

22 *GALLICA FIDES: Or,*

In *Virginia* it is computed there are upwards of a hundred thousand Souls, exclusive of Servants and Slaves, which are above three Times that Number.

The *Indians* of this Country are born tolerably white, but darken their Complexions by smearing themselves with Grease, and lying in the Sun; they paint their Faces, Breasts, and Shoulders, of various Colours, but generally red. They have good Features, especially the Women; their Limbs are clean and streight; and a crooked or deformed Person is scarce ever seen among them.

Their Chiefs adorn themselves with a Coronet of Feathers, and sometimes stuff and dry the Skin of a Fowl, and wear it on their Heads; their Ornaments are Ear-rings of Copper, Chains, Shells, Feathers and Beads about their Necks, and Bracelets of the same round their Arms.

Their only Cloathing is a Piece of Skin about their Waists, which reaches down to their Knees; those of a higher Rank have the Skin of a Deer, or some other Beast, thrown over them for a Mantle; their Shoes and Buskins are likewise made of Skins.

The *Indians* in general have good Understanding, are quick of Apprehension, sudden in Dispatch, subtle in their Dealings, and very industrious. There are no better Marksmen in the World with Bow and Arrow than they; for they will kill Birds flying, Fishes swimming, and Beasts running; and shoot their Arrows with such prodigious Force, that one of them shot an *Englishman* quite through, and nail'd both his Arms to his Body with an Arrow.

They did not know the Use of Iron till the *English* taught them, and the Copper they had served only for Ornaments; their edged Tools were sharp Stones, or Shells set in Wood; their Method of felling Timber was by burning it down.

Their usual Food is *Indian* Corn boil'd to a Pulp, which they call Hommony, and is not much unlike our butter'd Wheat; they feed likewise upon Venison, Fish and Fowl; and they employ greatest Part of their Time in hunting Beasts and Fowls, and catching them, for they have no tame Fools.

The principal Product of the Country is Tobacco, the best in the World; and yet the Land is generally sandy, and