

Guide to Reading this Transcription
Of Reverend William Richardson's Diary 1758-1759
By William B. Jack

The Only Extant copy of William Richardson's Diary can be found in the New York Public Library, Wilberforce Eames Indian Collection 637539. This copy is one sent to the Reverend Samuel Davies of the Society for the Managing the Mission and Schools among the Indians (a Presbyterian mission). Davies forwarded this copy to Lieutenant Governor Francis Fauquier in May of 1759. On June 13, 1759, Fauquier reported the conduct of the Cherokee to the Council. Unfortunately Richardson's report was little heeded, the Reverend Martin, whose visit to the Cherokees had preceded Richardson, reported that the Cherokee had been good natured when he was there. After leaving the over hills in the fall of 1758, Martin had gone to Charlestown. He never returned to Williamsburg until early May of 1759. Because he had been in South Carolina after Richardson's report concluded, Martin's report seemed more current. Richardson's diary, although largely ignored, gives us great insight into the mindset of the Cherokee during the crucial winter of 1758-1759. Cherokee culture, the state of the roads and the back country settlers of the Southern Colonies, are also commented on by the Missionary. Richardson had many troubles on his journey to and from the Cherokee Country which make the journal all the more interesting. Samuel Cole Williams also transcribed a portion of this Diary in the 1930's. Unfortunately I have never seen a copy of this transcription.

A few things need to be kept in mind when reading this transcription. All spelling is as it is in the original or as close as could be deciphered. The long s has been replaced with a modern "s" Any words which are unclear in spelling or meaning are marked with a question mark in brackets. Words or letters I have added or included to make the meaning more clear are in brackets. Richardson used numerous abbreviations in this diary, some of these include:

ye: the	yy: they	ym: them	yn: then	yg: young	yr: their
yt: that	wn: when	wo: who	wc: which	wd: would	cd: could
shd: should	Xt: Christ				

The Original letter is some Sixty Five hand written pages. To reflect this, the number of the original pages is found within a pair of vertical lines (ex |23|) after the last word or letter of that page.

Richardson, William
Diary & Journal
1758-1759

Richardson (Rev. Wm.)

CHEROKEE

An Account of my Proceedings since I accepted the Indian Mission in October 2d, 1758, to go and exercise my office as a Minister among the Cherokees or any other Indian Nation that would allow me to preach to them.

Manuscript

1759

* Signed at the end.-Wm. Richardson

CHEROKEE

An Account of my Proceedings since I accepted the Indian Mission in October 2d, 1758, to go and exercise my office as a Minister among the Cherokees or any other Indian Nation that would allow me to preach to them.

Manuscript

1759

Wilberforce Eames Indian Collection 637539

To the Reverend Mr. Samuel Davies

Secretary of the Society for the managing the Mission & schools among ye Indians; or to the Revd Mr Todd his Successor [?] In Hanover Virginia 1759

An Account of my Proceedings since I accepted the Indian Mission in October 2d, 1758, to go and exercise my office as a Minister among the Cherokees or any other Indian Nation that would allow me to preach to them.

Oct. 2, 1758 New Castles, Hanover Virginia

I set out from Newcastle to wait upon the Governor & Council to solicit their Recommendation to y^e Commandants of the Forts in the Cherokee Nation & get their approbation of y^e Instructions given one by the Society here after with corrections & amendments as they should think proper. Got into W^{ms}burgh in the evening in Company with the Rev^d M^r. Davies & M^r George Webb a member of the Society for managing also mission & Schools among y^e Indians, rode about 50 miles rained very hard upon us some of the Way.

Wmsburgh Teusday Oct^r 3. Intended to have waited upon the Governor¹ this morning, but had rode out on account of his health & was not In returned [page torn] till one of y^e Clock. It was judged [page torn] proper to wait, upon him thro [page torn] |1| noon because he had a great Company[?] with Him.

Was seized this afternoon with the Fever & Ague w^c I had had lately, but was got well, the return of w^c I imparte to my getting wet the other night. had a severe Fit.

Oct^r 4 Waited upon the Governor in company with Col^s. Lee & Symes- M^r Web, & presented a petition to him from the Society, shewed him the Instructions, both w^c he said he w^d lay before the Council & desired us to return in y^e Evening he received us kindly. Received the Instructions from M^r Walthoe Cler: of y^e Council approved by y^e Governor & Council & waited upon him in the afternoon, & he desired us to return in the morning for the debaters. [?]

Oct^r 5. Waited upon the Governor with Mr. Davies, who gave us 3 Letters one to Governor Lyttleton of S. Carolina & one to Captn. Demeree² of Fort- Loudon in the upper Cherokees, & one to Ensign [page torn] kintosh³ at Fort Prince- George at [page torn] [Ke] owee the lowest Town of the Nation [page torn] rote by himself, kindly entertained [page torn] us & wished me success, tho he seemed |2| doubtful of success among them. Set out from Town ab^t. 12. Got to Mr. Burbidges' s rode about 26 miles. had a severe Fit of the Fever & Ague this [word marked out] Afternoon.

Oct^r 6. Rode ab^t. 24 miles to New Castle

Oct^r. 7. Rode ab^t. 7 miles had a Fever to Night.

Oct:8 rode ab^t. 8 miles & preached for M^r D. in Caroline Meeting House

Oct^r. 9 rode ab^t. 10 miles to M^r Ds. Detained from setting out for the Cherokees on acc^t. of

¹ Lieutenant Governor Francis Fauquier

² Captain Paul Demere

³ Ensign Lauchlin McIntosh

my Health & other necessary business until Friday the 13 inst in y^t time rode ab^t. 30 miles.

Oct: 13. Left M^f. D^s. About 12 preached at ground squirrel. Rode ab^t. 18 miles

Oct^f. 14 Rode ab^t. 20 miles, it rained both in the morning & Evening w^c prevented me from riding more.

Oct: 15 Sab: preached to a small auditory in Goochland Court House

Oct^f. 16 Rode from M^f. Micheaux to M^f. Smith's about 12 miles, having some Business was disappointed there.

Oct^f: 17 rode to M^f. Andersons ab^t. 32 miles

Oct^f: 18 rode to the Rev^d McKenny's ab^t 40 miles

Oct 19. Rode ab^t. 22 miles, crossed Staunton & Banister Rivers |3| lodged in a poor cabin where I had my Portmanteau for my Pillow & a little Straw to ly upon. here I first begin to know the Difficulties y^t w^d attend my journey.

Oct^f. 20 Crossed Dan & rode abt. 26 miles in Orange County in N. Carolina to Hico, where I intended to rest my self & Horses both fatigued. I myself not quite recovered, am fatigued with very little riding, & this Towne a del-litable little Congregation & had not had a Sermon since May, induced me to stay here till Monday

Oct^f. 21. At Hico.

Oct 22 Sab: preached to an attentive auditory

Oct^f. 23 rode ab^t. 17 miles only occasioned by a mistake y^t I had made the other Day.

Oct 24 rode ab^t. 18 miles hindered from Proceeding for raining weather

Oct. 25 rode ab^t. 30 miles crossed Haw River Little & great Alimance rivers in Orange County N. Carolina.

26. crossed deep River, Carroway & High wharry [ferry?] Losing my |4| way rode 50 miles & came to a Fire in the Woods where some Peo: were camped ab^t. 3 o' clock at Night. Had y^e Heaven for my Canopy. & slept pretty comfortably before a large [fire] while the cold w^d let me being a frosty Night. tho it is usuall to lodge out y^r this part of the Country yet it does not agree with me not used to it.

Oct^f 27 crossed Abbot's Creek and Atkin river⁴ in Rowan County N. Carolina very much beleagured, rode ab^t. 17 miles passed thro Salisbury a small Town on the South side of y^e River a few miles from it.

