

Numbers were converted under his preaching, and in the language of the Rev. James Howell, to whom the writer is greatly indebted for information contained in this sketch, "many were led to give themselves to the Lord, and to one another, according to the will of God." In his diary, Mr. Alline says of this visit:—"I travelled through the woods from Port Medway to Liverpool, where I preached in different places, and found some little moorings among the people. Some began to fear their foundation to be wrong who had been professors, and the Lord gave me strength and liberty to declare the truths of the gospel; and I told the elders and members of a church that was gathered there *on a form* my mind of their standing, and the Lord shook many of them." The foregoing extract shows the indiscretion of Henry Alline in dealing with churches. He would arrive in a strange place, and gathering, perhaps, from disaffected ones, such information as he could get, he would in many instances proclaim pastor and members unconverted. Division would be the result, and those who sided with him were, in his view, the only true people of God. Either a new church would be organized, or divisions and jealousies and bickerings follow in the wake of that which the zealous and godly man thought was a glorious work. At the Falls he preached twice every day, caring more for the salvation of souls than he did for his health, for he was weak in body. Houses were crowded, many were awakened, "which was such a new thing to them," his diary says, "they did not know what ailed them; it was new and strange to them, and to the whole town." After preaching daily for a short time, Mr. Alline left Liverpool, and the usual result was realized, some were rejoicing in Christ, some were under the influence of the enthusiasm, and then there was, as in other places, schism, alienation, division. There was now bitterness in the church, and one part remained at "Zion," with Mr. Cheevers, and another part organized separate worship. In the account given by Mr. Alline, it is related that Mr. Cheevers, "whom they had often tried to get removed, was so enraged against his people for their holding up separate meetings, that he desired a dismission, rather expecting that it would be the means of their returning to him, and that when the trial came they would not dismiss him. But the people embraced the opportunity and gave him his dismission." In August of that year (1782), Nathan Tupper, Samuel Hunt, Nathaniel Freeman, Benjamin Parker, and Simeon Perkins, on behalf of the church, invited the Rev. Jonathan Scott, the Pastor of the Congregational Church at Chebogue, to come and assist them by dispensing the ordinances of the gospel, and by labour and advice, for they said Mr. Cheevers, at his own request, has been released from the pastoral care of the church "by a large majority." Mr. Scott could not comply with their desire, and Mr. Alline returned to Liverpool in November of the same year, and was informed of the removal of Mr. Cheevers. "This," he says, "opened the way still more for the work of God, and almost all the town assembled together, and God was there with a truth. I preached every day, and sometimes twice a day." Mr. Alline continued to preach for a time at Liverpool, and the settlements surrounding, having, as his diary relates, great success.

From Mr. Howell's sketch, the writer learns that the people united in giving Henry Alline a unanimous invitation to become their pastor;