## CHRISTIAN RECORDER:

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## ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

## MISSIONS.

ABOUT the middle of the year 1701, a charter was obtained from his Majesty King William 3d, by which many of the then subscribing members of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, with several other persons of distinction in Church and State, were incorporated by the name of the Society for the propagation of the Gospel in Foreign parts. This Incorporation being limited in its operation to one particular object, did not interfere with the important designs of the original institution. But being established as well for the purpose of converting and in-Structing the Heathen, as for the maintenance and advancement of pure Christianity among the British settled abroad, has been from its first organization, and still continues to be by far the most efficient Protestant Missionary Society in the world. Its views have hitherto been principally directed to the continent and islands in North America; for, at the period of its original establishment, and for a long time afterwards, those Colonies were much more considerable, both in extent and importance, than they are at pre-They contained, besides emigrants from Europe, a very large population of unenlightened savages, to whom It was desirable to impart the glad tidings of the Gospel; and the settlers themselves had little less need of religious instruction, for they were in danger of sinking into the ices and ignorance of Heathenism.