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Gericke, Christian Wilhelm

Nagapattinam, 19.01.1785-10.11.1785

28. März 1785

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Monday after Easter March 28th. To-day, yesterday, & on good Friday I preached in Portuguese at the Mission Church.

April 1st 1785. Last night arrived here Brother Swartz from Tanjore, & having with him attended this morning the Weekly Conference of the Missionaries, I set out in the Evening for Nagapatam. at Karikal mons: De Boistell, with whom I supped, put into my hands an Answer from Mons: Coutancon, Governor of Pondicherry, in which he promised that he will inform himself of my Affair, & then do me Justice.

April 5th. With this Day I enter upon ~~my~~ ^{the} 43^d. Year of my Life. Lord have Mercy upon me! Lost much time & was much hurt in endeavouring to compromise Matters between 3 Christian families, of which one is guilty of great Injustice, the other willing to forgive it, the third insisting on Restitution to the full. The Malabars, that are not above mean things by. Affluence & a high Station or not put above them by the general Principles of the Christian Religion, are a most litigious, covetous, ungenerous, mean People. We Missionaries who have to do with the Bulk of this Nation, experience but too oft the contrary of what some others have wrote of them, who perhaps never beheld their practice, but only heard the fine Sentiments of some of their Authors, by which means many are enabled to say the finest things of Truth & Justice whilst they are about to deceive by Lies & to over-reach their Neighbor.

April 8th. This morning Brother Swartz arrived from