

to learn the Indian languages, eventually translating the Bible into one of the dialects ; and after he had devoted himself for some years to the welfare of the Indians, in 1643 the first of what were known as the Eliot tracts was published in London. The tracts, eleven in number, were not all by his own hand ; the last was published in 1671, and the burden of them was : conversion of the Indians, the dawn of the light of the Gospel among the heathen, and its further manifestations.

In July 1649 an ordinance was passed by the Long Parliament with the title 'A Corporation for the promoting and propagating the Gospel of Jesus Christ in New England.' The ordinance recited that it had come to the knowledge of the Commons of England in Parliament assembled that some of the heathen natives of New England had, through the preaching of the Gospel to them in their own language by some godly English, begun to call upon the name of the Lord, and in order to give the good work the support which was needed, Parliament created a Corporation in England to be called 'The President and Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in New England.' The Corporation was given power to acquire lands not exceeding the yearly value of two thousand pounds, goods and money, and for its purposes a general collection was to be made throughout England and Wales. The subscriptions were voluntary, but a substantial sum was received and invested in land, and the income was applied to providing missionaries and school teachers amongst the natives in New England and New York. The ordinance was