected as at *Bristol*. And God stirred up some elect Ladies to give upwards of a *hundred and sixty Pounds* for the Poor of *Georgia*.

June 21st, I took my last Farewel at *Bristol*. But when I came to tell them, it might be, that they would *see my Face no more*, high and low, young and old burst into such a Flood of Tears, as I had never seen before: Drops fell from their Eyes like Rain, or rather gushed out like Water out of the Stony Rock. Multitudes, after Sermon, followed me home weeping; and the next Day I was employed from seven in the Morning till Midnight, in talking and giving spiritual Advice to awakened Souls.

About three the next Morning, having thrown myself on the Bed for an Hour or two, I set out for *Gloucester*, because I heard that a great Company on Horseback, and in Coaches, intended to see me out of Town. Some finding themselves disappointed, followed me thither, where I staid a few Days, and preached to a very crowded Auditory. Then I went

on to *Oxford*, where we had, as it were, a general Rendezvous of the *Methodists*; and, finding their Interests flourishing, and being impatient to go abroad, I hastened away, after taking a most affectionate Leave, and came to *London* about the End of *August*, I hope, in some degree, thankful for the great Things the Lord had done for me in the Country.

Every Hour now seemed a Week, and every Week a Year, till I was embarked.

I knew there was no Minister at *Frederica*, for which Place I was then appointed, and I did not care to be absent longer from my proper Charge. Mr. *Oglethorp*'s going was still retarded, and I had thought it my Duty to go immediately without him, had not he and my other Friends urged, that the Soldiers would shortly embark, and that I had best go over with them. This somewhat pacified me, and having now taken a final Farewel of all my Friends in the Country, I was resolved to abide at *London*, and give myself wholly to Prayer, the Study of the Scriptures, and my own Heart, till the Soldiers should embark.

The House I lodged at was good old Mr. *Hutton*'s in *College-street, Westminster*, where I had the pleasure of seeing my dear Friend Mr. *Ingham*, lately returned from *Georgia*; and perceiving him, as I thought, remarkably grown in Grace. I longed still more to be sent to the same School, hoping to catch some of that holy Flame with which his Soul was fired. We freely and solemnly conversed together about my Call abroad. It seemed to both quite clear, though we could have wished, had it been the Divine Will, to have lived and died together. Our Hearts were knit to each other, like the Hearts of *David* and *Jonathan*. At Midnight we would rise to sing Praises to God, and intercede for the whole State of CHRIST'S Church militant here on Earth.

With this my dear Friend I one Day paid a Visit to a worthy Doctor of Divinity near *London*, who

who introduced us to some Honourable Ladies, who, as I had heard, delighted in doing good. It being my constant Practice to improve my Acquaintance with the Rich for the Benefit of the Poor, I recommended two poor Clergymen, and another pious Person, to their Charity. They said little, but between them, unknown to each other, they gave, I think, *thirty-six Guineas*. When we came to the Doctor's House, and saw the Ladies Liberality, he said, "If you had not spoke for others, you would have had a good deal of that yourself." God gave me to rejoice that I had nothing, and the Poor all. The next Day, upon my Return to *London*, in the first Letter that I opened, was a Bank-note of Ten Pounds, sent from an unexpected Hand as a Present for myself. This I took as a Hint from Providence to go on doing good to others, with a full Assurance that the Lord would not let me want. Blessed be his Name I have had many such Instances of his tender Concern for my temporal, as well as my eternal Welfare.

About this time, through the Importunity of Friends, and Aspersions of Enemies, I was prevailed upon to print my Sermon *on the Nature and Necessity of our Regeneration or New-Birth in CHRIST JESUS*, which under God began the awakening at *London, Bristol, Gloucester, and Gloucestershire*. The Dissenters I found were surprized to see a Sermon on such a Subject from a Clergyman of the Church of *England*, and finding the Author came from *Oxford*, were ready to say, (how justly I will not determine) "Can any good come out of Nazareth?" This Sermon sold well to Persons of all Denominations, and was dispersed very much in many Parts, both at home and abroad. A second Impression was soon called for; and finding another of my Sermons was printed without my Leave, and in a very incorrect Manner, at *Bristol*, I was obliged to publish in my own Defence, and afterwards thought I had a clear Call to print any other Discourses, though in themselves mean, that I found blessed to the Good of Souls.

