

as narrated in the eloquent pages of Parkman's fascinating histories, reads more like a thrilling romance than as the sober recital of actual facts.

In the first settlements in Maryland, the conversion of the Indians was a subject that at once attracted attention; and the labourers did not toil in vain. In the Charter given to the band of adventurers, who, in the year 1607, fixed upon Virginia as their home, these words occur. They were ordered to "use all proper means to draw the savage and heathen people to the true knowledge and service of God."

Within a year after the arrival of the Pilgrim Fathers at Plymouth Rock, one of the elders, a Mr. Cushman, in writing back to his friends in England, referred to "the tractable disposition of the Indian youths, and the possibility of doing them much good." Those grand and sturdy people, who for conscience' sake had come out into the wilderness, had themselves declared that they had come to America for weighty and solid reasons, among which was this—that they might be used for the "propagation and advancing of the Gospel and kingdom of Christ." In their conscientious way they set about the fulfilment of these designs. Of the wonderful revivals among the Indians, under the labours of the Revs. David and John Brainerd, a good deal has been written. Their consecrated zeal and great successes fired anew the hearts of such glorious men as the Wesleys, Whitefield, and Jonathan Edwards. An eminent writer has declared that "the work of God among the Indians at that period was perhaps without parallel in heathen Missions since the days of the apostles." David Brainerd, in writing of the wondrous work, said: "The power of God seemed to descend upon the Indians like mighty rushing wind, and with astonishing energy bore down all before it. Marvellous were the results. Old men and women were in deep distress for their souls, and the most stubborn hearts were compelled to bow, and thousands were happily converted to God."

So deeply impressed was John Wesley with Brainerd's work among the Indians, that we find in the fifth volume of his Works the following question and answer: