

It being proposed that they should drive close to the ship on their sledges, the eldest got into his sledge, for this purpose, and they had thus an opportunity of witnessing the mode in which he managed his dogs. These were six in number, each having a collar of seal-skin, two inches wide, to which the one end of a thong, made of strong hide, about three yards long, was tied, the other end being fastened to the fore part of the sledge: thus they all stood nearly abreast, each drawing by a single trace, without reins. No sooner did they hear the crack of the whip, than they set off at full speed, while he seemed to manage them with the greatest ease, guiding them partly by his voice, and partly by the sound of the whip. On approaching the sailors, however, they became so terrified, that it was with some difficulty they could be stopped. They were at length fastened to the ice, and one of the younger men, who had come up behind, was left in charge of the whole.

When Sacheuse was desired to ask if they had a king, he pronounced the words Nullikah, signifying a person in authority; then Nakouack, i. e. a strong man, who can kill more seals, and is respected or dreaded; but they did not understand him. He at last recollected that Pisarsuak had been used as the name of chief; they immediately answered in the affirmative, and said his name was Tulloowak.

It was about three o'clock when they departed, highly pleased. The ice being covered with small protuberant bergs, they were soon lost sight of as they drove away towards the shore; to gain which, they were obliged to follow a very circuitous route; this arose from a number of pools and chasms in the ice, as it was evident that they were only three or four miles from the land in a direct line.

The greatest number of natives seen was about eighteen; many attempts were made to discover the numbers of the tribe, but without success, as they could reckon no farther than five, and could therefore only say, "plenty people,"