But to return to my publick Administrations. Being determined to abide in *London* till the Time of my Departure, I followed my usual Practice of reading and praying over the Word of God upon my Knees. Sweet was this Retirement to my Soul, but it was not of long Continuance. — Invitations were given me to preach at several Places. — The Stewards and Members of the religious Societies were very fond of hearing me. — I was invited to preach at *Cripplegate*, *St. Ann's*, and *Forster-lane* Churches, at Six on the Lord's-Day Morning, and to assist in administering the Holy Sacrament. — I embraced the Invitations, and so many came, that sometimes we were obliged to consecrate fresh Elements two or three Times, and the Stewards found it somewhat difficult to carry the Offerings to the Communion-Table. — I also preached at *Wapping-Chapel*, the *Tower*, *Ludgate*, *Newgate*, and many of the Churches where weekly Lectures were kept up. — The Congregations continually increased, and generally, of a Lord's-Day, I used to preach four Times to very large, and very affected Auditories, besides reading Prayers twice or thrice, and walking, perhaps, twelve Miles in going backwards and forwards from one Church to the other. — But God made my Feet like Hind's Feet, and filled me with Joy unspeakable at the End of my Day's Work. — This made me look upon my Friends kind Advice which they gave me, *to spare myself*, as a Temptation. — For I found by daily Experience, the more I did, the more I might do for God. —

About the latter End of *August*, finding there were many young Men belonging to the Societies that attended my Administrations, I entered into one of their singing Societies, hoping thereby to ingratiate myself the more, and have greater Opportunities of doing them good. — It answered my Design. — Our Lord gave me to spiritualize their singing. — And after they had taught me the *Gamut*, they would gladly hear me teach them some of the Mysteries of the *New-Birth*, and the *Necessity of living to God*. — Many
sweet

sweet Nights we spent together in this Way.—And many of these Youths afterwards, to all Appearance, walked with God, and will, I trust, join the heavenly Choir in singing Praises to the Lamb, and him that sitteth upon the Throne for ever.

About the Middle of *September*, my Name was first put into the publick *News-papers*, but upon what particular Occasion I cannot now recollect.—The *Sunday* before, with great Reluctanee, I was prevailed on to preach a Charity Sermon at *Wapping-Chapel*.—The Congregation was very large, and more was collected than had been for many Years upon a like Occasion.—This got Air — My Friends improved the Occasion, and intreated me to preach another Charity Sermon, at *Sir George Wheeler's Chapel*.—I absolutely refused ; but at length, through the Importunity of *Mr. Habersham*, since my faithful Assistant in the *Orphan-House*, I agreed to do it.—I discoursed upon the *Widow's giving her two Mites*—God bowed the Hearts of the Hearers as the Heart of one Man.—Almost all, as I was told, by the Collectors, offered most willingly. — Scarce one appeared before the Lord empty. — This still drew on fresh Applications. The *Sunday* following I preached in the Evening at *St. Swithens*, where *eight Pounds* were collected instead of *ten Shillings*.—The next Morning, as I was at Breakfast with a Friend at the *Tower*, I read in one of the *News-Papers*, “ That there was a
 “ young Gentleman going Voluntier to Georgia : That
 “ he had preached at *St. Swithens*, and collected eight
 “ Pounds instead of ten Shillings ; three Pounds of
 “ which were in Halspence : And that he was to preach
 “ next Wednesday before the Societies, at their General
 “ Quarterly Meeting.” This Advertisement chagrined me very much.—I immediately sent to the Printer, desiring he would put me in his Paper no more.—His Answer was, That “ He was paid for doing it,
 “ and that he would not lose two Shillings for any
 “ body.” By this means Peoples Curiosity was stirred up more and more. — On the *Wednesday* Evening

Bow-Church, in *Cheapside*, was crowded exceedingly. — I preached my Sermon on early Piety, and at the Request of the Societies printed it. — Hence-forwards, for near three Months successively, there was no End of Peoples flocking to hear the Word of God. — The Church-Wardens, and Managers of Charity-Schools, perceiving what Effect my preaching had upon the Populace, were continually applying to me to preach for the Benefit of the Children. — And as I was to embark shortly, they procured the Liberty of the Churches on the Week Days ; a thing never known before. — I have sometimes had more than a Dozen Names of different Churches, at which I promised to preach, upon my Slate-Book at once. — And when I preached, Constables were obliged to be placed at the Door, to keep the People in order. — The Sight of the Congregations was very awful. — One might, as it were, walk upon the Peoples Heads, and thousands went away from the largest Churches for want of Room. They were all Attention when the Word was delivered, and heard like People hearing for Eternity. — I now preached generally nine Times a Week. The early Sacraments were exceeding awful. At *Cripplegate*, *St. Ann's*, and *Forster-lane*, how often have we seen JESUS CHRIST crucified, and evidently set forth before us ! On *Sunday* Mornings, long before Day, you might see Streets filled with People going to Church, with their Lanthorns in their Hands, and hear them conversing about the Things of God. — Other Lecture Churches near at hand, would be filled with Persons that could not come where I was preaching : And those that did come, were so deeply affected, that they were like Persons struck with pointed Arrows, or mourning for a first-born Child ! People gave so liberally to the Charity Schools, that this Season near a thousand Pounds *Sterling* was collected at the several Churches, besides many private Contributions and Subscriptions sent in afterwards. — I always preached gratis, and gave myself. The *Blue-Coat* Boys and Girls looked upon