⁴ Yadkin River

Sat Oct^r. 28 rode ab^t. 8 miles as I intend to preach in the neighbourhood tomorrow

Sab: Oct^r 29. Preached at Kathes meeting House rode on my way ab^t. 4 miles having sent [went] off my desⁿ [destination] y^e Day before

Oct^r: 30. Raw drafting Weather & rode ab^t. 9 miles

Oct^r: 31 Unwholesome Weather rode ab^t. rode 15 miles so that this month I have rode 442 miles 307 of which was the way to y^e Nation from Mr Davis's, I might have rode some few miles less had I known a straiter Course. |5| Having heard as I came along of the hostile Intentions of the Cherokees & their having killed some of y^e English & plundered Houses & burnt one, I did not think it proper to hasten forward with such speed as I sh^d otherwise have done had they not done such Things, nor can I get any certain knowledge of Mr. Martin⁵ where he is or what about.

Wed: Nov^r. 1 rode to the Rev^d. M^r Craighead's in Anson County about 10mi. Whom the Presbytery has ordered me to install w^c cannot be done this week.

Nov: 2. At M^r. Craighead's not well to Day. This Gentleman has been twice driven from his Congregation in Virginia. Has a large Family 6 Daughters & 2 Sons.

No^v: 3 preached for him to Day rode ab^t. 5 miles & gave Notice for his Installation on Monday.

Nov: 4 at Craigheads

No 5. Preached at Rocky River for Mr Craighead in one of his houses. rode 20 miles to Day was informed by him that the Cherokees had threatened to kill a man y^t had made his Escape from y^m he had been seeking his Horses they had stolen from him, The Indians had forbidden |6| him to speak ab^t. It to y^m or they would kill him. this was affirmed by a Ocasion [? deposition] gratified before a Magistrate. The Cherokees have of late stolen a good many Horses & other Things from the frontier Inhabitants who have ascended to it so as to kill some of y^m, which they resent much & have killed several of us so that it looks as if we should have open war with y^m

Nov^r. 6. preached & installed M^r Craighead, & was informed of the above Relation. intended to set out for the Catabaws this afternoon, but my Guide disappointed me, hearing they had the Flux which is very infectious &c

Nov: 7. rode to Mr. Mc Corkles about 20 miles, who lives ab^t. 6 miles from the Cheraw Town. informed him of my Intention to visit the Catabaws, said he would go tomorrow.

⁵ Reverend William Martin, also of the Society for Managing Missions and Schools among the Indians, preceded Richardson in visiting the Cherokee towns.

No. 8 rode to y^e Cheraw Town met with a Sapona Indian that c^d talk English, his Name was Captⁿ. Hany, who, being informed a Sunday Man, as they call Ministers, was come to talk to them, said old Indian make no Sabbath & young Indian make no Sabbath |7| waving this subject talked a little concerning God to him, he said that his Brother had told him those Things, & he was averse to talk to the Rev. so off he went. left this town w^c is built Circular & made to wait upon King Heigler⁶, at Kings Town I found him, & talked to him by his Son-in-Law one Waters who told me [word scratched out] that he sh^d die like the Dogs & there w^d be no more of him. endeavored to convince him of the contrary, telling him y^t w^c thought c^d wish & desire was something Different from his Body & w^d not die with it. He said white Peo: said so, then talked to Heigler & told him I was come to inform him of the Maker of all Things & what was our duty to him. he told me they were all gone a hunting & when they returned home he w^d talk to them & get inward [?] So left him after he informed me he had no Corn, & to make him mindful of what I said & he to me told him to meet me at Captⁿ Tompson's⁷ & I w^d get him corn if possible w^c he promised to do. |8| returned to Cheraw Town when Captⁿ Thomas was come & talked to him by one Cheraw George, whom I had seen before, my Discourse was concerning God, our obligations to know & do his will. spoke to him ab^t. schools he said Sunday Men had been here & talked so but they went away and never returned. They could not inform y^m what they would have done in y^t matter. he said he w^d do what ever Heigler sh^d do. so left him & returned to McCorkles. There are Sundry Children in this Town whose activity in directing y^mselves was very surprising. rode ab^t. 20 miles

Nov: 9 Rode ab^t. 16 miles to Captⁿ Thompsons.

Nov: 10 Hearing nothing of M^r Martin what was become of him & very much of the hostile Intentions make me very averse to proceed without some Information, heard M^r. Martin had left y^e Nation on what acc^t I c^d not learn.

Nov: 11 King Heigler met me here had a good deal of Talk with him when the discourse was about Corn &c. He seemed to understand, but |9| any Thing else he seemed at a Loss he talks a little English. Corn being scarce gave him 20 shillings to buy 3 Bushells. w^c he gave Capt. Tompson to buy it for him & then he went hunting

Nov: 12. Sab: preached to a vacant Congregation in the Waxaws.

Nov: 13. at Captⁿ. Tompsons being detained on acc^t of some business. Which it was necessary to get before I proceed & which I c^d not get done before.

Nov: 14 Left Captⁿ. T crossed the Catabaws river, very Strong likewise fishing & stony creeks rode 20 miles in hopes of hearing of M^r. Martin,

Nov: 15: went [words marked out] 10 miles wrong to Day rode upwards of 30 miles rained almost all Day. thro an almost uninhabited Country.

⁶ Chief of the Catawba Nation

⁷ Captain James Thompson, of the SC militia, defended Ninety Six against a Cherokee attack in February of 1760.

Nov: 16 Crossed broad river a very pleasant one at Lysle's Ford. the Enoree where I heard of M^r. Martin, who had been waiting for me at 96 crossed, likewise Bush where was an deserted Cabbin & no Homes nigh & being wet lodged in it rode near 30 miles |30|

Nov: 17 Crossed Saluda river near the old Town & got to Mr Odles rode ab^t 20 miles & here met with my dear Friend & Brother M^r. Martin just recovered from a severe Fit of Flux, & who is still but weak, he informed of the Disposition of the Indians to hear the Gospel which dissipated my Fears of the Indians and encourages me to, proceed to exercise my Office among y^m & to look to God for success among y^m.

Nov: 18. M^r Martin informed me that as the Indians were gone a hunting I might go with him to Charles Town & he would return with me to y^e Nation, tho I cou'd not agree being very tired myself & likewise my Horses; w^d occasion a ride of 449 miles for no valuable Purpose & likewise w^d occasion our being out in the dead of Winter w^c is very severe on the Mountains.

Nov: 19. Preached to Day along with him rode ab^t. 12 miles.

Novr: 20. rainy Weather preached at a Funeral, rode ab^t. 2 miles. |11|

Tues: 21. Wrote several Letters to Carolina N & So. To Mr. Hutson a corresponding member of the Society acquainting him of the necessity I was under to draw upon him for [several words scratched out] some Money being obliged to get a great many Things I had no Thots of wⁿ I left Virginia which I hoped he w^d answer as Mr D. told me he had wrot concerning it likewise to Mr D. y^e Secretary, tho I was allowed £30 Sterling it was far from being sufficient to get Necessarys the Weather being M^r Martin was detained from setting down y^e Country & I from going up for want of Company and chusing to go alone not knowing the Road & being obliged to lodge in y^e woods with my tent [?] only w^c I don't chuse to do. neither of us able to talk Indian & the woods thick with y^m as they now a hunting. we concluded y^t Martin sh^d go to Virginia & acquaint the Society with the State of the Mission & the vast Expense it wou'd take to support it much beyond the Societies Expectation. |12|

Wed: 22 Mr Martin set off for Virginia by way of Charles-Town. I detirmine to set off without y^e Interpreter for fear of being blocked up in the Mountains by y^e Snow & Mr Martin to hasten up y^e Interpreter whom he expects to meet by the Way.

