ELIOT'S

# BRIEF NARRATIVE.

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A

**BRIEF NARRATIVE**

OF THE

**progress of the Gospel**

AMONG THE

INDIANS OF NEW ENGLAND.

I 6 7 O.

By Rev. **JOHN E**LIOT.

\\

*WITH INTRODUCTORY NOTES,*

BY W. T. R. MARVIN.

Boston:

JOHN K. WIGGIN & WM. PARSONS LUNT.

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TWENTY COPIES LARGE PAPER .

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY COPIES SMALL PAPER•

**PREFATORY NOTE.**

*THIS* " Brief Narrative of the Progress of the Gospel," is believed to be the only one of this class of Eliot's publications, which has not been reprinted. It is not known   
that a copy of it is to be found in any

American collection. It is named by its full title, in Stevens's  
"Nuggets;" in Mr. Whitmore's note on Eliot's writings in   
"John Dunton's Letters," published by the Prince Society  
(p. 206); and by Rev. Dr. Francis, in his " Life of Eliot."

It was the last of Eliot's publications, relating to the  
progress of Christianity among the Indians, so far as is   
now known, though it is possible others may exist, as he   
was engaged in the work of preaching the Gospel to   
them until

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his increasing years obliged him to rest from his labors, but a short time before his death in 1690. In the Massachusetts Historical Society's Collections, 1st Series, Vol. iii,\* are nine letters from Eliot, on the same general topic; the first, dated Sept. 30, 1670,-shortly after the issue of this Tract,-and   
the last, July 7, 1688, not long before Eliot's decease. They   
were addressed to "the Honorable Robert Boyle," who was deeply interested in this work, and was for a time governor of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, as well as a generous contributor to the funds which were-used by Eliot and his associates in prosecuting their labors, and who is   
styled by Eliot a "nursing father." These letters perhaps   
filled the place which the publications had previoufly sup­   
plied, serving as reports of the progress of the work.  
 The work of Christianizing the Indians continued to attract attention in England after Eliot's death. In the Library of the Massachusetts Historical Society is a small Tract, published   
by the Corporation for Propagating the Gospel in 1 705,   
fifteen years after Eliot deceased. It is signed by Increase Mather, Cotton Mather, and Nehemiah Walter, and shows the veneration with which Eliot's memory was still regarded   
by the Indians, and the state of religion among them at that   
time. The title of this Tract I have cited in full on a

following page.

\* Page 177 et feq.

Dr.

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Dr. Francis, in his valuable memoir of Eliot, speaking of the following Tract, fays he had not been able to find it, and states that " It was probably the first publication of the Cor­ poration, after their Charter was confirmed or renewed by Charles the Second. I presume it to be the fame account of which Hutchinson makes so much use in his note con­

cerning the Praying Indians, Vol. I: p. 156."\* This suppo­

sition will be found to be correct, upon comparing that note with this reprint.

After fame inquiry, the editor was unable to find a copy of this Tract in this country, and the following pages are printed from a manuscript copy which was kindly made by Joseph L. Chester, Efq., from an original in the British Museum.

Mr. Chester, who is so well known for his antiquarian   
tastes, especially on matters pertaining to the early history of New England, describes the original thus:-"The dimen­   
sions of the page from top of the first line to the bottom of   
the catch-word, are fix and one-half inches; breadth of page, four and one-eighth inches. The pagination is exactly the distance of a line above the page, and inclosed in marks of parenthesis. The ornamental lines at top of page 3 are about as rough as the specimen I give, [of which those in

this

\* Life of Eliot, p. 350.

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this reprint are a fac-fimile,] and extend across the page." It is a tract of eleven pages, the last being blank. The original "was a small quarto," but "the copy in the Museum has been trimmed and cut away considerably." The lines average about twelve words in length.

The style of the original has been followed in capitalizing, italics, &c., making as close a fac-simile as possible, and the pages of the copy in the Museum, are designated by figures in brackets. It is believed that it will not be devoid of interest, as it gives a more complete account of many of the towns of "praying Indians " than can be found elsewhere, and as it is perhaps the only one of the publications in regard to Christianizing the Indians of New England, previous to the year 1705, which has not been before reprinted.

W. T. R. M.

**BIBLIOGRAPHIC NOTE.**

IT may not be uninteresting to give here some notice of the various Tracts on the subject of Christianizing the Indians of New England. The Prince Society's edition of "John Dunton's Letters," in a note by Mr. Whitmore, previously quoted, gives the following list, which is more perfect than any other I have met with. They have all been reprinted except this. With the title is given the reference to the reprint.