upon me as their great Benefactor; and I believe frequently sent up their Infant Cries in my Behalf. Worthy Mr. *Seeward*, afterwards my dear *Fellow-Traveller*, was their hearty Friend and Advocate. — He was concerned in above twenty Charity Schools; and, as I found some Months afterwards, inserted the Paragraph that so chagrined me. The Tide of Popularity now began to run very high. — In a short time I could no longer walk on Foot as usual, but was constrained to go in a Coach from Place to Place to avoid the *Hosannas* of the Multitude. — They grew quite extravagant in their Applauses, and had it not been for my compassionate High-Priest, Popularity would have destroyed me: But he knew it was quite unthought of and unfought by me. — I used therefore to plead with and intreat him, to take me by the Hand and lead me unhurt through this fiery Furnace! — He heard my Request, gave me to see the Vanity of all Commendations but his own, and, in some measure, enabled me to give back all the Respect I received, to that Fountain from whence it had its Source. —

Not that all spoke well of me — No, as my Popularity increased, Opposition increased also. — At first many of the Clergy were my Hearers and Admirers: But some soon grew angry, and Complaints were made, that the Churches were so crowded, that there was no Room for the Parishioners, and that the Pews were spoiled. — Some called me a Spiritual Pick-Pocket, and others thought I made use of a kind of a Charm to get the Peoples Money. — A Report was spread abroad, that the Bishop of *London*, upon the Complaint of the Clergy, intended to silence me. — I immediately waited upon his Lordship, and enquired whether any Complaint of this Nature had been lodged against me? He answered, “*No.*” I asked his Lordship whether any Objection could be made against my Doctrines? He said, “*No: For he knew a Clergyman who had heard me preach a plain Scriptural Sermon.*” I asked his Lordship, whether he would grant me a Licence? He said, “*I needed*
“*none,*

“ none, since I was going to Georgia.” I replied,
 “ Then your Lordship would not forbid me ?” He gave
 me a satisfactory Answer, and I took my leave.—Soon
 after this, two Clergymen sent for me, and told me,
 they would not let me preach in their Pulpits any
 more, unless I renounced that Part of my Sermon on
Regeneration, wherein I wished, “ *That my Brethren*
would entertain their Auditories oftner with Dis-
courses upon the New-Birth.” — This I had no Free-
 dom to do, and so they continued my Opposers.—
 What I believe irritated some of my Enemies the more,
 was my free Conversation with many of the serious
 Dissenters, who invited me to their Houses, and re-
 peatedly told me, “ *That if the Doctrine of the New-*
Birth and Justification by Faith, was preached power-
fully in the Church, there would be but few Dissenters
in England.” — My Practice in visiting and asso-
 ciating with them I thought was quite agreeable to the
 Word of God.— Their Conversation was favourable,
 and I thought the best Way to bring them over, was
 not by Bigotry and Railing, but Moderation and Love,
 and undissembled Holiness of Life.— But these Rea-
 sons were of no Avail.— One Minister called me
Pragmatical Rascal, and vehemently inveighed against
 the whole Body of Dissenters.— This stirred up the
 Peoples Corruptions, and having an overweening
 Fondness for me, whenever they came to Church and
 found that I did not preach, some of them would go
 out again. — This Spirit I always endeavoured to
 quell, and made a Sermon on purpose, from those
 Words, *Take heed how ye hear*. One time upon hearing
 that a Church-warden intended to take eight Pounds a
 Year from his Parish Minister, because he refused to
 let me preach his Lecture, I composed a Sermon upon
 those Words, *Love your Enemies*; and delivered it
 where I knew the Church-warden would be.— It
 had its desired Effect.— He came after Sermon and
 told me, he was convinced by my Discourse, that he
 should not resent the Injury the Doctor had done me,
 and then thanked me for my Care.— Nor was I

without Opposition from Friends, who were jealous over me with a Godly Jealousy.—For I carried high Sail, thousands and thousands came to hear. My Sermons were every where called for. News came from time to time of the springing up and Increase of the Seed sown in *Bristol, Gloucester*, and elsewhere. Large Offers were made me, if I would stay in *England*.—And all the Opposition I met with, joined with the Consciousness of my private daily Infirmities, were but *Ballast* little enough to keep me from over-setting.

