

There is some reason to believe that by that time also our store of Eskimo traditions will have increased, so that much better opportunity will be offered for weighing their historical value.

The means required for publishing this volume have been granted by the Ministry for Public Education and Ecclesiastical Affairs, and it was found natural to embody it in the series of «MEDDELELSER OM GRØNLAND» which since 1879 have been issued in Copenhagen and comprise the latest Danish investigations in Greenland. But on the other hand, as its theme can at all events interest only a very limited circle of readers, it was preferred to render this contribution more accessible by printing it in English. Assistance with this end in view being requisite, I applied of course to my friend Dr. Robert Brown who had edited two other books for me in England. As readily as ever he complied with my request, to revise that part of my manuscript which was not merely lexicographical. But for several reasons some errors in English style may notwithstanding have crept in, during the completion and printing of the pages. It is therefore my hope that these circumstances being understood, the writer may not unreasonably claim the indulgence of his readers.

*Christiania May 1887.*

H. RINK.