Nov:23 at Mr. Odel's

Nov:24 at Mr. Odel's

Sat: 25 My Company being ready we left got to Ninety Six in the afternoon & as I am to travel with Pack horses will be obliged to travail very slow, besides my own horse being loaded with bedding & other things c^d not travail Fast, I drew upon Mr Hutson for £ 100

16s South Carolina Currency to pay for what I bought of Mr Goldie⁸ with a horse which things I c^d not have got in the Nation for a hundred & forty Pounds S. Money. Rode 6 miles & lay in y^e woods.

Nov:26 Had a head Ack most of the day rode about 17 miles to the 2^d Mulberry, [?] a very uncomfortable Day neither doing nor recieving good, [word marked out] the Company form in Prayer Night & Morning. lay in the woods making something to keep the rain [word marked out] off me. |13|

Nov: 27. rode 24 miles, 4 miles nearer y^e nation than at Dewy's Corner

Nov: 28. rode to the Beaver Dams about 18 miles, saw several Indians at their camps. who seemed very Courteous & sold us some Venison.

Nov: 29 rode ab^t. 31 miles leaving the Company got to Fort Prince George ab^t. 2 hours in the Night, was kindly recieved by Mr M^ckintosh the Commander of this Fort Prince George, to w^m I gave the Governor's Letter.

Nov: 30. At Fort Prince George preached to the soldiers, w^o behaved well. so that this Month on My Way I have rode 240 miles besides my riding to y^e Catabaws &^c.

Dec: 1st. My Company being come to Fort Prince George left off ab^t. the middle of the Day after awaiting a Letter to Mr Bunyan the Interpreter to make all possible Haste to Fort Loudon. Fort Prince George is situated on the North side of Keowee river on the South side is a town of y^t Name |14| rode to Oquinny [Oconne?] where formerly was a Town of y^t name ab^t. 10. or 12 miles.

Dec:2. Rode to the upper End of Tuckherekee [Tuckarechi?] formerly a Town ab^t. 20 miles

Dec: 3 Rode to Uluchloi, [Echoy, Etchoe ?] passed overhills ab^t. 8 miles of the Way. Passed thro Jeruro [Jore?] where there had been a Town. Rode ab^t. 10 miles. lost allmost all our provision this Day.

Dec: 4. rode ab^t. 10, very hilly, one hill after another., I c^d not but take Notice of the Provision Kind Providence has made for the Horses in this season when the Frost has killed the Grass, & it is large Cane Brakes which are green till Grass comes & which the horses love. very cold weather to lodge in the woods.

Dec: 5. rode ab^t. 10 [18?] miles Came to Quanessee[?] River where there was formerly a Town passed thro the Place where Deseechee [Tasetche?] stood & crossed the the River, these towns with several others were broke up by the Southern Enemy⁹ |15|

⁸ Robert Goudy of Ninety Six who had a trading post and was a licensed trader to the Overhill Cherokee. By this Time Goudy had quit trading among the Cherokee towns. He sold goods to unlicensed traders, at a large profit, who then traded the goods at even higher rates.

⁹ Probably the Creeks.

Dec:6 Found an Indian Camp where by the kind Providence of God was Venison the Indians w^c was a seasonable supply to us. Passed by Highwassee [Iwassee?] & came to Cussawatchee [?] ab^t. 18 miles.

Dec; 7. Passed thro' the Valley where are several Towns over one Mountain 5 miles up & down & came to Mr. Butler's a Trader at Cheowee [Cheowe, Chewochee?] ab^t. 22 miles.

Dec:8. at mr Butler's rest ourselves & Horses¹⁰

Dec:9 at B.

Sab: 10 preached to a few white Peo: several Indians present who behaved well & after the Sermon Mr B. told them what I said to them & talked to y^m concerning God as the Author of all their mercies

Dec: 11. Left Cheowee in y^c afternoon rode ab^t. 7 miles. Mr Butler & Train¹¹ by in Company.

Teusday 12. Came ab^t. 12: miles enter- |16| ed on the 24 Mountains, the worst Road I ever saw. Very Grand Frost, very difficult walking no riding with safety. So difficult y^t a Horse fell back as he going up the Mountain & stumbled over & over, At the tengeree [Congaree?] Mountains I had almost lost two of my horses one having his Legs entangled in the rocks & the other falling events, but thro divine goodness we all got safe down & up them but with great difficulty.

Wed: 13. Very difficult travailing to Day, there lately having been a great Hurricane which had blown large Trees across the Path which rendered it impassible in some Places w^c made us go round some mountains, came 12 miles & loged in a corn Fields on the Banks of Telassee River opposite to a Town of y^t Name.¹²

Thursday. 14 Came to Timoltee [Tommotley] leaving Chelhue [Chilhoe?] on the right passed thro Settico a pretty large Town. Left Chotee on our right & passed thro part of Tenesee. |17| w^c is separated from Chotee by a small Dry creek & thro Toqua which is separated from Tinuothee [Tenesee] by a small creek; loged at Mr. Butler's who treated me very kindly all the way from Cheowee & there too. rode ab^t. 16 miles to Day all these Towns are pleasantly situated on the south side of Tenesee River except Telassee w^c is on the North.

Friday: 17. Came to Fort Loudoun w^c is situated in an angle on the Southside of the River ab^t. 2 small miles from Timotlee, was kindly received by Captⁿ Demeree to w^m I delivered Governor Fauquier's Letter. the Distance from Fort Prince George to Fort Loudoun by way

¹⁰ By comparing Richardson's town names with those on several period maps, it seems as if his guide took him along trading at various towns instead of taking him directly to the Overhills.

¹¹ Pack train most likely trade goods going to the Over hill Cherokee or supplies going to Fort Loudoun.

¹² Tallassee ?

of the 24 Mountains is ab^t. 163 miles & from Mr Davy's in Hanover to Fort Loudoun the way I went is about seven hundred & ten miles or From W^{ms}burgh 760 miles. |18|

Sat: 16. at the Fort saw Judge Friend¹³ an Indian Warrior w^c enquired particularly ab^t. M^r. Martin as others did w^c shew y^e great Regard they had for him

Sab: 17. Preached to y^e Soldiers w^o behaved well.

Dec: 18 Went in Company with Ensign Boggs to wait upon old Hop & M^r Martin's Letter who seemed pleased with it & y^t I was come through ahead of M^r. Martin to teach y^m y^e will of y^e great Man above us they call God almighty, he said he wished the English w^d had done so long ago then he might have known something, I made answer that even now in his old Age he might still know the will of God if he wou^d attend to what sh^d be said, he told me, he wou^d tell the Warriors wⁿ they came in from War & hunting & then w^d send me word to come to the Council, this ~~did~~ satisfied me for y^e present as the Interpreter was not come. He was in his hot-house w^c is built like a Cone, this they heat & ~~then~~ as we do ovens & then cover up the Ashes, & in this they live in Winter it keeps y^m |19| very warm, returned to y^e Fort. sent word to Mr Bunyan to hasten him to Fort Loudon.

Dec: 19. At the Fort, very hard Frost. the muck is frozen over & all the Mountains covered with Snow, w^c renders the mountains almost impassible when it begins to thaw.

Dec: 20. at the Fort

Dec: 21. at the Fort

Dec: 22. at the Fort.

Dec: 23. at the Fort. was more sensible of the cold than ever I was.

Dec: 24 preached to the Soldiers, an express arrived informing us that the French intended to attack the Fort.

Dec: 25. preached to the soldiers from Luke 2^d 10, 11, It made me not a little uneasy to see the Indians drunk to Day & tho they will not talk English wⁿ. Sober now will ~~talk~~ My Interpreter not coming makes me very uneasy, nor can I hear any Thing of him, being discharged wⁿ M^r. Martin left the Nation, he went down to Charles-Town with some Indians & has been expected some Time [words marked out] If the Mission succeeds The Interpreter must be hired yearly |20| & then he will be always ready at call but if not, he will perhaps when most needed, be engaged in other Bussiness to the great Hurt of the Mission.