However, the Lord (Oh infinite Condescension !) was pleased to be with and bless me Day by Day.—I had a sweet Knot of Religious Friends, with whom I at first attempted to pray *extempore*. Some time, I think in *October*, we began to set apart an Hour every Evening, to intercede with the Great Head of the Church for carrying on the Work begun, and for the Circle of our Acquaintance, according as we knew their Circumstances required.—I was their Mouth unto God, and he only knows what Enlargement I felt in that divine Employ. Once we spent a whole Night in Prayer and Praise; and many a time, at Midnight and at one in the Morning, after I have been wearied almost to Death in Preaching, Writing, and Conversation, and going from Place to Place, God imparted new Life to my Soul, and would enable me to intercede with him for an Hour and half and two Hours together.—The Sweetness of this Exercise made me compose my Sermon upon *Intercession*; and I cannot think it Presumption to give it as my Opinion, that partly, at least, in Answer to Prayers, then put up by his dear Children, the Word for some Years past has ran and been glorified, not only in *England*, but in many other Parts of the World.

It was now, I think, that I was prevailed on to sit for my Picture.—The Occasion was this.—Some ill-minded Persons had painted me leaning on a Cushion, with a Bishop looking very enviously over my Shoulder.—At the Bottom were six Lines, in one of which

the Bishops were stiled *Mitred Drones*. — The same Person published in the Papers, that I had sat for it. — This I looked upon as the Snare of the Devil to insense the Clergy against me. I consulted Friends what to do. They told me I must sit for my Picture in my own Defence. — At the same time my aged Mother laid her Commands upon me to do so in a Letter, urging, “*That if I would not let her have the Substance,*” “*I would leave her at least the Shadow.*” She also mentioned the Painter, and meeting with him one Night very accidentally, I at length with great Reluctance complied, and endeavoured, whilst the Painter was drawing my Face, to employ my Time, in beseeching the great God, by his holy Spirit, to paint his blessed Image upon his and my Heart.

Christmas now drew near. — Notice was given me, that the Soldiers were almost ready to embark for *Georgia*, Mr. *Oglethorp* being yet detained, I was resolved to throw myself into the Hands of God, and go with the Soldiers. But the nearer the Time of my Departure approached, the more affectionate and eager People grew. There was no End of Persons coming to me under Soul Concern. I preached, and God blessed me more and more, and supported me for some time with but very little Sleep.

At the Beginning of *Christmas* Week I took my leave : But, Oh what Groans and Sighs were to be heard, when I said, “*Finally, Brethren, farewell !*” At great *St. Helen’s*, the Cry was amazing. I was near half an Hour going out to the Door. All Ranks gave vent to their Passions. Thousands and thousands of Prayers were put up for me. They would run and stop me in the Allies, hug me in their Arms, and follow me with wishful Looks. Once in the *Christmas* before my Departure, with many others, I spent a Night in Prayer and Praise ; and in the Morning helped to administer the Sacrament at *St. Dunstan’s*, as I used to do on Saints-Days. — But such a Sacrament I never before saw. — The Tears of the Communicants mingled with the Cup, and had not

JESUS

JESUS given us some of his new Wine to drink, to comfort our Hearts, our parting would have almost been insupportable. At length *December 28th* I left *London*, and went in the Strength of God, as a poor *Pilgrim* on board the *Whitaker*, after having preached in a good Part of the *London Churches*, collected about a thousand Pounds for the Charity-Schools, and got upwards of three hundred Pounds *Sterling* for the Poor of *Georgia* among my Friends, for which I have since publickly accounted. At the same time God raised me a Sufficiency to supply my own temporal Necessities ; and gave me repeated Proofs, that *if we seek first the Kingdom of God and his Righteousness, all other things* (I mean Food and Raiment, which is all a Christian should desire) *shall be added unto us.*—— For which, and all his other unmerited Mercies, I desire to praise him in time, and magnify his holy Name, through the boundless Ages of Eternity.

Some Particulars that befel me whilst abroad, and how this Tide of Popularity rose still higher at my return home : How I came to commence a Field-Preacher, and part with many Friends, who were as dear to me as my own Soul : How they that would now have plucked out their Eyes, and have given them unto me, afterwards accounted me their Enemy because I told them the Truth : By what Means the Seed now sown sprang up, and grew into a great Tree, both in *England, Scotland, and America* : How Divisions arose among God's People, and what were the Effects and Consequences of them, all this I say must be reserved for another Tract, if God should continue my Life and Strength, and give me Leisure and Freedom to prosecute and finish it.