1. *(Massachusetts Historical Society's Collections, 1st* *S. Vol.* viii., *and 2d S.  
   Vol. ix.)* Good Newes from New-England: or, A True Relation of things   
   very remarkable at the Plantation of Plimouth in New-England. Shewing   
   the wondrous providence and goodness of GOD, in their preservation and con­ tinuance, being delivered from many apparent deaths and dangers. Together   
   with a Relation of such religious and civil laws and customs, as they are in practice amongst the Indians adjoining to them at this day. As also what com­   
   modities are there to be raised for the maintenance of that and other Planta­   
   tions in the said country. Written by E. W., who hath borne a part in the   
   fore-named troubles, and there lived since their first arrival. Whereunto is   
   added by him a brief Relation of a credible intelligence of the present state   
   of Virginia. London: Printed by J. D., for William Bladen and John Bellamie,   
   and are to be fold at their !hops at the Bible in Paul's Church-yard, and at   
   the Three Golden Lions, in Corn-hill, near the Royal Exchange. 1624.
2. *(Sabin's*

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1. *( Sabin's Rejn"nts, No. 7.)* New-England's Firft Fruits: in respect,   
   First, of the (Conversion of Some, Conviction of Divers, Preparation of Sundry) of the Indians. 2. Of the Progresse of Learning in the Colledge at Cambridge in Massacusets Bay. With Divers other speciall Matters concerning that Countrey. Published by the instant request of sundry Friends, who deisre to be satisfied in these points, by many New-England Men who are here present, and were eye or eare-witnesses of the fame. *Zach.* 4: 10. *Job,* 8: 6, 7. London, Printed by

R. 0. and G. D., for Henry Overton, and are to be fold at his Shop in Popes­

head-Alley. 1643.

1. *(Sabin's Reprints, No. 9.)* The Day-Breaking if not the Sun-Rising of the Gospell with the Indians in New-England. *Zach.* 0 4 : Matth.13: 13.   
   Ibid., verse 33. London, Printed by Rich. Cotes for Fulk Clifton, and are to   
   bee sold at his shop under Saint Margarett's Church on New-fifh-Street Hill. 1647.

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1. *( Sabin's Reprints, No.* **10.)** The Clear Sunshine of the Gospel breaking forth upon the Indians **in** New-England. Or, an Historicall Narrative of Gon's

Wonderfull Workings upon sundry of the Indians, both chief Governours and Common people, in bringing them to a willing and desired submission to the Ordinances of the Gospel: and framing their hearts to an earnest inquirie after the Knowledge of Gon the Father, and of JESUS CHRIST the Saviour of the world. By Mr. Thomas Shepard, Minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, at Cambridge, in New-England. Isaiah2: 2, 3. London, Printed by R. Cotes, for Bellamy, at the three golden Lions, in Cornhill, near the Royall Exchange. 1648.

1. *(Massachusetts Historical Society's Collections, 3d Series, Vol.* iv.) The Glorious Progress of the Gospel amongst the Indians in New-England, mani­ fested by three Letters, under the Hand of that famous lnstrument of the Lord, Mr. John Eliot, and another from Mr. Thomas Mayhew, jun., both Preachers of the Word, as well to the English as Indians in New-England. Wherein the riches of God's Grace in the effectual calling of many of them is cleared up : As also a manifestation of the hungring desires of many People in sundry parts of that Country after the more full Revelation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to the exceeding Consolation of every Christian Reader. Together With an Appendix to the foregoing Letters, holding forth Conjectures, Observations and Applications. By I. D., Minister of the Gospell. Published by Edward

Winflow. *Mal.* i: 11. London. Printed for Hannah Allen in Popes-head­

Alley. 1649.

1. *(Massachusetts*

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1. *(Massachusetts Historical Society's Colle/lions, 3d Series, Vol.* iv.) The Light appearing more and more towards the perfect Day. Or, a farther Dif­ covery of the present state of the Indians in New-England, Concerning the Progresse of the Gospel amongst them. Manifested by Letters from such as preacht to them there. Published by Henry Whitfield, late Pastor to the Church of CHRIST at Gilford, in New-England, .who came late thence. *Zeph.* 2: 1 r. London, Printed by T. R. & E. M., for John Bartlet, and are to be fold at the Gilt Cup, neer St. Austins gate, in Pauls Church-yard. 1651**.**
2. *(Sabin's Reprints, No.* 5.) Strength out of Weakness, Or a Glorious Manifestation of the further Progresse of the Gospel amongst the Indians in New­ England. Held forth in sundry Letters from divers Ministers and others to the Corporation established by Parliament for promoting the Gospel among the Heathen in New-England, and to particular members thereof, since the late Treatise to that effect, formerly set forth by Mr. Henry Whitfield, late Pastor of Gilford, in New-England. Published by the aforesaid Corporation. *Cant.* 8: 8. London, Printed by M. Simmons, for John Blague and Samuel Howes, and are to be sold at their shop in Popes Head Alley. 1652. (Sabin fays there were three editions in the fame year, and gives the titles in his reprint.)
3. *(Massachusetts Historical Society's Collections, 3d Series, Vol.* iv.) Tears of Repentance: Or a further Narrative of the Progress of the Gospel Amongst the Indians in New-England: Setting forth, not only their present state and con­ dition, but sundry Confessions of fin by diverse of the said Indians, wrought upon by the saving Power of the Gospel : Together with the manifestation of their Faith and Hope **in** JESUS CHRIST, and The Work of Grace upon their Hearts. Related by Mr. Eliot and **Mr.** Mayhew, two Faithful Labourers in that work of the Lord. Published by the Corporation for propagating the Gospel there, for the Satisfaction and Comfort of such as wish well thereunto. I*say.* 42: 3. London: Printed by Peter Cole, in Leaden-Hall, and are to [be] Sold at his Shop, at the sign of the Printing-Press in Cornhill, near the Royal Exchange. 1653.
4. *(Massachusetts Historical Society's Col/e{lions, 3d Series, Vol.* iv.) A Late and Further Manifestation of the Progress of the Gospel amongst the Indians in New-England. Declaring their constant Love and Zeal to the Truth: With a readinesse to give Accompt of their Faith and Hope; as of their desires in Church Communion to be Partakers of the Ordinances of Christ. Being a Narrative of the Examinations of the Indians, about their Knowledge in Religion, by the