Dec: 27. Rode to Timotlee, but heard nothing of the Mr Bunyan. The Indians at present seem well affected to y^e English & said they w^d defend their Towns agst y^e French & w^d go & fight y^m.

¹³ Ostenaco or Outacitie (Mankiller) of Tommotley, a Cherokee headman who led war parties to aid the Virginians in 1755-1757.

Dec: 28 Wrote to Mr. Davies concerning the Mission & intended to go to Chotee but was prevented by y^e Rain.

Dec: 29. Rode to Chotee, but heard nothing of the Interpreter, the mountains being covered with Snow perhaps is the Cause of his Delay. had some Discussion with Hop¹⁴ concerning God the Creation &c. he seemed very thotful, & afterwards said he was thinking on these Things he had heard went to their Town-house where a great many were met & were dancing round a Cane Fire going from West to East. their young Peo: seemed active & brisk, was filled with pity for y^m in their present state of Heathenism, was surprised to see |21| y^m after they were all in a Leather with sweat, having Danced an Hour together run out into y^e cold Air to cool y^mselves & sometimes in to the River, w^c occasions great bliss among y^m. Their Town houses are built in the form of a Sugar Loaf & will hold 4 or 500 Peo: they are supported by ten Pillars at the Foot of most of them are seats for the great Men among them on y^r right hand when in, sets on these seats first. The Treasurer [Conjuror?] on the 2d Hop, on the 3d the Prince of y^e Former Year, on the 4th The Chief Beloved Man of the present Year w^m they call Prince, on the 5 the Head Warrior &c. in this order I'm informed y^y set these two seats behind y^m. where the rest sits mats of Canes & where some sleep all Night. They are very hot & here they sit & talk & smoke & dance sometimes all Night. Lodged at Mr Bens¹⁵ a Trader in Chotee who was my Interpreter with Hop & |22| who promised to talk till the Interpreter sh^d come as desired.

Dec: 29. rode to Tellico heard nothing of the Interpreter, spoke to some of their beloved men w^o said they sh^d have all y^r young Peo: to hear me when I sh^d talk, asked me if I was come but for a little while like the other, I told them I w^d stay if they w^d hear they were so foolish as to ask when I came from heaven, because I said I was come to teach y^m what he w^d have y^m do &c. Spoke to 5 young men ab^t what S^t. Paul spoke to y^e Athenians, one asked me if I was not come to tell y^m Lies, no said I, these Things were true, he said, he never Saw God Almighty, & had nothing to do with him & the fellow was very Sawcy & threatened the Indian Woman y^t interpreted for me, for there are some Indians can understand English tho they wont talk it. Lodged at Mr. Baldrige's a Trader. The Sawcy fellow was a white mans who in general are worse than others & when their Parents takes |23| care to instruct in the Ways of Religion, to w^c they are great Strangers.

Sat: 30. returned to the Fort ab^t 7 miles

Dec: 31. Sab. Preached to the Soldiers Another Express arrived informing us that the French & their Indians intended to attack the Fort soon

Mon: Jan: 1. 1759 baptized a child for one of the Soldiers, spoke to the Captn ab^t my Maintenance & my Ten^{ts} [Sup^p?] he told me tho the Governor had made no mention of

¹⁴ Connecorte or Old Hop was the Emperor of Chota and the Cherokee Nation. A title adopted by the Cherokee so they would have a supreme leader (figuratively) for dealings with the Europeans.

¹⁵ Samuel Benn was a trader in Chota, who unlike the others, seemed to have been a honest dealer with the Cherokee. He was attacked near Tellico and stoned in 1757. He killed a Cherokee lad in the attack, but clan vengeance was not sought against the trader.

allowing me Provision yet as he had M^f. Martin, I was welcome to such as he had & sh^d Live as I had done. The Governor afterwards recommended me to the Officers for which I was obliged by his Honour & ~~to who~~

Jan: 2. Was employed in writing Letters to my Friends in Glasgow & to Mr. Hutson.

Jan: 3. Mr Bunyan came to the Fort & w^d agree on no Other Terms than 20 £ Currency p^r Month w^c |24| is £ 3-0- Sterling a Month & his Board & that his Time sh^d commence from Dec: 7 when he left Prince George to come to me, he told me M^f. Martin had allowed him from the Time of his setting out to come to him, & why he came not sooner, was his being shut up among the Mountains by the Snow, not able to get another was obliged to agree with him on his Terms.

Jan:4. rode to Hops, the Indians being mostly come in, the Mission was suffering by my Silence he said he w^d call a Council & that I sh^d bring the ~~off the~~ Interpreter & he w^d give me answer so returned to the Fort. w^c I intended to leave soon & live in one of their Towns where I sh^d have frequent oppurtunities to talk to them & by living among y^m shall endeavor thro divine Aid to recommend Religion by Life & conversation to y^m.

Dec: 5. Sent Mr. B. to Hop, several headmen met but seemed quite in- |25| different ab^t hearing me, told him they were engaged in other Matters say The Treatment their men had met with to the Northward in Virginia where some of them had been killed & had been stript of their Presents w^c had been taken from them for their leaving the Army before they got Possession of Fort DeQuesne, it is said the Little Carpenter¹⁶ sent in word that his arms had been taken from him, that he was like a child & no man., they said I might come & live in their Towns & might talk to them that w^d come & see me but c^d not publicly till all shou'd come, in, very poor Encouragement. they are little changed to what they were tho never much inclined: yet now they show the greatest Indifferency. How blind to their best Intrests, Lord pity them & make them concerned for their future State. However I think removing to Chotee & hope by conversing familiarly with them, giving them small Presents availing them to eat with me, smoking with them, going to their Town |26| House to ingratiate myself with them to hear me in private w^c I cannot in ye Fort if not in Public & so it may answer the blessing of God, in the same measure the End of the Mission.

Sat: 6. Have the Head Ack very bad

Sab: 7. preached to the Soldiers with some degree of solemnity &c. I am sorry I cannot talk to the Indians

Jan: 8. intend to move to Chotee but was prevented by the rains swelling Toqua Creek

Jan:9. Spoke to y^e Captn. ab^t the Compensation I sh^d make him for his kind Treatm^t but he w^d have nothing for it, he has behaved very civilly, & desired me not to be stranger came to

¹⁶ Atta kulla kulla one of the Cherokee headmen was a great friend to the English. In spite of the problems which occurred during the Forbes campaign, the Little Carpenter went to Williamsburg and made a treaty with Virginians to try to stop the escalating conflict between the settlers and the Cherokee.

Chotee & hired a House for 4 months for 18^{teen} shillings Virginia Money which I paid down for their Custom is to receive payment immediately.

Jan: 10 at ~~my~~ Chotee My Interpreter being gone to the Fort ab^t some business hindered me from going to Hop intending to invite him & the headmen of Chotee to dine with me to morrow

Jan: 11 Had Hop; the Standing Turkey¹⁷ the next man to Hop. The great [27] Warrior¹⁸ & Captⁿ Kennaty¹⁹ of Toqua to dine with me, & after Dinner, after smoking a little held the Pipe to Hop & then to the Rest & hop his to me, this Ceremony being over I introduced my Business to them & told him I desired to talk to y^m he said I must wait longer till all the Warriors & he had told me so before & wondered I c^d not be satisfied with one Answer. as well as a thousand & wⁿ to talk he w^d tell me, this is not a flat Denial, & what can I do, if I shou^d attempt to talk, it might incense him & defeat the End of the Mission & besides none w^d come to hear me They are at this Time considering an affair that happened lately a White man killed an Indian wⁿ they were a hunting & fled so his Friends are come seeking satisfaction w^c is to get Leave to kill the first White Man they conveniently can. for such is their Custom. that they will have Man for man if not the guilty another, so that [28] it is dangerous to stir abroad at present, here I am in safety for it is a beloved Town, a City of Refuge & no blood to be shed in it. Nor any put to Death in it so wⁿ they have a Prisoner in it, whom they intend to put to Death, they carry him to some other Town. , O Lord remove every impediment out of the Way of their Conversion for Jesus's sake.