In the mean while, let me exhort thee, O Reader, if serious and a Child of God, to bless him for what he has done for my Soul : Or if thou art yet in the Gall of Bitterness, and, thro' Prejudice, thinkest that I have either not told Truth, or wrote out of a vain-glorious View, let me only intreat thee to suspend thy Judgment for a little while, and JESUS shall decide

the Question. At his TRIBUNAL we shall meet, and there thou shalt know what is in my Heart, and what were the Motives which led me out into such a Scene of Life. At present I will trouble thee no more; but beg thee, whether serious or not, to endeavour to calm thy Spirit, by singing or reading over the following Lines, translated by that sweet Singer of *Israel*, and my worthy and honoured Friend Doctor *Watts*,

P S A L M LXXI. 5—9. *First.*

I.

MY God, my everlasting Hope,
I live upon thy Truth;
Thine Hands have held my Childhood up,
And strength'ned all my Youth.

II.

My Flesh was fashion'd by thy Power,
With all these Limbs of mine;
And from my Mother's painful Hour,
I've been entirely thine.

III.

Still has my Life new Wonders seen,
Repeated ev'ry Year;
Behold my Days that yet remain,
I trust them to thy Care.

IV.

Cast me not off should Health decline,
Or hoary Hairs arise;
And round me let thy Glory shine,
When e'er thy Servant dies.

V.

Then in the History of my Age,
When Men review my Days,
They'll read thy Love in every Page,
In ev'ry Line thy Praise.

A B R I E F

A C C O U N T

O F T H E

R I S E, P R O G R E S S, *and* P R E S E N T

S I T U A T I O N,

O F T H E

Orphan-House in G E O R G I A.

In a L E T T E R to a F R I E N D.

Bethesda, in Georgia, March 21st. 1745-6.

My very dear Friend,

IT being now some Months since I arrived here, I think it high Time, according to my Promise, to send you as explicate an Account as I well can, of the *Rise, Progress, and present Situation* of the *Orphan-House*, where I now am. — Some have thought, that the erecting such a Building was only the Produce of my own Brain : but they are much mistaken. For it was first proposed to me by my dear Friend the Revd. Mr. *Charles Wesley*, who, with his Excellency General *Oglethorp*, had concerted a Scheme for carrying on such a Design, before I had any Thoughts of going abroad myself. It was natural to think, that as the Government intended this Province for the Refuge and Support of many of our poor Countrymen, that Numbers of such Adventurers must necessarily be taken off, by being exposed to the Hardships which unavoidably attend a new Settlement. I thought

thought

thought it therefore a noble Design in the general to erect a House for fatherless Children. And believing such a Provision for Orphans would be some Inducement with many to come over, I fell in with the Design, when mentioned to me by my Friend, and was resolved, in the Strength of God, to prosecute it with all my Might.——This was mentioned to the Honourable the Trustees. They took it kindly at my Hands ; and as I then began to be pretty popular at *Bristol*, and elsewhere, they wrote to the *Bishop of Bath and Wells*, for Leave for me to preach a Charity-Sermon on this Occasion in the Abbey-Church. This was granted, and I accordingly began immediately to compose a suitable Discourse : But knowing my first Stay at *Georgia* would be but short, on account of my returning again to take Priests Orders, I thought it most prudent first to go and see for myself, and defer prosecuting the Scheme till I came home : because I could then be better able to judge, whether the Scheme was practicable, and consequently could be able to recommend it with the greater Earnestness.——When I came to *Georgia*, I found many poor Orphans, who, tho' taken notice of by the Honourable Trustees, yet thro' the Neglect of Persons that acted under them, were in miserable Circumstances. —— For want of a House to breed them up in, the poor little Ones were tumbled out here and there, and besides the Hurt they received by bad Examples, forgot at home what they learnt at School. —— Others were at hard Services, and likely to have no Education at all. —— Upon seeing this, and finding that his Majesty and Parliament had the Interest of this Colony much at heart, I thought I could not better shew my Regard to God and my Country, than by getting a House and Land for these Children, where they might learn to labour, read, and write, and at the same time be brought up in the Nurture and Admonition of the Lord. —— Accordingly, at my Return to *England*, in the Year 1738, to take Priests Orders, I applied to the Honourable