Elders

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Elders of the Churches. Related by Mr. John Eliot. Published by the Corpora­   
tion, established by Act of Parliament, for Propagating the Gospel there. *Asst* 13: 47. London: Printed by M. S. 1655.

1. *(Sabin's Reprints, No.* 6.) A further Accompt of the Progresse of the   
   Gospel amongst the Indians in New-England, and of the means used effectually  
    to advance the fame. Set forth in certaine Letters fent from thence declaring a   
   purpose of Printing the Scriptures in the Indian Tongue, into which tbey are   
   already Translated. With which Letters are likewise sent an Epitome of some Exhortations delivrered by the Indians at a fast, as Testimonies of their obedience to the Gospell. As also some helps directing to the Indians how to improve natural! reason unto the knowledge of the true Con. London, Printed by M.   
   Simmons for the Corporation of New-England, 1659.
2. A Brief Narrative, &c. The Tract of which the following is a reprint.

Beside the Tracts of which the above is a lift, there are two more relating to the fame subject. One of them was written by Daniel Gookin, and contains a letter from Eliot to the author, after he had read the manuscript. Dr. Francis says of this Tract, that the "Manuscript was loaned to Mr. Sparks   
by the Rev. Mr. Campbell of Pittsburg, who procured it in England, and allowed Mr. Sparks to have a copy taken." It   
was printed from the manuscript by the American Antiqua­   
rian Society in 1836, and will be found in the second volume   
of their Collections and Transactions, pages 424 et feq. Its title is as follows:-

An Historical Account of the Doings and Sufferings of the Christian Indians   
in New England in the years 1675, 1676, 1677, impartially drawn by one well acquainted with that affair, and presented unto the Right Honourable the Corpo­   
ration residing in London, appointed by the King's Moil: Excellent .Majesty for promoting the Gospel among the Indians in America.

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The other is that to which reference has already been   
made, as contained m the Library of the Massachusetts   
Historical Society. It is a small 18mo Tract, with the follow­ ing title:-

A Letter About the Present State of *Christianity,* among the Christianized   
Indians of New-England. Written to the Honourable, Sir William Ashurft, Governour of the Corporation for Propagating the Gospel among the Indians, in   
New England, and Parts Adjacent, in America. Boston, in N. E. Printed by Timothy Green, 1705.

Eliot's other works are as follows:

1653. A *Catechism* "In the Indian language. Printed at the expense of the Corporation in England for propagating the gospel among the Indians in New. england." Thomas, History of Printing, vol. 1, p. 254. A second edition of one thousand copies was printed in 1661, and in 1687 another appeared. These were all from Green's press.

1660. The Christian Commonwealth : or the Civil Policy of the Riling King­   
dom of Jesus Christ. Written before the Interruption of the Government, By   
Mr. John Eliot, Teacher of the Church of Christ at Roxbury in New-England   
and now published (after his consent given) ly a Servor of the season. London: Printed for Livewell Chapman, at the Crown, in Popes-Head-Alley.-Reprinted (from the original tract formerly in possession of Col. Aspinwall,) in Massachusetts Historical Society's Collections, iii series, 9th volume, p. 127 et feq.

166r. A translation into the Indian language of the New Testament, followed in 1663 by the Old Testament.

The New Testament has two title pages, one in English, the other in Indian.   
The first is, "The New Testament of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Trans­   
lated into the Indian Language, and ordered to be printed by the Commissioners of the United Colonies in New England, at the Charge and with the Consent of the Corporation in England, for the Propagation of the Gospel amongst the   
Indians in New England. Cambridge, Printed by Samuel Green and Marmaduke Johnson. MDCLXI." The other is "Wufku Wuttestamentum Nul-Lordumun Jesus Christ Nuppoquohwussuaeneumun. Cambridge, Printed by Samuel Green and Marmaduke Johnson. MDCLXI." There is a copy of this New Testament

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in the Library of Harvard College. It has the Address or Dedication to the   
King, which was not inserted in all the copies. Thomas in giving the English   
title of the New Testament, inserts the words "With Marginal Notes" imme­   
diately before the Imprint. The Catalogue of the Prince Library omits them.

