

EXTENT AND POPULATION OF ICELAND.

MODE OF BURIAL IN GREENLAND.

Of the 38,000 square miles of which Iceland consists, only a ninth part is inhabited, and even over this the houses are very widely scattered, with many black and dreary intervals, so that man and his dwellings seem like something foreign to the land. The hamlets are always so inconsiderable, that they never become the principal object in the landscape, and even the commercial towns seem lost amid the rocky defiles in which they are placed. Assuming the population at 50,000, which it has rarely exceeded, the average will be about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  to the square mile; and if we exclude the central deserts; rather more than seven, that is, about a third of the number found in the thinnest inhabited of our Highland counties.

In Greenland the dead are buried in a sitting posture, dressed in their best clothes. As the earth is shallow or frozen, they build tombs of stone, and cover the body with plates of mica slate, or clay slate, to preserve it from carnivorous animals. The kayak and hunting instruments of the deceased are placed at the side of the grave, and they put a dog's head into that of a child, in order that its spirit may guide the helpless infant to the land of souls. On their return to the house they continue their lamentation in a sort of monotonous howl, at the conclusion of which some refreshment is taken, and each departs to his own dwelling.

REGISTER—ANCASTER, 1840.

DATE.	Thermometer.		Barometer.		WEATHER.
	9 A. M.	9 P. M.	9 A. M.	9 P. M.	
Nov. 1	43°	49°	29.18	29.21	Fair and clear.
2	46	51	.27	.30	Do. do.
3	47	54	.29	.26	Do. do., slightly hazy.
4	48	54	.24	.25	Dry haze.
5	49	50	.25	.23	Do. do.
6	45	44	.24	.19	Do. do.
7	44	48	.12	28.93	Cloudy, windy.
8	51	51	28.80	.66	Misty, drizzling rain, heavy rain at night.
9	46	44	.83	29.05	Cloudy, a. m., clear, p. m.
10	44	43	29.35	.37	Fair and clear.
11	39	42	.23	.09	Cloudy.
12	44	45	28.91	28.88	Do. a shower in the evening.
13	39	39	.90	29.00	Mostly cloudy, some slight hail showers.
14	38	39	.96	28.60	Snowing, moderately, a. m. heavily evening.
15	34	30	.60	.77	Partly cloudy, slight snow showers.
16	28	30	.82	.90	Mostly cloudy.
17	30	31	.83	.33	Cloudy.
18	28	31	.82	.88	Fair and clear.
19	33	34	.88	29.01	Cloudy.
20	36	38	29.12	.15	Do.
21	38	35	.16	.08	Snowing a little, a. m., heavily and drifting, p. m. and night.
22	36	37	28.88	.58	Showers of snow and small hail, a. m., of rain, p. m. windy.
23	40	37	.62	.87	Mostly cloudy.
24	36	38	29.05	29.09	Do. do.
25	37	39	.02	28.89	Partly cloudy; a little snow in the evening.
26	35	31	28.82	.93	Cloudy, snowing, a. m.
27	32	36	29.10	29.05	Cloudy.
28	39	41	28.97	28.94	Cloudy, a. m., clear, p. m.
29	44	47	.82	.70	Fair and clear, windy.
30	39	28	.77	.72	Very high wind, slight snow showers, p. m.
Means,	39.6	40.53	28.997	28.98	

Mean temperature of the month, 40.06°,—highest 63°, lowest 18°.