nourable Society for a Grant of 500 Acres of Land, and laid myself under an Obligation to build a House upon it, and to receive from time to time, as many Orphans as the Land and Stock would maintain. As I had always acted like a Clergyman of the Church of *England*, having preached in a good Part of the *London Churches*, and but a few Months before collected near a thousand Pounds *Sterling*, for the Children belonging to the Charity-Schools in *London* and *Westminster*; it was natural to think, that I might now have the Use at least of some of these Churches to preach in for the Orphans hereafter more immediately to be committed to my Care.—But by that time I had taken Priests Orders, the Spirit of the Clergy began to be much embittered.—Churches were gradually denied me.—And I must let this good Design drop, and thousands (I might add ten thousands) go without hearing the Word of God, or preach in the Fields. — Indeed two Churches, one in *London*, viz. *Spittle-Fields*, and one in *Bristol*, viz. *St. Philips* and *Jacob*, were lent me upon this Occasion; but those were all. However, God kept me from being discouraged.—I collected for the Orphan-House in *Moorfields*, two and fifty Pounds one Sabbath-Day Morning: twenty-two Pounds of which was in Copper. It would have rejoiced your Heart to see the People give. They offered him willingly, and took more Pains to come through the Croud and put their Contributions into my Hat, than some would to have got them.—Thousands of Prayers were put up with the Alms that were given, and I trust both went up as a Memorial before God. In the Afternoon I collected again at *Kennington-Common*, and continued to do so at most of the Places where I preached. Besides this, two or three of the *Bishops*, and several Persons of Distinction contributed, till at length, having gotten about a thousand and ten Pounds, I gave over collecting, and went with what I had to *Georgia*. At that time Multitudes offered to accompany me; but I chose to take over only a Surgeon,

Surgeon, and a few more of both Sexes, that I thought would be useful in carrying on my Design. These cheerfully embarked with me, desiring nothing for their Pains, but Food and Raiment. My dear Fellow-Traveller, *William Seward*, Esq; also joined with them, and was particularly useful to me on this Occasion. Our first Voyage was to *Philadelphia*, where I was willing to go for the sake of laying in Provision. Having a Captain of a Ship with me, who had been my spiritual Child, by his Advice, I laid out in *London* a good Part of the thousand Pounds for Goods; and by his Care and my other Fellow-Travellers, without any Trouble to myself, got as much by them at *Philadelphia* as nearly defrayed the Family's Expence of coming over. Here God blessed my Ministry daily, and begun that Work in *Philadelphia*, which, I am persuaded, will be remembered thro' the endless Ages of Eternity. *January* following, 1739, I met my Family at *Georgia*, and being unwilling to lose any time, I hired a large House, and took in all the Orphans I could find in the Colony. A great many also of the Town's Children came to School gratis, and many poor People that could not maintain their Children, upon Application, had Leave given them to send their little Ones for a Month or two, or more, as they could spare them, till at length my Family consisted of between 60 and 70. Most of the Orphans were in poor Case; and three or four almost eat up with Lice. — I likewise erected an *Infirmary*, in which many sick People were cured and taken care of *gratis*. I have now by me a List of upwards of a hundred and thirty Patients, which were under the Surgeon's Hands, exclusive of my own private Family. This Surgeon I furnished with all proper Drugs and Utensils, which put me to no small Expences: And this was still increased by clearing Land, buying Stock, and building a large Dwelling-House sixty by forty, and Out-Houses, commodious for a large Family to live in. Sometimes (Labourers and all) I have had a hundred and

twenty

twenty to provide for daily. My Friends, as well as myself, seemed to have particular Courage and Faith given us for the Season; and we went on chearfully, believing that he for whose Sake we began, would enable us to finish this good Work. About *March* I began the great House, having only about one hundred and fifty Pounds in Cash. I called it *Bethesda*, because I hoped it would be a House of Mercy to many Souls. Blessed be God, we have not been disappointed of our Hope. It has proved a House of Mercy indeed to many. Several of our Labourers, as well as Visitors, have (in a Judgment of Charity) been born of God here, and given evident Proofs of it, by bringing forth the Fruits of the Spirit. Many Boys have been put out to Trades, and many Girls put out to Service. I had the Pleasure the other Day of seeing three Boys work at the House in which they were bred, one of them out of his Time a Journeyman, and the others serving under their Masters. One that I brought from *New-England* is handsomely settled in *Carolina*; and another from *Philadelphia* is married, and lives very comfortably at *Savannah*. How so large a Family has been supported in such a Colony, without any visible Fund, is wonderful! I am surprized when I look back, and see how for these six Years last past, God has spread a Table in the Wilderness for so many Persons. Were all the particular Providences that have attended this Work recorded, perhaps they would be found not inferior to those mentioned by Professor *Frank*, in his *Pietas Hallensis*, whose Memory is very precious to me, and whose Example has a thousand Times been blessed to strengthen and encourage me in the carrying on this Enterprize. Hereafter, perhaps, when I have more Leisure, I may give you an Account of some of them. My being detained so long in *England*, has been a little detrimental to me, my Friends not knowing so well how to act, because they expected to see me daily. And I cannot yet say that I have surmounted the first Years Expence, which indeed was very great;