Friday 12 at Chotee

Sat: 13 At Chotee got my house repaired in these two Days.

Sab: 14. At Saml ben's met the great Warrior & it being Sabbath talked a little ab^t. it, why we kept the [word undecipherable] of our Time, tho alas they see none keep it as they trade all Days ab^t what we sh^d on that Day. Went to see Hop w^o was sick, told him among other Things this was our beloved Day as they call y^e Sabbath Day & how the English have [?] X^{ns} of y^m spent it in Prayer to God, praising him & hearing his word, how Parents told their children what they heard the Ministers say &^c. he was [29] attentive. I cannot carry on my discourse with them on that order y^t I w^d was I allowed to preach regularly to y^m. yⁿ he began to introduce the Affair of his men being sent in naked & got into a great Passion, on this I left him when he said he knew not but his Friends might be in Prison. he had been to the Conjurers as I imagined w^c told him they had very cross Talk in Virginia. There appears to be something not good going on among them. Had the great Warrior & his Brother the Prince & the Standing Turkey to dine with me that I might have an opportunity of talking to y^m and after smoking was over they talked ab^t. their hunting what they had killed. Here I

¹⁷ Cunne Chote took over the position of Emperor after Old Hop's death. He went to England with Timberlake in 1762.

¹⁸ Oconostota was the head warrior of the Cherokee. In spite of this, he tried to keep peace between the Cherokee and the English until driven to war by British conduct in 1759.

¹⁹ Kennaty appears to be a brother of the Little Carpenter. It is possible that this is another name for Willinawa.

mentioned the goodness of God in making such Provision for them & then talked concerning the Perfections |30| of God & then the Standing Turkey began & talked of God, what became of y^m at Death Dust to Dust & the Spirit of God w^o gave it, as he learnt from M^f Martin. yⁿ ask if M^f Bunyan by my books I c^d tell where y^r enemies were, how many, if they shou'd defeat y^m & how many y^e sh^d lose, [words marked out] he said if I c^d do this I sh^d be a great man, he said the Northward Indians c^d do these things or make y^m believe y^y c^d & to know these they think of the almost impossible how far the Devil may inform of some those things, I cannot detirmine they are much given to Conjuring & the Conjurors have great Power over y^m they have these few Days been preparing Physick w^c they say will drive away all their Disorders & the man whose care it was committed has been every Night & Morning going round the T. house hollowing & crying & frequently on the Day for the great Man above for a blessing on the Physick as they say. |31|

Mon. 15: at Chotee, it being rainy the men & boys ran naked to Tellico & back to run away the Rain. but they have not got fair weather by it.

Teusday 16. at Chotee

Wednesday 17. Spoke to the Prince who was looking [words marked out] at the pictures in Mr Harvey's Meditations concerning y^r meaning. They are fond of pictures & I think is the most remarkable Things in Scripture were in Pictures & bring round the House. they w^d soon learn what is contained in the Bible for they explain y^m one to another & many have come to see y^m & hear y^m [words marked out] what they represent, I was careful wⁿ they looked at Christ w^o died for his Enemies to inform y^m of our obligations to obey divine Law, & they had no written one yet they had a good Thot |32| which told them what was good & what was bad, as they call y^t Reason, & wⁿ they did contrary to y^t displeased God & exposed y^mselves to his Displeasure, & the only Way to gain his Favor was to repent w^c I told y^m what it was & to trust in X^t w^o died to save us. This Day they finished their Physick. drinking having lasted all Day. The Ceremony of it I must omit till some other Times.

Thurs: 18. heard of Fort Dequesne being in Possession of the English w^c I hope will have a happy Influence on the Indians who don't seem much rejoiced at it went to the Fort & baptized a child & returned in the Evening.

Frid: 19 at Chotee, they had a great Dance to Night w^c I took for some religious Ceremony paid to the Fire, as they frequently bowed to it, but was afterwards informed by them it was only a Custom they had & they don't seem to worship any Thing |33| they began to dance when they came to the Fire &c.

Sat:20 Wrote to M^f Snelson a member of the Society informing him of my Intention to leave the upper Towns Since I was not permitted to preach in three weeks, Spoke to one of the Warriors concerning the Laws God had given us, y^t God had given him Reason to know good from evil w^c if he did not act according to it, he displeased his Maker & became liable to be punished, told him of the more explicit Revelation of his will to us, w^c I told him we must act accordingly to & told him my Intention to leave y^m. If I was not permitted to preach to y^m soon. He made me little or no Answer.

Sab:21. preached to the Soldiers in the Fort. from Rom: 2,4. Had a Visit from the Standing Turkey to whom I related what I had said to the white Peo: & how we praised God & asked him such Things as |34| we wanted & gave him Thanks for his goodness & y^t he bore with us long y^t we might repent & come to the knowledge of him & his Will he said some of them like the white Peo: believed these things & some not, he desired me to go to the Town House to see y^m dance I told him it was y^e Beloved Day & we must do no such Things, told y^m I wd pray y^m.

Mon:22. Spoke to a young man concerning the Perfections of God what we must do to please him where says he, is the white man that does so, a question the great Warrior & the Standing Turkey had put to me once before, I told y^m, it was true the white Peo: was bad, but not all some did what I said, the Example of the generality of the Traders is very bad yⁿ said the young Man, what does he talk to me for, the Town does not desire to hear y^t Talk let him stay till he talks publicly & yⁿ we shall all hear, so now they |35| seem averse to hear by y^mselves the only way I had to communicate Instruction to them. what can I now do, O lord do then direct mee, I resolved I w^d now go to Hop & tell him I had been here 39 days & had not had one public Talk & if he w^d not allow me to preach in three weeks, I w^d leave the upper Towns, so I went but found some Company there that I thot it improper to make any mention of it till tomorrow, they are a Peo: y^t delight in dancing & were engaged in it almost all night. a Description might be given if it was I thot proper but at present I have no Time ~~to give~~ as the Person that brings this is going off too soon for it.

Teusday 23. They all brot me some wood & they came into my house. When the Great Warrior & bro't their turn, I had an opportunity |36| to talk to several, particularly to y^e great Warrior who came wⁿ I was reading & Told him if they w^d their Children might learn he said they were all Rouges & w^d not learn, he told me he had seen Children at school among y^e English, & y^e Master loved y^m y^t read well but corrected y^m y^t did not with a Rod, now they never correct with a Rod, but pour Water upon them and threaten y^m with Physick w^c does as well, I told him he need not be afraid for them for they sh^d not be whipt with a Rod & so he went away without telling me any Thing whether he w^d have y^m learn or not. Then went to Hop & as he had been telling me he c^d not come out for want of clothes having given y^m to his Doctor lately, I took him a shirt in hopes it might have some Influence upon him to give me a possible Hearing or at least dispose |37| him to think well of Xⁿity for I told him we were told in it to clothe y^e naked & feed the hungry w^c I sh^d endeavour to do out of Obedience to the Precepts, he thanked me for it, he was in very great need had only one all in Raggs, told him what I relate above, no says he & stay till the Carpenter comes in, I will have news of him soon, & will tell You, so I determined to stay a little longer, when ever I go to see him, which is very frequent I am always desired to eat such as they have they are very generous this way & will give victuals as long [as] they have it, & expect the same when they come to see You & if you are eating & you don't bid them they think you love it, & so they'll despise both you and it, & Hop told me I must now do as they do bid them |38| eat with me. wⁿ they come to see me & I shou'd with them, & so that I am obliged to eat by Stealth or I sh^d not have Provision for half a Year, my salary not affording it, indeed when the great Men come in order to detain y^m & have some religious Conversation I give y^m Victuals & whoever comes in then must eat as long as there is any

thing to eat. Which makes it very expensive living among y^m as Provision is very dear, so that I don't think a Missionary can live among y^m under a hundred & twenty Pounds Sterling yearly at least, let him be as frugal as he will, & why shou'd a Missionary starve must he deny himself the Necessaries of Life because he undertakes that self denying Work? No. As I intend never to return to the Nation, I am not |39| writing on my behalf but for him who shall hereafter undertake it. He must keep three or four Horses. A Ser^t or a Negro Man two w^d not be amiss to guard him from Town to Town as y^e Enemies are lurking every where in Summer & maintaining y^m is very expensive, but end of this