The Old Testament was published in 1663. Thomas, (History of Printing, vol. 1, p. 255,) says this also had two title pages, one in English, the other in Indian. The New Testament was bound up with it, and" A Catechism, and the Psalms of   
David in Indian Verse, which were a translation of the New England Version of   
the Psalms." (Francis, Life of Eliot, p. 221.} The Indian title of the whole Bible   
is as follows:-" Mamusse Wunneetupanatamwe up-Biblum God Naneeswe Nukkone Teftament kah wonk \Vuiku Teftament. Ne quolhkinnumuk nalhpe

Wuttinneumoh Christ nob asoowefit John Eliot. Cambridge: Printeuoop   
nashpe Samuel Green kah Marmaduke Johnson. 1663." pp. 1086. 4to. The   
Psalms following the New Testament have no separate title-page, but only a heading: Warne Ketoohomae uketoohomaongalh David.

In 1680, another edition of the New Testament was published, which has the   
imprint of Cambridge, but no printer's name. In addition to the Psalms, a Cate­   
chism was annexed, as in the first impression. In 1685, a second edition of the Old Testament was issued, printed at Cambridge by Samuel Green. Each part   
has but one title page, which is in Indian, and as cited in the Catalogue of the   
Prince Library, does not vary from that of the first, with the exception of the   
imprint. For a more complete account of the Indian Bible, the reader is referred   
to Francis, Life of Eliot, p. 228 et feq., to whom I am indebted for many of the   
facts in thefe notes, to the Catalogue of the Prince Library of the Bofton Public   
Library, and to Thomas, History of Printing, vol. r, p. 469 et feq.

1664. The Indian Psalter, printed at Cambridge, in a small octavo volume of one hundred and fifty pages-the edition consisting of five hundred copies. It is supported by Francis that this was a separate publication of the Book of Psalms taken from the Indian translation of the Old Testament.

1664. Wehkomaonganoo asquam Peantogig Kah asquam Quinnuppegig. You­ yeu qushkinnumun en Indiane Wuttinnontoowaonganit. Cambridge: Printed by

S. G. for the Corporation in London for the Indians in New-England. 1688. pp.

188. 8vo.-Baxter's *Call to the Unconverted,* in Indian.

1664. Indian Grammar: described by Thomas, (vol. 1, p. 257,) as containing about sixty pages quarto. He classes it among the works printed by Green, and fays, "No year is mentioned, but it must have been printed about 1664."  
 1665

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1665. Communion of Churches, or The Divine Management of Gospel Churches by the Ordinance of Councils, constituted in Order, according to the Scriptures.   
As also, The Way of bringing all Christian Parishes to be Particular Reforming Congregationall churches: humbly proposed, as a Way which hath so muche light   
from the Scriptures of truth, as that it may lawfully be submitted unto by all;   
and may, by the blessing of the Lord, be a means of uniteing those two Holy and eminent Parties, the Presbyterians and the Congregationals. As also to prepare   
for the hoped-for Refurreclion of the Churches; and to propofe a Way to bring all Christian Nations unto an Unity of the Faith and Order of the Gospel. Written   
by John Eliot, Teacher of Roxbury in N. E. Ps. i: 10. That Ye may try the   
things that are excellent. 1 John iv: 1. Try the Spirits. Cambridge: Printed   
by Marmaduke Johnson. 1665. pp. 38.-For the above title I am indebted to the kindness of Rev. H. M. Dexter, D. D., who has furnished me with a transcript from an original copy formerly in his possession. 'With his copy of this tract: was bound another, named below. Francis fays the " Communion of Churches " was a pamphlet intended only for private distribution, and gives extracts from it. ( Life of Eliot, p. 253.)

1672. Indian Logick Primer. The only information I have of this is, that it was printed by Marmaduke Johnson at Cambridge. (Thomas, History of Printing,   
vol. I, p. 274.)

1678. The Harmony of the Gospels, in the History of the Humiliation and   
Sufferings of Christ. Boston: Printed by John Foster, 1678. pp. (4) 131. A small quarto volume, of which there is a copy in the Prince Library of the Boston Public Library.

1685. Manitowompae Pomantamoonk Sampwfhanau Christianoh Uttoh woh an Pomantog Wnssikkitteahonat *[sic]* God. Cambridge. Printed for the right Honerable Corperation in London for the Gospelizing the Indins in New Eng­   
land. 1685. pp. 333. [349.] 8°.-A translation of Bishop Lewis Bayly's *Practice of Piety.* Thomas, (vol. 1, p. 262,) describes it as having "about 160 pages,"   
thus differing from the Prince Catalogue, from which I have cited this title, and   
also says "a third edition was printed by Green, in 1687."

1689. Indian translation of Shepard's *Sincere Convert:* described by Thomas as printed at Cambridge by Green in a duodecimo volume, of one hundred and sixty-five pages. Dr. Francis had never feen this, but thought it probably con­   
tained *The Sound Believer* also.

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The dates of publication of the following are not definitely known.

Indiane Primer Asuh negonneyeunk, &c. This, in 1687, had passed through   
several editions. In the Catalogue of the Prince Library, which cites the entire title of an edition printed in 1720, is the following, but the date of the "first edition" does not appear. "' Mr B Green fays composd by Mr Eliot, & Prind at   
Camb, abt 1684-' T. Prince's note on the 1st edition."

