

the want of a missionary at a town called Providence, about thirty miles distant from Newport, a place very considerable for the number of its inhabitants. Through the want of instruction, the people were become quite rude, and void of all knowledge in religion; yet they were of good and teachable disposition. He visited this place, and preached here to the greatest number of people, that he ever had together since he came to America. He writes thus: "There is great prospect of settling a Church here; and if the Society will send a missionary to a people so much in want, and yet so desirous of receiving the Gospel, perhaps this might prove one of the greatest acts of charity they have even done yet." A little while after he writes thus: "I have preached there again, and the number of people is so increased, that no house there could hold them, so that I was obliged to preach in the open fields. The people are now going about to get subscriptions to build a church. If the Society knew the necessity there is of a missionary here, they would immediately send one. In the mean time, I shall give them all the assistance I can." The Society upon this letter, appointed in the next year (1723,) the Reverend Mr. Pigot missionary there. Besides the faithful discharge of his duty at his own station, Mr. Honeyman hath been farther instrumental in gathering several congregations at Narragansett, Tiverton, Freetown, and at the above mentioned place, Providence. In the year 1724, accounts came, that he had baptized eighty within the two past years, of which nineteen were grown persons, three of them negroes, two Indians, and two mulattoes; and there were properly belonging to his Church at Newport, above fifty communicants, who live in that place, exclusive of strangers. The Church people grew now too numerous to be accommodated with seats in the old church, and many more offered to join themselves to the Church communion. Mr. Honeyman proposed to the Church members, the building of a new church, and subscribed himself £30. The people heartily concurred; and he soon after obtained a thousand pounds subscription for that purpose; but it was estimated the building would cost twice as much, in that country money. However, a sufficient sum was raised, and in the year 1726, the church was completed, and Mr. Honeyman preached in it. The body of the church is seventy feet long, and forty-six feet wide; it hath two tiers of windows, is full of pews, and hath galleries all round to the east end. It is owned by the people there to be the most beautiful timber structure in America. The old church is given the people of the neighboring town of Warwick, who had no church of their own. There are Quakers and two sorts of Anabaptists in Newport, yet the members of the Church of England increase daily; and though there are not four alive of the first promoters of the Church worship in this place, yet there is now above four times the number of all the rest. This last church is generally full. Newport is the chief town in the island, is the place of residence of the governor, is a good compact town; large enough to make a considerable village in England. Mr. Honeyman continues now missionary here, and hath under his care also, Freetown, Tiverton, and Little Compton.