Wed: 24. Had a long Discourse as I am visited by persons of all Ages I endeavor to omit no opportunity of talking to them ab^t. the great Things of God, I asked one of them who made him, he said I knew better & must tell him, he believed we had all one father, I asked if he was not conscious of something in him that told him what was good & approved of his good actions & filled him with fear of Punishment when he did bad yes, said he, I am filled with shame when I do any Things if is bad, I told him, that wⁿ he did any thing contrary to his good Tho't as he calls it, he displeased God & exposed him |40| self to be punished. I asked what he did to regain the Favor of God, this he did not Know & I cannot observe they do any Thing, here he talked ab^t. the Fire ~~they~~ some talked to it & it to their Father above, others to y^e water & it to their Father above making y^m Moderators as I tho't tho he talked very confusedly ab^t. it he said the Moon stole all her light from the Sun & all was Water at First then He told me the Northward Indians knew much & I must tell him a great deal, here I told him when we lost the Favour of God by sin, we must be sorry for it, & do so no more & must trust in X^t Jesus for the Pardon of our offences & y^t if we rejected this Way of obtaining the divine Favour we must bear the Punishment from God for acting contrary to what he knew was right.

Thursday 25: They paid their Tax as I was informed, the Warriors sold their Scalp [Skin?] locks & paid theirs the Woman likewise, as a Trader whom they love much gave y^m some thing, I tho't it might gain their good will & dispose them to Listen to what I sh^d say, gave y^m some Beads & gartering & y^e great Warrior danced for me & told them I was no Warrior but a beloved Man, that talked good. w^c by & by they w^d hear & if the Enemy came w^d fight as well as any of them. & they shouted by way of Approbation, their young men talked well & ended their sentences as high if not higher than the rest of their Discourse, some told how they had been Il kept by the English which they did not relish, they seem to do every Thing to alienate the affections of the whole Nation from the English. They are most |41| ly all Warriors & go to war as soon as they are able the children are always armed with Bows & Arrows, War is their Profession & they cannot be easy without it, even when they have made Peace with other Nations, they soon break perhaps the Day they made it.

Frid: 26. at Chotee

Sat: 27 Talked ab^t. half an Hour w^t y^e Prince concerning some Danger w^t appeared to like Religious Ceremonies paid to the Fire, by their bowing towards it & singing, & calling it their grand Father, as for their calling it so, it was from the advantages that accrued from it in this cold weather, & so of & water, I told him these were God's Creatures & sh^d make us thankful to Him for them told him that his Reason was given him by God to know good

from Evil & that sh^d act according to it, he said he knew when he did contrary to it, it was bad I told him when he did so he displeased his Maker |42| who had made a clearer Discovery of what was good & evil In his Word w^c I was ready to inform him & did briefly by the ten commands [two words scratched out] I asked what he did to regain the divine Favour, he did nothing & I don't think, they have any fear of God's Displeasure ag^t them for acting contrary to their knowledge of what is good, here I explained to him the Method of Salvation by X^t Jesus, the evil of acting contrary to doing good tho't as y^y call their Sense of Good & Evil which method if we embraced we sh^d be happy.

Sab: 28. preached to the Soldiers as the Indians w^d not allow me to talk to them. At night told an Indian w^o sat with me in my house what I told the white Peo: my text was 2Cor: 5 10,11. He said he knew these Things already. I told him it concerned him much to know God & Do his will that at that Day he might not be sent to the Place of everlasting Punishment he talked pretty rationally ab^t. it according to his knowledge |43|

Monday 29. Went to the Fort. At the Captns Desire to talk at the Grave of a Soldier w^o died suddenly by a Fall, wⁿ I returned took occasion from it to discourse to the Standing Turkey & an Indian Doctor abt the uncertainty of Life, our state of Future Existence of Rewards & Punishments the Resurrection of the Body, the Importance of the present Time & impercieving y^c Oppurtunity they now had of knowing the will of God, w^c if they despised, w^d certainly be punished & thus & so I endeavour to improve every opportunity O Lord may thy Truths leave abiding Impressions on them the Doctor had some good Notions of these Things & talked consistently with divine Truths on these Subjects.

Teusd: 30 Uncertain what to do, not allowed to preach to ym & one of my Instructions is to leave y^m if they retracted the permission granted to M^r. Martin to go to some other Nation, & yet Hop desires me to stay till the Carpenter sh^d come in, but wⁿ he comes is uncertain & wⁿ he does if he is not well |44| treated in Virginia & reconciled for the affront put upon him, will be more averse than the Rest, by what I can learn, they talk bad appear in general disaffected, are jealous of us that we will take their Land from y^m. now they wont to go to war, for fear we sh^d take y^r wives & children for Slaves wⁿ y^y are gone & what confirms y^m in this opinion is a Reinforcement lately come to this Fort tho not half sufficient for its Defence²⁰, & the 2d man in the Nation as they call him, the Carpenter is the real Head on whom they depend, this man called us all Rouges & Theives, we steal their Land their Bears, Elk, Deer, beaver & they are all now naked, there is too much Truth in what he says, the English have encroached very much upon them of late, they are not content with settling upon long |45| Cane²¹ but go over the Line, 50 or 40 miles into the Indians best hunting w^c is the way they have to clothe y^mselves, to act thus is a Piece of very great Injustice, & I wish the Government wd take it into their Consideration & remedy this Evil, make these Peo: remove or I am afraid it will occasion a War, there are likewise y^s fellows w^o will hunt upon their ground & so kill their Deer w^c they resent; & one of y^m killed an Indian lately & fled upon w^c some innocent Person will die, his Relations were at Chotee

²⁰ Richardson refers to a detachment of some twenty five provincials, who were sent to reinforce the 125 man garrison.

²¹ Long Canes near Ninety Six, South Carolina was supposed to be the limit of white settlement, all land west of that belonged to the Cherokee (or other native tribes).

sometime ago wanting to kill a white man w^c made it unsafe to stir out of the Town how easy is it for the government to restrain these idle Fellows & it wont hurt the public & take away their Cause of Complaint before it be too late.

The Cause of the Standing Turk |46| key being naked was he had given away all his Clothes wⁿ they danced & sold their Scalplocks Says he, we call you Older Brother & it is the Duty of the Elder to clothe the younger, I told him of the many presents the govern^{ors} had given them. in order to show him the Regard I had for him promised him a pair of Boots, then he was well pleased & gave me some Tobacco & he was to return tomorrow. A young man came to smoke w^h me & in order to introduce some good Talk, asked him if he remembered what M^f Martin, said yes some, and told him he sh^d remember his creator in the days of his Youth & do what was right & being fond of Pictures shewed M^f Harvey's in his Meditations & those in Reading made easy, explained the meaning of them & this I find is the most acceptable |47| Way of teaching them, & when they w^d Not listen otherwise this gains their attention & they will often come to see them & explain them one to another & I am often employed in talking to them thus & it minds one of Cabe's Picture. I am so uneasy in my present circumstances that it makes me a little melancholy, I long for the Carpenter's Coming & yet dread it, not only for his deserved Treatment to the Northward, but for a Soldiers leaving robbed his House & is run off with Things of considerable Value, I now detirmine to leave y^m & go down the Country.