An Answer to Norcott's Book against Infant Baptism. This is spoken of by Cotton Mather. Francis had feen neither the tract itself, nor any other account of it, than that given by Mather.

The Dying Speeches of several Indians. Rev. Dr. Dexter informs me that   
this was a small tract of twelve pages, having the title printed lengthwise of the page, with no imprint. In an article which he furnished to the magazine entitled "The Sabbath at Home," [June, 1868, p. 333 et feq.] he has reprinted the entire tract, with the exception of the Preface, following the spelling, italicising and punctuation, as he transcribed it from an original copy formerly in his possession,   
and now "owned by George Brinley, Esq. In his Life of Eliot, Dr. Francis quotes   
the title as the " Dying Speeches and Counsels of Such Indians as dyed in the Lord," describing it as without date. It is also reprinted, with the Preface, in the   
Prince Society's edition of Dunton's Letters. The date 1665, which has   
been assigned to it, is doubtless incorrect, as on page *25* following, Eliot speaks of *John Speen* and *Anthony* as living in 1670, whose "dying speeches" are given in the tract named.

# A BRIEF

**NARRATIVE**

OF THE

Progress of the Gospel amongst

the *Indians* in *New-England,* in the Year 1670.

GIVEN IN

By the Reverend Mr. JOHN ELLIOT,

Minister of the Gospel there,

In a LETTER by him directed to the Right Worshipfull the COMMISSIONERS   
under his Majesties Great-Seal for Prop­ agation of the Gospel amongst the poor blind Natives in those United Colonies.

*LONDON,*

Printed for *John Allen,* formerly living in *Little-Britain* at   
the Rising-Sun, and now in *Wentworth street* near *Bell­  
 Lane,* 1671.

*To the Right Worshipful the Commisioners under his Majesties Great-Seal, for Pro­ pagation of the Gospel amongst the poor blind Indians in* N ew-England.

*Right Worshipfull and Christian Gentlemen,*

THat brief Tract of the present state of the *Indian­ Work* in my hand, which I did the last year on   
the sudden present you with when you call'd for such a thing; That falling short of its end, and

you calling for a renewal thereof, with opportunity of more time, I shall begin with our last great motion in that Work   
done this Summer, because that will lead me to begin with   
the state of the *Indians* under the hands of my Brethren   
Mr. *Mahew* and Mr. *Bourn.*

Upon the 17th day of the 6th month 1670, there was a

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Meeting at *Maktapog* near *Sandwich* in *Plimouth-Pattent,* to

gather a Church among the *Indians:* There were present six of the Magistrates, and many Elders, (all of them Messengers of the Churches within that Jurisdiction) in whose presence,

in a day of Failing and Prayer, they making confession of the Truth and Grace of Jesus Christ, did in that solemn Assembly enter into Covenant, to walk together in the Faith  
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and Order of the Gospel; and were accepted and declared   
to be a Church of Jesus Christ. These *Indians* being of kin   
to our *Massachuset-.lndians* who first prayed unto God, con­ versed with them, and received amongst them the light and   
love of the Truth; they desired me to write to Mr. *Leveredge*to teach them: He accepted the Motion: and performed the   
Work with good success; but afterwards he left that place,   
and went to *Long-Island,* and there a godly Brother, named *Richard Bourne* (who purposed to remove with Mr. *Lever­ edge,* but hindered by Divine Providence) undertook the teaching of those *Indians,* and hath continued in the work with good success to this day; him we ordained Pastor: and one of the *Indians,* named J*ude, s*hould have been ordained   
Ruling-Elder, but being sick at that time, advice was given   
that he should be ordained with the first opportunity, as also a Deacon to manage the present Sabbath-day Collections,   
and other [4] parts of that Office in their season. The same   
day also were they, and such of their Children as were present, baptized.

From them we passed over to the *Vinyard,* where many

were added to the Church both men and women, and were baptized all of them, and their Children also with them; we   
had the Sacrament of the Lords Supper celebrated in the

*Indian-Church,* and many of the *English-Church* gladly   
joyned with them; for which cause it was celebrated in both languages. On a day of Fasting and Prayer, Elders were

ordained,

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ordained, two Teaching-Elders, the one to be a Preacher of the Gospel, to do the Office of a Pastor and Teacher; the   
other to be a Preacher of the Gospel, to do the Office of aTeacher and Pastor, as the Lord should give them ability   
and opportunity; Also two Ruling-Elders, with advice to ordain Deacons also, for the Service of Christ in the Church. Things were so ordered by the Lord's guidance, that a Foun­ dation is laid for two Churches more; for first, these of the *Vinyard* dwelling at too great a distance to enjoy with com­ fort their Sabbath-communion in one place, Advice was given them, that after some experience of walking together in the Order and Ordinances of the Gospel, they should issue forth into another Church; and the Officers are so chosen,   
that when they £hall do so, both Places are furnished with a Teaching and Ruling-Elder.

