

ACT of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY
of the Church of Scotland,

CONCERNING

A GENERAL COLLECTION for the propagating
of the GOSPEL among the *North American*
Indians.

At *Edinburgh*, the 31st Day of *May* 1762.

THERE was transmitted to the General Assembly from the
Committee for Bills, a Petition in Name of the Society in
Scotland for propagating Christian Knowledge, to the following
Effect :

“ THE said Society did, in March 1760, commission a Number
“ of Gentlemen in *New England*, as a Board of Correspondents,
“ to plan and execute proper Schemes for spreading the Knowledge
“ of the gospel among the *North American Indians.*

“ These Gentlemen being sensible, that Ignorance of the *Indian*
“ Language has proved one great Obstruction to this Design, have
“ agreed to the following Plan : That a certain Number of *Indian*
“ Youths, of promising Dispositions, be procured to come and
“ live among them, in order to their learning the *English* Lan-
“ guage, and being well instructed in the Principles of Religion,
“ and in needful Literature : That, at the same Time, a like
“ Number of *English* young Men, of a hopeful Genius, be sent to
“ live among the *Indians*, in some of the best of their Families, till
“ they become acquainted with their Language and Customs ; after
“ which they shall be recalled, and have their Education compleat-
“ ed under the same Roof and Masters with the young *Indians*,
“ and that, when both are sufficiently fitted for this important Ser-
“ vice, they shall be sent out in Pairs by two and two, an *Indian*
“ and a *New Englander*, to propagate Christian Knowledge among
“ some other of the *Indian* Tribes, But as the Advantage propo-
“ sed by this Plan cannot speedily take Place, they have further re-
“ solved, instantly to take into their Pay a few suitable qualified
“ Missionaries, together with Interpreters, and to send them to
“ such of the *Indian* Tribes, on their Western Borders, as seem best
“ disposed to receive religious Instruction.

“ As the Execution of these Schemes must necessarily require a
“ considerable Expence, the said Correspondents have opened, in
“ the Town of *Boston*, two Subscriptions ; the one for an annual
“ Sum, to enable them to begin their Work ; the other for a ca-
“ pital Stock, payable on Condition that the Commissioners shall
“ be erected into a Body corporate. In both which Subscriptions,
“ they have met with uncommon Success, from the forward Dispo-
“ sition of their People to encourage so good a Design. They fur-
“ ther have Reason to believe, That the General Court, or Assembly