Wed:31. The Standing Turkey came for his Boots & as the great Warrior was present w^d not be well pleased if treated him worse than the other gave each of them a pair of Boots & the Turkey made me his Friend & gave me a pistol as he said to kill the Enemy when |48| I sh^d ride from Town to Town in Summer & I likewise gave him a Shirt so we are now friends it w^d appear by this that he expected I shou^d have Permission wⁿ the Carpenter sh^d come in. but the Nation is in a Ferment, they have lost peo lately & they have killed two, & are preparing for war ag^t us. w^c has a bad Aspect Had a long Discourse with two, one of whom I have frequently talked to, my Discourse was concerning y^c Dispensableness of god towards mankind the Creation, man in his state of Integrety, the Fall, their Misery by it, the Remedy by X^t Jesus the way of being interested in it by Faith & Repentance to shew the Sincerity of y^m must live godly righteously & soberly. Yet I use no Impress |49| sions made on them mournful Thot.

Thurs: Feb:1. Am now out of all Patience, can stay no longer, the Societies at a vast Expençe for little or no Purpose, went to Hop to tell him I w^d go if he w^d not allow me to talk I had waited long, he said it was what I w^d as I pleased, seemed indifferent what I did. he frequently sent to see what I was doing & heard of my explaining the Pictures to his Peo: & said if I came back to bring a great many of them with me. I talk to y^m in my House if there is but one, he behaves well but if more, they run out & pay no Regrd to it, & says he can do nothing till the Carpenter comes it is a Pity but M^f Martin c^d have continued since he had Permission tho but poor Encouragement to stay with them, yet no new Permission w^d have been necessary & by this Time, the Prospect of Usefulness [words scratched out] might have been |50| great in all Probability as they had a great Regard for him. Hop railed much ag^t Virginia they hated all that came from it, told use the Carpenter did not go to fight but to get Peace made with the French & English & their Indians & bring y^c French Indians into Chotee in the Spring w^o will make terrible work among them. I am very much

indisposed with a Fever & Cold.

Feb: 2. Spoke to some Indians of the evil of acting contrary to their knowledge & the Necessity of X^t Death to deliver them from the Punishment they deserved for so doing, there was a Nuntaway Indian to w^m y^y interpreted what I said & he was being attentive.

Feb: 3. Another Nuntaway Indian came to Day & remembering [51] Jesus X^t upon w^c I immediately talked to him of our need of him & if we trusted him & did what was right we sh^d be happy w^t Death & for ever, he said, he knew to get drunk, to steal, to have two wives which several have here, was bad & Before he shunned these Things & entertained good Thots of God & when he did when he was ab^t. hunting &c. it went well with him & killed Deers/ and he told, Me, the Indians in his Country wou^d be glad to hear me talk ab^t. God & Jesus X^t, but the Cherokee think it troublesome & talk cross i.e. are not well affected to the English, says he, the Virginians have killed several of their Peo: & they hate the Virginians & some way or the other they understand that I came from Virginia for which, I am afraid, they bear me no good will. This Indian came here wⁿ young, remembers something y^t was told him by the Popish Priests w^o are ahead of us in spreading popery greatly among y^e [52] Heathen, he said they cross y^m selves & he had a cross but took it from ab^t. his Neck says he, in my Nation, we have a large House where we meet on Sundays, wⁿ the Bell rings to call us. there we pray & praise hear his word preached to us, he speaks a little English. very sick to Night

Sab: Feb:4. [words marked out] not well to Day. The Nuntaways came to Day & some more & I talked to them concerning the Perfections of God Creation, Providence, a Future State, the way to obtain that of happiness & so escape that of Misery & yⁿ the Nuntaway y^t c^d talk Cherokee told the other in his own language what I said, they seem to be a very kind hearted far preferable to the Cherokees, c^d not but plead earnestly with God for y^m & others while my Interpreter was telling y^m what I said & thus to borrow the last Verses in the Acts, I dwell in my own [53] tired house & receive all that come in unto me, preaching the Kingdom of God & Reaching the Things y^t concern y^e Lord Jesus with all Confidence, no man forbidding me Acts 28, 30,31. Tho' I am not allowed to go from Town to Town to preach nor assemble them together here, yet am not hindered to preach to all that come to my House; & did I think it wd. answer any valuable End & the Societies Intention in sending me hither, might contend myself in ~~thus~~ acting thus, till the Lord sh^d be pleased to open a Wider Door of Usefulness among y^m.

Feb:5. Was obliged to have myself locked up in my house for Fear of drunken Indians. this was a day of Rum drinking, & they are very troublesome then, it is a Pity there is not a stop put to the carrying so much Rum among y^m. who when sober in general behave well.

Feb: 6. having No greater Appearance of Usefulness ~~being~~ among & every Thing concerning to vex them [54] their Approaching the French & y^r Indians to whom they seem too well affected, in all appearance on the Eve of a War with Virginia, w^c may God prevent, for by their Num^r they w^d do us a great deal of Hurt. I left the upper Towns & came to great Tellico where they were very much affronted at the English, [words marked out] for what some had said of them. a word now will put y^m out of Humour, rode ab^t. 23 miles,

Feb: ⁷ passed over Chestinoe [?], Unicoi Sleet hill, the Northwest Passage to the Beaver Dams 25 miles cold weather, sleet, some part of Mountains covered with snow.

Feb: 8. Came past Natolee a Town where the Indian lived that killed a man at broad River lately to Fish wire [Fishing?] Creek 29 miles rainy weather

Feb: 9. To day to little river our horses tired. 16 miles

Sat: 10. very sick this morning with a fit of vomiting, almost all Day came to Pidgeon hill 15 miles. |55|

Sab: 11. Pretty Well in health blessed by God come to flat Creek 20 miles.

Mon: 12. It rained a great Deal of the Night & all this Day so obliged to stay all Day here

Teus: 13 Very sick this morning with a fit of vomiting, lying out exposed to all Weathers. coarse kind of victuals do not agree with me, the very Thots of returning over the hills throws me almost into a Fever, these & other Things determine me to resign the Indian Mission & came to Temossee [?] ab^t. 26 miles. this is a very poor Town c^d get nothing for man or Horse seems tho I rode all Day without eating any Things & two Days before in ye same way.

Wednesday 14. C^d get nothing to live upon, came to the Fort was kindly received by M^f Mckintosh, ab^t. 12 miles to Day so that from Fort Loudoun to Fort Prince George by this other Path is ab^t. 161 m according to some 170 miles & from this to Goldies [Goudy's] 96 & makes 266 & from thence to |56| Charles-Town 222 so that from Fort Loudoun to Charles Town is 488 miles this Way.

I tho't to have called by y^e middle Settlements but as y^y were just come from killing two white men & preparing to go again, as I heard I tho't it not safe, I talked to the head man of Keowee²² that I wanted to talk to them, he said they w^d give me a hearing on Friday.

Thurs: 15 at the Fort ~~not well~~ sick

Frid: 16. they sent for me to the Town-house where they housed their Colours & after shaking hands & measuring arms & smoking out of the beloved Pipe & showing me their Belts of Wampum w^c present the Talk of different Nations to them, & their Signs of Friend |57| ship with them, then desired me to begin, the main of my Discourse was concerning the Being & perfections of God, Creation & Providence, the Certainty of a future State &c. then they told me I must be their Messenger to the Governor to reconcile them to the Catabaws one of whose Peo. they had savage like put to Death a few Days ago. I to y^m Their y^s Peo: laughed a little I told them I wanted to have another talk.

