

12/1/1796

and Dear Bro.

North-Carolina, Northampton Co. 1<sup>st</sup> Dec. 1796.

Bro. William Braine, who has just called on me, informs me that he is about to travel into New England, and wishes me to write a few Lines to you, my dear aged and much respected Brother, which I hope you will receive as a Mark of my Brotherly Affection and Esteem to my unknown Brother, and may I hope serve as Key to open a Door of Correspondence. I have never as yet had the Pleasure to behold your Face or hear your Voice notwithstanding you were once in our State I was prevented from the Opportunity of seeing you — The Intelligence I have now to communicate I must confess is not very entertaining — Religion in N. C. has been in Years past flourishing but at present on the Decline — Our Association lately convened but it is the general Complaint amongst all the Churches — Dr. Rippon writes me agreeable Intelligence from Europe — From Letters rec'd. from Virginia understand that Religion seems lively in some Parts, I hope it is in a growing Circumstance with you — Error seems to prevail but little, The Dangerous Systems of tho. Pain and Winchester gain but little ground — The Methodists rather are on the Decline — There appears a to be very great Scarcity of Grain in our State at present, and as been very much so the Year past Indian Corn has sold for 10 Dollars p<sup>r</sup> Barrel last Year, in some places but not much in general — and yet the judgments have but very little effect on the People — I hope I shall be able to communicate more pleasing Intelligence in future, in the mean Time Rest, your most Obed<sup>r</sup> & Perf<sup>r</sup> Bro in Christ

Lem. Burkitt

