

works—some of them were translated from English, viz., “Jacob Faithful,” “Peter Simple,” “Japhet in search of a Father.” I liked these works so well that I at once determined to begin learning the English tongue, and therefor I bought a pocket dictionary, a grammar and dialogues, and began by myself to learn of these books at all my leisure hours, but found it very difficult at first, especialli in the pronouncing, and as I have to the present day read and by opportunities spoken this language, I at last understand it on books, but am, though, not able to write it without blunders, and have not yet use of the common phrases. . . .

“At Christmas I went in the Royal Church, and got opportunity to see King Christian the 8; he was a stout and corpulent man. I had several pleasures in this holy day, in company with my countrymen, but I could not agree with some of them, because I had gone in ‘entire temperance,’ to taste not a single glass of wine; but some of them liked to go into the taverns, and therefore they thought I was of a melancoly temper, when I would not at all follow their manner in this. However, I had plenty of pleasures in the first year, but afterwards I went out of my temperance and [was] conquered of the temptations that surrounded me in this misleading place.

“At last I ventured into the Sunday-schools, and found great pleasure by it; and besides that, it do not cost a farthing, and the time was my own on the Sabbat. I sat there among some 50 youngsters and reseaved instruction from 3 schoolmasters, in writing, accounts, Denish, grammar, and ortography, and devoted myself to the study during the 3 hours the instruction lasted. By-and-by I entered the drawing-school, and began to draw during 2 hours. Thus I sat in school 5 hours every Sunday, and had the three advantages by it, viz.: amusing, learning, and saving of mony. . . . But I had great longing for to learn playing on violin, and got permission of an old man to come to him every Sunday evening in order to learn the play, during 2 hours, which cost me about 4 pens [Rather secular employment of the “Sabbat.”] . . . I am the sole person in the shire that can have the name of a musical, for the people in the northward Iceland have not the least understanding of music, except in the