and greater no doubt than it would be now, after my Friends have had so many Years Experience in the Colony.—However I doubt not, but by the Blessing of God, in a short time to pay off my Arrears, and then the Family will be maintained at a small Expence.—My standing annual Charges are now but trifling to what they have been; and my Friends have raised an annual Subscription sufficient for discharging it till the Family may be able to provide for itself.—This, God willing, I hope will be, in a good measure, speedily effected. We have lately begun to use the Plow; and next Year I hope to have many Acres of good Oats and Barley. We have near twenty Sheep and Lambs, fifty Head of Cattle, and seven Horses. We hope to kill a thousand Weight of Pork this Season. Our Garden, which is very beautiful, furnishes us with all Sorts of Greens, &c. We have plenty of Milk, Eggs, Poultry, and make a good deal of Butter weekly. A good Quantity of Wool and Cotton has been given me, and we hope to have sufficient spun and wove for the next Winter's Cloathing. ——— If the Vines hit, we may expect two or three Hogsheads of Wine out of the Vineyard. The Family now consists of twenty-six Persons. Two of the Orphan Boys are blind, one is little better than an Ideot. ——— But notwithstanding they are useful in the Family; the one in the Field, and the other in the Kitchen. I have two Women to take care of the Household Work, and three Men and two Boys employed about the Plantation and Cattle. A Sett of *Dutch* Servants has been lately sent over: The Magistrates were pleased to give me two; and I took in a poor old Widow, aged near 70, whom nobody else cared to have. A valuable young Man from *New-England* is my School-Master, and in my Absence performs Duty in the Family. On Sabbaths the grown People attend on publick Worship at *Savannah*, or at *White-bluff*, a Village near *Bethesda*, where a *Dutch* Minister officiates. My dear Friends who have hitherto been my Assistants, being married

and

and having each one or two Children, thought it best, as most suitable to the Institution to remove. God has mercifully provided for them, and they are comfortably settled; some at *Savannah*, and some elsewhere. We frequently write to and hear from one another. I need not trouble you with the Order of our Family. It is pretty near the same as usual, and I do not think to make any material Alteration for some time. Many have applied to me to take in their Children as Boarders, and erect a publick School: But I have not yet determined. It is certain such a School would be exceeding useful in this Part of the World, if there should be a Peace, not only for these northern Parts of the Colony, but also for the more southern Parts of *Carolina*, *Purisburgh*, and *Frederica*, where are many fine Youths. I have been prevailed on to take one from *Frederica*, and another from *Purisburgh*, and it may be shall admit more. For the present, considering the Situation of Affairs, I think it most prudent to go on in making what Improvements I can on the Plantation, and bring a Tutor with me from the Northward in the Fall, to teach a few Youths the Languages, and enlarge the Family when Affairs are more settled. The House is a noble commodious Building, and every thing sweetly adapted for bringing up Youth. Here is Land to employ them in to exercise their Bodies, and keep them from Idleness out of School Hours. Here are none of the Temptations to debauch their tender Minds, which are common to more populous Countries, or in Places where Children must necessarily be brought up with Negroes. What God intends to do with the Colony is not for me to enquire: Secret Things belong to him. It has hitherto been wonderfully preserved, and the Orphan-house, like the burning Bush, has flourished unconsumed. In fine, the Government has, no doubt, its Welfare much at heart: And, God willing, I intend to carry on my Design till I see the Colony sink or swim. The Money that has been expended on the Orphan-house, and Orphan-house Family, has been of vast Service to

this northern Part of the Colony. And tho' it has been greatly detrimental to my own private Interest, yet I do not répent of the Undertaking. No, I rejoice in it daily, and hope yet to see many more Souls born unto God here. I have had a very comfortable Winter. The People of *Savannah*, having no Minister till lately, gladly accepted my Labours ; and at *Frederica*, the Gentlemen and Soldiers of General *Og'ethorp's* Regiment, as well as the Inhabitants of the Town, received me very gladly. Major *Horton* seems to behave very well. He has a very fine growing Plantation.—I saw Barley in the Ear the first of *March*. *Georgia* is very healthy.—Not above one, and that a little Child, has died out of our Family, since it removed to *Bethesda*. I think the Colony (were the Inhabitants sufficiently numerous) is capable of as good Improvement as any on the Continent.

For the Satisfaction of my Friends, and silencing, if possible, my Enemies, I have had my Accounts from the very beginning to *January* last, publickly audited and examined, Debtor and Creditor, Article by Article ; and on Oath for Confirmation, being an End of all Strife, I have sworn to them. A Copy of the Audit, with the particular Names of the Children, I have annexed hereunto. If it gives you or others any Satisfaction I shall be glad. I have no more to add, but to beg a continued Interest in your Prayers, and subscribe myself,

Very dear Sir,

Your most affectionate Friend,

and Servant,

GEORGE WHITEFIELD.