Also the Teacher of the *Praying Indians* of *Nantuket,*

with a Brother of his were received here, who made good Confessions of Jesus Christ; and being asked, did make

report unto us that there be about ninety Families who pray   
unto God in that Island, so effectual is the Light of the   
Gospel among them. Advice was given, that some of the   
chief Godly People should joyn to this Church, (for they frequently converse together, though the Islands be seven leagues asunder) and after some experience of walking in the Order of the Gospel, they should issue forth into Church-estate among themselves, and have Officers ordained amongst them.

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The Church of the *Vinyard* were desirous to have chosen   
Mr. *Mahew* to be their Pastor: but he declined it, conceiving   
that in his present capacity he lieth under greater advantages to stand their Friend, and do them good, to save them from   
the hands of such as would bereave them of their Lands,   
*&c.* but they shall alwayes have his counsel, instruction and management in all their Church-affairs, as hitherto they have

had; he will die in this service of Jesus Christ. The *Pray­*

*ing-Indians* of both these Islands depend on him, as God's Instrument for their good. [5] Advice also was given for   
the setling of Schools; every Child capable of learning, equally paying, whether he make use of it or no: Yet if any

should sinfully neglect Schooling their Youth, it is a trans­   
gression liable to censure under both Orders, Civil and Eccleisiastical, the offence being against both. So we walk at *Natick.*

In as much as now we have ordained *Indian Officers* unto the Ministry of the Gospel, it is needful to add a word or two   
of Apology: I find it hopeless to expect *English* Officers in our *Indian* Churches; the work is full of hardship, hard   
labour, and chargeable also, and the *Indians* not yet capable to give considerable support and maintenance; and Men   
have bodies, and must live of the Gospel: And what comes   
from England is liable to hazard and uncertainties. On

such grounds as these partly, but especially from the secret   
wife governance of Jesus Christ, the Lord of the Harvest,

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there is no appearance of hope for their fouls feeding in that way: they must be trained up to be able to live of themselves in the ways of the Gospel of Christ; and through the riches of God's Grace and Love, sundry of themselves who are

expert in the Scriptures, are able to teach each other: An \_ *English* young man raw in that language, coming to teach among our *Christian-Indians,* would be much to their loss; there be of themselves such as be more able, especially being advantaged that he speaketh his own language, and knoweth their manners. Such *English* as shall hereafter teach them, must begin with a People that begin to pray unto God, (and such opportunities we have many) and then as they grow in knowledge, he will grow (if he be diligent) in ability of speech

to communicate the knowledge of Christ unto them. And

, feeing they must have Teachers amongst themselves, they must also be taught to be Teachers: for which cause I have

begun to teach them the Art of Teaching, and I find some of them very capable. And while I live, my purpose is, (by the Grace of Christ assisting) to make it one of my chief   
cares and labours to teach them some of the Liberal Arts   
and Sciences, and the way how to analize, and lay out into particulars both the Works and Word of God ; and how· to communicate knowledge to others methodically and skilfully, and especially the method of Divinity. There be sundry Ministers who live in an opportunity of beginning with a   
People, and for time to come I shall cease my importuning  
 of

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of others, and onely fall to perswade such unto this service of  
Jesus Christ, it being one part of our Ministerial Charge to

preach to the World in the Name of Jesus, and from amongst

them to gather Subjects to his holy Kingdom. The Bible, and the Catechism drawn [6] out of the Bible, are general helps to all parts and places about" us, and are the ground­  
work of Community amongst all our *Indian-Churches* and Christians.

I find a Blessing, when our Church of *Natick* doth fend forth fit Persons unto some remoter places, to teach them the fear of the Lord. But we want maintenance for that Service;   
it is a chargeable matter to fend a Man from his Family:   
The Labourer is worthy of his Hire: And when they go   
only to the High-wayes and Hedges, it is not to be expected that they should reward them : If they believe and obey their Message, it is enough. We are determined to fend forth   
some (if the Lord will, and that we live) this Autumn, sundry ways. I see the best way is, *up and be doing:* In all labour   
there is profit; *Seek and ye shall find.* We have Christ's Example, his Promise, his Presence, his Spirit to assist; and I trust that the Lord will find a way for your encouragement.

*Natick* is our chief Town, where most and chief of our   
Rulers, and most of the Church dwells; here most of our   
chief Courts are kept; and the Sacraments in the Church   
are for the most part here administred: It is (by the Divine Providence) seated well near in the center of all our praying

*Indians,*

[ *25* ]

*Indians,* though Westward the Cords of Christ's Tents are more enlarged. Here we began Civil Government in the year 1650. And here usually are kept the General-Train­   
ings, which seven years ago looked so big that we never had one since till this year, and it was at this time but a small appearance. Here we have two Teachers, *John Speen* and *Anthony,* we have betwixt forty and fifty Communicants at the Lord's Table, when they all appear, but now, some are dead, and some decriped with age; and one under Censure, yet making towards a recovery; one died here the last Win­ ter of the Stone, a temperate, sober, godly man, the first *Indian* that ever was known to have that disease; but now another hath the same disease: Sundry more are proposed,   
and in way of preparation to joyn unto the Church.

