

SOCIETY FOR CONVERTING AND CIVILIZING, THE INDIANS, IN UPPER CANADA.

ALTHOUGH the Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts have ever manifested a laudable zeal for the spiritual welfare of the Indians, and laboured with no inconsiderable success for the conversion of the Mohawks and the other tribes of the Six Nations, now settled on the Grand River and Bay of Quinte, long before, as well as subsequent to their removal to this Province; and although the New-England Company have also turned their attention to this subject, and rendered them essential service; yet, to all serious Christians, it must be a matter of deep concern to reflect, that there exist in this Province a very great number of the Aborigines of this Country, the original possessors of the soil on which we are now living, and enjoying the blessings of civilized life, to whom the glad tidings of Salvation, as published in the gospel of Jesus Christ, are still altogether unknown. And while some well disposed Christians have set an example in the glorious work of converting them, which reflects upon them the highest credit, it is considered that the members of the Church of England, when the subject is placed before them in its proper light, will not be backward in lending their aid towards forwarding this highly important undertaking, with a view to convert the Heathen, and to educate them in the principles of our truly Apostolic Church. To accomplish this object, a wide field is open, and it is only necessary that those who are able to assist, should come forward liberally, to insure its success.

In anticipation of the support which is confidently expected, an opportunity of opening a communication with the Indians on the North Shore of Lake Huron has already been embraced, and one individual, who is desirous of qualifying himself for the important duty of a Missionary, has gone thither for the purpose of endeavouring to form a Christian Society among them.

This Gentleman set out in September, having with him an Indian and his family, who can speak the Chippawa language, and furnished with ample supplies for the winter. Actuated by a true Missionary spirit, he has undertaken the task without any remuneration, and from the accounts lately received from him there is every reason to hope that his labours will be crowned with success, *if properly supported*. His outfit has been attended with a good deal of expense, and it has been found necessary to send an additional supply of provisions for the Indian Children, whom he is about to educate. The first grand object of the Society, which it is now proposed to establish, will be to follow up this undertaking, and to extend it as far as possible; and when the members of the Church of England in this Country reflect on the great importance of it, and consider how little they are called upon to give in support of the Church, it is not doubted but that they will render every assistance in their power.

It is intended, in the first instance, to establish a Missionary with a competent salary, and to build a house for his residence, where it may appear probable that an establishment can conveniently be formed, without interfering with the Missionary labours of any other denomination of Christians; thus following the example of the members of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, who have planted Missions at Green Bay Lake Michigan, and elsewhere. And in order to give stability to this Establishment, it is proposed to form a Society, which shall be denominated,

"The Society for Converting and Civilizing the Indians in Upper Canada,"

His Excellency SIR JOHN COLBORNE has consented to become the PATRON, and THE LORD BISHOP OF QUEBEC PRESIDENT.

In pursuance of this purpose, all persons who are friendly to this object are requested to meet at the Court House, on Friday the 29th instant, at 12 o'clock.

York, Upper Canada,

20th October, 1830.