

and myriads of wild animals: and imagine amid this wilderness a number of small squares, each enclosing half-a-dozen wooden houses, and a dozen men; and between any two of these establishments, a space of forest or of plains from fifty to three hundred miles in length—and you will have a pretty correct idea of the Hudson's Bay Company's territories, and of the number and of the distance between the forts. It is as if in the whole of England and Scotland there were three hamlets, one in the north of Scotland, one in the south-east corner of England, and one at the Land's End, with altogether a population of thirty men, six or seven women, and a few children."

As the interest in the work of Missions increased in England, Christian people became anxious that an effort should be made for the spiritual benefit, as well as the civilization, of the poor Red Indians; for the Gospel is the real remedy for man's miseries in every land, and for every tribe of people. Amongst those who felt most for the poor Indians was the Rev. John West, who was at this time (in the year 1820) appointed the first chaplain to the Hudson's Bay Company, at the Red River settlement; and as he had been previously an active friend of the Church Missionary Society, he offered to establish schools for the Indians in his vicinity. For that purpose a sum of 100*l.* was placed, by the Committee of the Church Missionary Society, at Mr. West's disposal. His first Journal contained much that was interesting, and encouraging to future efforts. The population at Red River contained but few native Indians. The people there were English, Orkney, and Scotch settlers,