

town Offjord, and one cannot gain a farthing by playing. But they like best to hear the common salms be playe^d which they are wont to sing in the churches and at Dominal service. . . . I read and played on my violin by every opportunity, and yet I recollect when the old Mrs. Jorgenson saw me sometimes reading, that she sayed, 'Thou cans't never be a preast, Jon: learn but the joinery touroughly, it is enough for thee.' . . .

"I had sometimes permission to visit the great exhibitions of art and phisical things, that were free and open for everybody once or twice in a week, namely, Thorwaldsen's Museum, one of the most beautefull and decorated building in the city, and where the most wonderful works of art had been collected, after the master Thorwaldsen. I could calculate he was a countryman of mine, becaus he descended from Iceland, as his father Thorwaldsen was an Iclander, and had went down to Copenhagen and learned the sculptory. He married with a Denish lady and lived all his days in Copenhagen. . . .

"In the letters I reseaved from home my mother and relations wished I would return to Iceland as soon as I had finished my learning, and therefore I settled by myself to leave the city early in the spring 1851. I maked a chest of drawers as a proof of my abelity in the trade, after the costom in Denmark. This chest was brought up on the town hous, and compared to the drawing which I had drawn before, and as it passed through and was accepted I got my liberty this same day. How joifull day for us all? the youngsters that becam journimen joiners, we were 15 in number, and went from one pleasure to another."

Of his journey home, he says,—

"We encountered with a terrible storm and snowdrift, and the ship was cast out of the cours, and leaned so much that the keel was above the sea between the great billows. I that was unwont the naval could scarsely keep myself standing or sitting in the ship. How it was dreadfull I cannot describe."

Then follows the account of his arrival at home and the surprise of his mother when he presented himself before her "the Saturday eve for Easter, 20 April."

"She must even imagine that it were but an apparation of me that I stood there before her. I therefore sped to tell and explain