Orphan-House, in Georgia, Dr.
Sterling.

	l.	s.	d.
To Cash received } from the 15th } December, 1738, } to the 1st Jan. } 1745-6, by pub- } lick Collections, } private Benefac- } tions, and annu- } al Subscriptions, } per Account, } To Ballance super- } expended, Jan. } 1, 1745-6. }	4982	12	8
	529	05	1 $\frac{1}{4}$

Orphan-House, in Georgia, Cr.
Sterling.

	l.	s.	d.
By Cash paid Sun- } dries by particu- } lar Accounts ex- } amined, from } the 15th Decem. } 1738, to the 1st } Jan. 1745 6, } for Buildings, } Cultivation of } Lands, Infirma- } ry, Provisions, } Wearing Appa- } rel, and other in- } cident Expences. }	5511	17	9 $\frac{1}{4}$

£. 5511 17 9 $\frac{1}{4}$

SAVANNAH in GEORGIA.

S. L. THIS Day personally appeared before us
Henry Parker and *William Spencer*, Bai-
liffs of *Savannah* afore said, the Reverend Mr.
George Whitefield, and *James Habersham*, Mer-
chant of *Savannah* afore said, who, being duly sworn,
say, That the Accounts relating to the Orphan-house,
now exhibited before us, of which the above is an Ab-
stract amounting on the Debit Side (namely, for Col-
lections and Subscriptions received) to the Sum of
Four Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty-two Pounds
Twelve Shillings and Eight Pence, *Sterling*, and on
the Credit Side (namely, for Disbursements paid) to
the Sum of Five Thousand Five Hundred Eleven
Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Ninepence Farthing,
Sterling, do, to the best of their Knowledge, contain
a just and true Account of all the Monies collected
by, or given to them, or any other, for the Use and
Benefit of the said House; and that the Disburse-
ments, amounting to the Sum afore said, have been
faithfully applied to and for the Use of the same.
And the Reverend Mr. *Whitefield* further declareth,
that he hath not converted or applied any Part thereof
to his own private Use and Property, neither hath
charged the said House with any of his travelling, or
any other private Expences whatsoever.

GEORGE WHITEFIELD,
JAMES HABERSHAM.

SAVANNAH in GEORGIA.

THIS Day personally appeared before us, *Henry Parker* and *William Spencer*, Bailiffs of *Savannah* afore said, *William Woodrooffe*, *William Ewen*, and *William Russel* of *Savannah* afore said, who being duly sworn say, That they have carefully and strictly examined all and singular the Accounts relating to the Orphan house in *Georgia*, contained in forty-one Pages, in a Book intituled, *Receipts and Disbursements for the Orphan-house in Georgia*, with the original Bills, Receipts, and other Vouchers, from the fifteenth Day of *December*, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirty-eight, to the first Day of *January*, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Forty-five; and that the Monies received on Account of the said Orphan-house amounted to the Sum of Four Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty-two Pounds Twelve Shillings and Eightpence, *Sterling*, as above; and that it doth not appear, that the Reverend Mr. *Whitefield* hath converted any Part thereof to his own private Use and Property, or charged the said House with any of his travelling, or other private Expences; but, on the contrary, hath contributed to the said House many valuable Benefactions; and that the Monies disbursed on Account of the said House, amounted to the Sum of Five Thousand Five Hundred Eleven Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Ninepence Farthing, *Sterling*, as above, which we, in justice to the Reverend Mr. *Whitefield*, and the Managers of the said House, do hereby declare, appear to us to be faithfully and justly applied to and for the Use and Benefit of the said House only.

WILLIAM WOODROOFFE,
WILLIAM EWEN,
WILLIAM RUSSEL.

Sworn this 16th Day of *April*, 1746, before us Bailiffs of *Savannah*; in Justification whereof we have hereunto fixed our Hands, and the common Seal.

HENRY PARKER.
WILLIAM SPENCER.



IF any Person, upon reading the foregoing Account, shall be stirred up to contribute any Thing towards the defraying the Arrears of further Cloathing and Educating the Children, or furnishing the House, they are desired to send their Contributions to Mr. *Branson*, Iron-merchant, in *Philadelphia*; the Revd. Mr. *Smith*, in *Charlestown*, *South-Carolina*; Mr. *John Smith*, Merchant, in *Boston*; the Revd. Mr. *Shutlist*, in *Portsmouth*, in *New Hampshire*; the Revd. Mr. *Pemberton*, in *New-York*; Mr. *James Habersham*, Merchant, in *Savannah*, *Georgia*; *Gabriel Harris*, Esq; in *Gloucester*; Mr. *James Smith*, at *St. Philip's-Plain*, in *Bristol*; Mr. *John Kennedy*, at *Exon*; Mr. *Jonathan Houlliere*, in *Queen-street*, *Upper Moorfields*; and Mr. *William Strahan*, Printer, in *Wine-Office-Court*, *Fleet-street*.