refuted, I will be as explicit in my statement of it as I can be; and then leave the whole matter to your wisdom & purity & providence to do any thing or not in the case as you may judge best.

In Hartford we have many friends. old friends. and I hoped this winter to obtain from the proper effect place much pecuniary aid. Many of these fr. sustain the cause principally. because they believed that the Colonists were exerting a good influence upon the Natives. not only in breaking up the horrid slave trade but also in diffusing Moral & Religious sentiments in doctrine & practice. But Mr Wilsons statements. (which I need not particularize) awakened apprehension in some minds on that subject which threatened to alienate them from our cause. We succeeded however as we thought in explaining this matter so as to satisfy them. But a few months ago the Rev Mr Savage from your Colony visited Hartford. and in the presence of some of our direct friends stated that the Colonists instead of doing good to the Natives, were exerting a demoralizing influence.

This was longer ago than I attending the 18th Con. was called upon a Gentleman of this City who has heretofore given liberally to this cause. who declared helping us on the sole ground of these statements of the Missionaries.

Now dear Sir what in the name of truth and Righteousness are we to do? This objection seems to me the most likely to injure us of any that has ever been made. I confess it has distressed and alarmed me more than any thing I have yet encountered in my large intercourse with my fellow Citizens on this subject.

I have been accustomed to suppose those Men who boldly forsake home & every thing we hold dear in civilized society to go among pagan and Savage nations to labour for the salvation of Men were always to be credited. and this is the general opinion of them.

Do they tell the truth in this instance? I think I understand the whole thing. and it is not for my own satisfaction I write to you. but the public want light. These reports come from your Colony. but they affect ours also.

Does not the Cause demand from you a close investigation. and some explanations to meet the prejudice in the public mind!

I know you will pardon me for calling your attention to this subject. even if you do not enter into the feelings of anxiety which have prompted me to write.

I shall be happy to hear from you as soon as your convenience will allow Address me at the ~~Atlantic~~ Col Room 142 Nassau St N Y.

I am Dear Sir
Your fellow Servant in the
Cause of humanity
A. Cornelius.

Maryland Historical Society
The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers
II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books
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