

THE

AUTHOR'S PREFACE.

IF the following Essay doth in any Measure answer its Title and Design, the Reader must know, that it was, through the divine Direction and Blessing, owing to a short, but very entertaining Conversation, which the Author, and some other Gentlemen, had with the Honourable General Oglethorpe, concerning the *Condition, Temper, and Genius* of the *Indians* in the Neighbourhood of *Georgia*, and those Parts of *America*; who, as he assured us, are a tractable People, and more capable of being civilized, and of receiving the Truths of Religion, than we are generally made to believe; if some *Hindrances* were removed, and proper Measures taken to awaken in them a Sense of their true Interest, and of their unhappy Condition, while they continue in their present State.

And though this may be thought a very difficult Work, yet God, *who would have all Men to be saved, and to come to the Truth as it is in Jesus*, hath, pursuant to his gracious Design, made all Men capable of receiving such a Measure of Christian Knowledge, as will be sufficient for their Salvation.