*Ponkipog,* or *Pakeunit,* is our second Town, where the *Sachems* of the Bloud (as they term their Chief Royal-Line)   
had their Residence and Rights, which are mostly Alienated to the English Towns: The last Chief Man, of that Line,   
was last year slain by the *Mauquzogs,* against whom he rashly (without due Attendants and Assistance, and against Counsel) went; yet all, yea, his Enemies fay, He died valiantly; they   
were more afraid to kill him, than he was to die; yet being   
de- [7] serted by all (some knowingly fay through Treason) he flood long, and at last fell alone: Had he had but IO Men,   
yea 5 in good order with him, he would have driven all his

Enemies

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Enemies before him. His Brother was resident with us in   
this Town, but he is fallen into sin, and from praying to God. Our Chief Ruler is *Ahauton,* an old stedfast and trui1y friend to the *English,* and loveth his Country. He is more loved   
than feared; the reins of his bridle are too long. *Wakan* is   
sometimes necessarily called to keep Courts here, to add life and zeal in the punishment of Sinners. Their late Teacher,   
*William,* is deceased; He was a man of eminent parts, all   
the *English* acknowledge him, and he was known to many:   
He was of a ready wit, found judgment, and affable; he is   
gone unto the Lord; And *William,* the Son of *Ahauton,* is   
called to be Teacher in his stead. He is a promising young­   
man, of a single and upright heart, a good judgment, he   
Prayeth and Preacheth well, he is studious and industrious,   
and well accounted of among the *English.*

*Hassunnimesut* is the next Town in order, dignity, and antiquity; sundry of our chief Friends in the great work of Praying to God, came from them, and there lived their Progenitors, and there lieth their Inheritance, and that is the place of their desires. It lieth upon *Nichmuke* River; the people were well known to the *English s*o long as *Con­ necticot* Road lay that way, and their Religion was judged   
to be real by all that travelled that journey, and had occasion to lodge, especially to keep a Sabbath among them. The Ruler of the Town is *Anuweekin,* and his Brother *Tuppuk-*

*koowillin*

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*koowillin* is Teacher, both found and godly Men. This   
Ruler, last Winter, was overtaken with a Passion, which was so observable, that I had occasion to speak with him about it; he was very penitent; I told him, That as to man, I, and all   
men were ready to forgive him. *Ah!* said he, *I find it the   
greatest difficulty to forgive myself.* For the encouragement   
of this place, and for the cherishing of a new Plantation of Praying Indians beyond them, they called *Monatunkanet* to be a Teacher also in that Town, and both of them to take   
care of the new Praying-Town beyond them. And for the   
like encouragement, Captain *Gookins* joyned *Petahheg* with *Anuweekin.* The aged Father of this Ruler and Teacher,   
was last year Baptized, who hath many Children that fear   
God. In this place we meditate ere long (if the Lord will,   
and that we live) to gather a Church, that so the Sabbath­ Communion of our Christian *Indians* may be the more agree­

[8] able to \_the Divine Institution, which we make too bold with while we live at such distance.

*Ogquonikongquaniesut* is the next Town; where, how we have been afflicted, I may not fay. The *English* Town called *Marlborough* doth border upon them, as did the lines of the Tribes of *Judah* and *Benjamin;* the English Meeting-house standeth within the line of the *Indian* Town, although the contiguity and co-habitation is not barren in producing mat­   
ters of interfering; yet our godly *Indians* do obtain a good

report

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report of the godly *English,* which 1s an argument that   
bringeth light and evidence to my heart, that our *Indians*are really godly. I was very lately among them; they desired me to settle a stated Lecture amongst them, as it is in sundry other Praying Towns, which I did with so much the more gladness and hope of blessing in it, because through Grace the Motion did first spring from themselves. *Solomon* is   
their Teacher, whom we judge to be a serious and found Christian; their Ruler is *Owannamug,* whose grave, faithful,   
and discreet Conversation hath procured him real respect   
from the *English.* One that was a Teacher in this place, is   
the man that is now under Censure in the Church; his sin   
was that adventitious sin which we have brought unto them, Drunkenness, which was never known to them before they   
knew us *English.* But I account it our duty, and it is much in my desire, as well to teach them Wisdom to Rule such   
heady Creatures, as skill to get them to be able to bridle   
their own appetites, when they have means and opportunity   
of high-spirited enticements. The wisdom and Power of   
Grace is not so much feen in the beggarly want of these   
things, as in the bridling of our selves in the use of them. It is true Dominion, to be able to use them, and not to abuse ourselves by them.