²² Probably Tistoe of Keowee, who remained loyal to the English throughout the Cherokee War. He and a party of his followers lived outside the walls of Fort Prince George after Montgomery's campaign destroyed the Lower Towns.

Sat: 17. Talked to Wahatchee²³ head man of 5 Towns that I wanted to teach y^m y^c Will of God, he seemed indifferent ab^t. it & telling him how much it concerned him, he said he w^d of the Warriors together & send me wⁿ he came to get News from me being a Virginian, he is I am afraid a great mean of the present Disturbances my Interpreter wanted me to pay him, tho' I received not a farthing for him paid him nine Pound Virginia Money which togh^r almost all |58| I had, & I have no prospect of any more as M^r Hutson has wrote me that out of Regard for the Mission & my character he w^d secure the payment of 14 £ 5^{sh} Sterling I drew upon him but desired me to draw no more upon him till he c^d get some Way to raise that Money w^c M^r Davies had wrote him to let me have, without giving him any Bills of Exchange to raise it w^c I impute to M^r Davies hurry of business or Forgetting.

Sab: 18. Was very much surprized my interpreter was gone contrary to his Promise to me, he talks ye language tolerably, yet I think not much to be depended on but necessity obliged to employ him for want of another. preached to ye Sold: from Acts 17. 30. Some Indians prent to w^m I told what I said to y^c white Peo: they were out of their Town to Day so c^d not talk to them |59|

Mon: 19. Spoke to Synaritse [?] & his squaw & endeavoured to show the Certainty of our future Existence which he seemed to deny, he said the white Peo: was bad, I told him there were y^y did do what he said & he sh^d not follow the wicked in y^r wickedness &c.

Teus: 20. Spoke to y^m agⁿ to Day concerning divine Things, & they asked me if I c^d conjure for y^m to win at the Ball play I told them we sh^d do our utmost & leave y^c event to God w^o wd give us success if it was for our good, the said their conjurer conjured good, the Reason why I don't talk ag^t the Conjurers is they don't oppose our Preaching as I can learn & till they believe in God & his Providence they will conjure & to oppose at this Time is very improper over the hills my Predecessor did as I was informed w^c did more hurt than good says the Conjurer what has he to do to talk ag^t us, Let him mind his own Business, if they are against us unless the Lord remarkably appeared for us, as they have |60| great Influence over the Rest they wd never admit us to speak to them more. They gained the Ball Play. Nukassee Peo: lost almost all their clothes. for they lay all.

Wed: 21 Spoke ask^d an Indian if he remembered what I had talked yes says he, & had told their young Peo: to give good heed to what I said & sh^d for the Old Men w^d soon die, here I told him of a future State & had the Interpreter of y^c Fort who is allowed 5£ Virginia Currency p^r month

Thurs: 22. Spoke to the head man & his Wife, he told me he had told his y^g Peo: to take good Notice of my Talk & while I was talking to him fell asleep alas what little acc^t do they make of such Things, poor Encouragement.

F 23. Several Indians came here to Day to w^m I intend to have talk but they went off in a huff because of the presents designed for fourteen Towns were not given to five, talked to

²³ Wahatchee (possibly a corruption of Outacitie or Mankiller, a rank) was also known as Sauly (Tsali) or the Young Warrior of Estatoe. He served with the Virginians in 1757 and again under Forbes in 1758. He was one of the Cherokee who advocated war with the English to settle the differences of the two nations.

Wahatchee agⁿ he asked me if I had any thing to give y^r y^s Peo: if not they w^d not Hear & turned every Thing I said into Ridicule & said he |61| heard eno of these Things already.

Sat: 24 Had a little Conversation with y^e head of Sticoe [?] concerning God &c. & yⁿ went to T. house where they behaved better yⁿ at the first, my main Subject was the certainty of a future state, their Reason instead of a written the Law Revealed Will of God, the Penalty annexed to it, & then the Remedy for sin & preached Jesus as y^e Savior & judge of y^e world & wⁿ I returned to y^e Fort heard that ab^t. 10 miles they had killed a white man. This man in a mad fit hurt a boy w^o died & so they killed y^e man, they pay no Regard to the Governor's speech; laugh at it, despise the Presents These Things & the Carpenters being prohibited Charles-Town concurring detirmine me to leave y^e Nation y^e f^t opportunity

Sab: 25. Talked to two Indians & a boy & spoke to several Indians, after preaching to soldiers, but alas they don't regard it

Mon: 26. Had a fit of vomiting, rode a little to see the Indian Country tiring

Teus: 27. Am a good deal better The Indians are growing worse, saying if the Carpenter comes in then War or Peace w^c y^e white People will.

Wed: 28. at the Fort.

Thurs: March at |62| the Indians being bussy playing & hunting c^d not talk to them

Friday March the 2d. Not to run the Society to any needless Expence, I thought it proper to resign the Mission to Day & I have now been five Months in it.

Sat: at the Fort

Sab: 4 preached to y^e Soldiers, Indians present whom I told what we were going to do & w^d pray for y^m.

Monday 5. Left Prince George. rode ab^t. 42. miles.

Teusday 6. rode 54 to 96.

Wed 7.

Thurs: 8. Staid to rest my horses.

Frid: 9. rode 44 miles my horses quite tired.

Sat: 10.

Sab: 11 staid at Mr Andersons near Enoree

Mond 11. Rode 17 miles

Teusday 12. 24.

Wed 13. 26 miles, my horses can scarce go faster than a Walk

Thursd: 14 got to Mr Symsons near Waxsaws, spoke to a Catabaws ab^t. Religion & told him w^d come to their towns [words marked out] in a few days & to tell Heigler of it, that they may be together, tho I decline the Mission yet shall endeavour to premote Religion among the Catabaws if I'm able.

Thus, Sir, have I given you an Acc^t of my proceedings with the Indians, & I do think they might be brou^t to embrace Xⁿity after some Time. if these unhappy Differences were amicably settled. As for my own Part I must decline it for such Reasons as these.

1st. I am very timorous, averse to Arms w^c a Missionary must always have to guard himself ag^t the Enemy as he goes from Town to Town in Summer as then the Enemy is very thick about w^c forces me to get a Pistol to match if one had

2^d My Constitution can not bear the Fatigue, I have lain out 18 or 19 Nights, some of w^c very cold w^c has hurt my feet very much, that I fell the Effects of it still & as I returned had rainy [64] Weather w^c [words scratched out] bro^t on me a very great Disorder, w^c I'm labouring under at Times Still.

3 I think I'm incapable for the Undertaking & only take up the Place of a better Person so I desire if y^o think it proper to employ any person, to get one-

I intend to spend some Time among the Catabaws & if there is any prospect of doing good among y^m Shall either communicate it to You by writing, or inform You of it by word of Mouth as I intend to be in Virginia [65] in June. If you may get [someone] to undertake the misn, I have desired some Persons in the Cherokee Country to write M^r Martin if the Indians shou^d desire a Missionary who will write soon as I'm informed the Carpenters gone to the Nation very much incensed ag^t the English, which makes me Entertain any small Hopes from his Arrival there, if it is true Hop has made Peace with those y^t are going ag^t Fort Loudon. they have for certain been in strick Friendship with the Shanese this whole War w^c they discovered in the Talk to the Governor of S. Car: lately²⁴ notwithstanding their receiving presents to fight ag^t y^m w^c I think they never did, just getting the Presents & running home.

I am y^r h^y & affectionately
W^m Richardson

[65]

²⁴ Mirroring the Little Carpenter's mission to Williamsburg, a contingent of Cherokee also went to Charlestown. There they agreed to uphold the Treaty of 1730, and forgo blood vengeance against the back country settlers in Virginia, in return for gifts.