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HISTORICAL SKETCHES.

No. 10.—EARLY MISSIONARY WORK IN NORTH AMERICA.

[illegible] beginning of the eighteenth century [illegible] were 250,000 people living in North [illegible]ca almost entirely without the [illegible]rations of the Church. They [illegible]tirely without any outward form [illegible]atever, or else were attached to [illegible] of strange doctrine. Still the [illegible] no means unknown among these [illegible]llections of it in the old land [illegible]st them, or tradition handed [illegible] ancestors told them of it, but [illegible]e form still churches and con- [illegible] to be found in [illegible] Virginia, Mary- [illegible] York, and in the [illegible]adelphia and [illegible]

[illegible] time that the Societ[illegible] [illegible]opagation of the Gos[illegible] [illegible]gn Parts was formed [illegible]d, and for a [illegible] colonies of America [illegible]ning a part of the Un[illegible]s, were the Chur[illegible] solicitation and [illegible] his earliest [illegible] the name of Scotch[illegible]rge Keith, born in Abe[illegible] most intimately con[illegible] Mr. Keith was origina[illegible]byterian, educated in [illegible]en. He does not [illegible]ever, to have been ver[illegible] attached to Presbyte[illegible] for he soon abandoned [illegible] the faith of [illegible]akers. He then left his [illegible] colony of New Jersey, [illegible]ennsylvania, the great [illegible]n. He was evidently [illegible]h, and his conscien- [illegible] study of Qua[illegible]s he saw it in the [illegible]ced him that its [illegible]as erroneous. He [illegible] at the same time [illegible] he studied the [illegible]nd attached him. [illegible]dy of the prin- [illegible]rch, he was ad- [illegible]ly orders. He [illegible]

REV. GEO. KEITH,
Missionary of North America, 1702.

It may have been his own desire to recross the Atlantic and give himself up once more to colonial life, but whether from that or a call to duty coming from the S.P.G., or perhaps from both combined, we find him sailing from England with Rev. Patrick Gorman, a brother missionary, on April 24th, 1702, for America. The chaplain of their ship, Rev. John Talbot, was so impressed with Mr. Keith's zeal that he gave himself also to missionary work, and appears afterwards as a companion of Mr. Keith's in his travels.

The style of work done by this pioneer missionary may be gathered from his own words.—"I have given an entire journal of my two years' missionary travels and service on the continent of North America, betwixt Piscataway River, in New England, and Coretuck in North Carolina; of extent in length about eight hundred miles, within which are bound ten distinct colonies and governments, all under the crown of England, viz., Piscataway, Boston (colony called Massachusett's Bay) Rhode Island (colony included also Naraganset and other adjacent parts on the continent), Connecticot, New York, East and West Jersey, Pensilvania, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina. I travelled twice over most of those governments and colonies, and I preached oft in many of them, particularly in Pensilvania, West and East Jersey, and New York Provinces, where we continued longest, and found the greatest occasion for our service.

"As concerning the success of me and my fellow laborer, Mr. John Talbot's ministry, in the places where we travelled, I shall not say much, yet it is necessary that something be said, to the glory of God alone, to whom it belongs, and to the encouragement of others who may hereafter be employed in the like service.

"In all the places where we travelled and preached we found the people generally well effected to the doctrine that we preached among them, and they did generally join with us decently in the liturgy, and public prayers, and administration of the Holy Sacraments, after the usage of the Church of England as we had