*Nashope* is our next Praying Town, a place of much Afflic­ tion; it was the chief place of Residence, where *Tahattawans*

lived

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lived, a Sacham of the Blood, a faithful and zealous Christian, a strict yet gentle Ruler; he was a Ruler of 50 in our Civil   
Order; and when God took him, a chief man in our *Israel*was taken away from us. His only Son was a while vain, but proved good, expert in the Scripture, was Elected to Rule in   
his Fathers place, but soon died, insomuch that this place is   
now destitute of a Ruler. The Teacher of the place is *John   
Thomas,* a godly understanding Christian, well esteemed of by the *English:* his Father was killed by the *Mauquaogs,*shot to death as he was in [9] the River doing his Eele-wyers. This place lying in the Road-way which the *Mauquaogs* haunted, was much molested by them, and was one year   
wholly deserted; but this year the People have taken courage and dwell upon it again.

In this place after the great Earthquake, there was some eruption out of the Earth, which left a great *Hiatus* or Cleft a great way together, and out of fame Cavities under great Rocks, by a great Pond in that place, there was a great while after often heard an humming noise, as if there were frequent eruptions out of the Ground at that place: yet for Healthful­   
ness the place is much as other places be. For Religion, there be amongst them some Godly Christians, who are received   
into the Church, and baptized, and others looking that way.

*Wamesut* is our next Praying-Town; it lyeth at the bottom of the great Falls, on the great River *Merymak,* and at the

falling-in

E

( 30 )

falling-in of *Concord* River; the Sachem of this Place is   
named *Nomphon, s*aid to be a Prince of the Bloud, a Man of a real Noble Spirit: A Brother of his was slain by the *Mauquaogs* as he was upon a Rock fishing in the great River. In revenge whereof he went inthe forementioned   
rash Expedition, but had such about him, and was so circum­   
spect, that he came well off, though he loft one principal   
Man. This place is very much annoyed by the *Mauquaogs,*and have much ado to stand their ground.

In this Place Captain *Gookins* ordered a Garrison to be   
kept the last year, which Order while they attended they   
were safe; but when the Northern Sachems and Souldiers   
came, who stirred up ours to go with them on their unsuc­ cessful Expedition, the Town was for the most part scatter'd,   
and their Corn spoyled.

The Teacher of this Place is named *George:* they have not much esteem for Religion, but I am hopefully perswaded of sundry of them; I can go unto them but once in a year.

*Panatuket* is the upper part of *Merimak-Falls; so* called, because of the noise which the Waters make. Thither the *Penagwog-Indians* are come, and have built a great Fort;   
Their Sachems refused to pray to God, so signally and sin­   
fully, that Captain *Gookins* and my self were very sensible of it, and were not without some expectation of some interpo­  
sure of a Divine-Hand, which did eminently come to pass;

for

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for in the forenamed Expedition they joyned with the North­   
ern Sachems, [ IO ] and were all of them cut off; even all

that had so signally refused to pray unto God were now as signally rejected by God, and cut off. I hear not that it was   
ever known, that so many Sachems and Men of Note were   
killed in one imprudent Expedition, and that by a few scat­   
tered people; for the *Mauquaogs* were not imbodied to   
receive them, nor prepared, and few at home, which did   
much greaten the Overthrow of so many great Men, and

shews a divine over-ruling hand of God. But now, since   
the *Penaguog-Sachems* are cut off, the People (sundry of   
them) dwelling at *Panatuket-Fort* do bow the Ear to hear,   
and submit to pray unto God ; to whom *Jethro,* after he had confest Christ and was baptized, was fent to preach   
Christ to them.

*Magunkukquok* is another of our Praying-Towns at the remotest Westerly borders of *Natick,-* these are gathering together of some *Nipmuk Indians* who left their own places,   
and sit together in this place, and have given up themselves to pray unto God. They have called *Pomham* to be their   
Ruler, and *Simon* to be their Teacher. This latter is   
accounted a good and lively Christian; he is the second man among the *Indians* that doth experience that afflicting dis­   
ease of the Stone. The Ruler hath made his Preparatory

Confession

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Confession of Christ, and is approved of, and at the next opportunity is to be received and baptized.

I obtained of the General-Court a Grant of a Tract of   
Land, for the settlement and encouragement of this People; which though as yet it be by some obstructed, yet I hope we

shall find some way to accomplish the same.

*Quanatujfet* is the last of our Praying-Towns, whose begin­ nings have received too much discouragement; but yet the Seed is alive: they are frequently with me; the work is at   
the birth, there doth only want strength to bring forth. The care of this People is committed joyntly to *Monatunkanit,* and *Tuppunkkoowillin* the Teachers of *Hassunenzesut,* as is abovesaid; and I hope if the Lord continue my life, I shall have a good account to give of that People.

Thus I have briefly touched some of the chiefest of our present Affairs, and commit them to your Prudence, to do [11] with them what you please; committing your Selves,

and

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## and all your weighty Affairs unto the Guid­ ance and Blessing of the Lord, I rest,

Your W orihips to ferve you in the

*Roxb.* this 20th of the 7th month, 1670.

Service of our Lord Jesus*,*

**John Elliot.**

*Books fold by* John Allen.

*VIZ.*

*Cotton* on the Covenant, new printed.

Confession of Faith of the Congregational Churches.

Mr. *Hook* and Mr. *Davenports* Catechis m.

*Astrologers Routed: s*hewing that divining by the Stars hath   
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