

tion, and the manner of their treatment in these provinces, he had sometimes thought it might be just in the Almighty so to order it.

Having thus travelled through Maryland, we came amongst friends at Cedar-Creek in Virginia, on the twelfth day of the fifth month; and the next day rode, in company with several friends, a day's journey to Camp-Creek: and as I was riding along in the morning, my mind was deeply affected in a sense I had of the want of divine aid to support me in the various difficulties which attended me; and in an uncommon distress of mind, I cried in secret to the Most High, O Lord be merciful, I beseech thee, to thy poor afflicted creature. After some time, I felt inward relief; and soon after, a friend in company began to talk in support of the slave-trade, and said, the negroes were understood to be the offspring of Cain, their blackness being the mark God set upon him after he murdered Abel his brother; that it was the design of Providence they should be slaves, as a condition proper to the race of so wicked a man as Cain was: then another spake in support of what had been said, To all which, I replied in substance as follows: That Noah and his family were all who survived the flood, according to scripture; and as Noah was of Seth's race, the family of Cain was wholly destroyed. One of them said, that after the flood Ham went to the land of Nod, and took a wife; that Nod was a land far distant, inhabited by Cain's race,
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