

some of the Indians who used to resort to that place, had baptized several, and had gained a tolerable knowledge of their language. The Society invited him to undertake this mission; he was then in Holland, having returned to Europe upon his private affairs, but he declined it; Mr. Freeman, a Calvinist minister at Schenectady, a little village situate on a river in a very pleasant vale, distant twenty miles from Albany, and twenty-four from the first castle of the Mohocks, a nation of the Iroquois Indians, was next pitched upon for this work, but he also declined it. He had taken great pains to instruct some of the Indians who came to Schenectady, had gained a good knowledge of their language, and with the help of some interpreters, had translated several Psalms, the Ten Commandments, the Creed, some chapters of the Bible, into the Indian language. At last, the Rev. Mr. Thoroughgood Moor undertook this mission, with great zeal and resolution. He was directed by the Society to reside in some of the nearest settlements of the Indians, to learn their language, and by all ways of condescension to endeavor to instruct them in the Christian Religion. He arrived at New York in 1704, and was received by the Lord Cornbury, the Governor, with all possible countenance and favor.

6. Mr. Moor soon entered upon the business of his mission, and went up to Albany; some Indians being then in town, and hearing of his design, seemed much pleased with it, came to see him, and spoke to this effect: "We are come to express our joy at your safe arrival, and that you have escaped the dangers of a dreadful sea, which you have crossed, I hear, to instruct us in religion. It only grieves us, that you are come in time of war, when it is uncertain whether you live or die with us." And after this, a sachem, or petty king, came to him, with some other Indians, and addressed him thus: "We are come to express our great satisfaction, that God hath been so propitious to us as to send you to open our eyes, which have been hitherto shut." These congratulatory expressions were very pleasing to him; he told them in return, "that nothing should be wanting on his part, and that he would devote himself to their good, and that he only staid at Albany to learn their language, in order to teach them. He did not then make any public proposition to them, but intended to take the first opportunity of doing it at their own castle. He was kept longer than he expected, from going thither, by a great fall of snow. However, he sent a message to them by three of their own countrymen, with a handsome present to them, (a belt of Indian money,) promising to come himself very soon to see them; which promise he performed with great difficulty. Being come to the Mohocks' castle, they received him courteously; one of the Sachems told him, that they had received his message, but it was lately; and not having consulted with the other castle, (which was about twelve miles distant,) they could give no answer to it now, but they would consult with them on the first opportunity, and then send their answer. Mr. Moor thought himself somewhat disappointed, and was afraid their delay in receiving him to reside with them, was an artificial excuse; however, he told them with all civility, that