

was also brought on board by his mother, and amused us much by his ludicrous appearance and precocious manner. He was completely enveloped in reindeer skins, dressed with the hair on, a large cushion of the same material was placed at the back of his head as a protection and support, and as he was withal exceedingly fat, and had a mouth like a cocked hat, we laughed at every new glimpse of the young monster. Laughing was not however a practice with this imp of saturnine temperament, who despised moreover the usual amusements of children, and scrutinised all objects with an immovable countenance, as if quite accustomed to their contemplation; yet this child, although eating blubber, meat, or anything else that was offered to him, was not weaned, taking the breast, not only from his mother, but from any other dame who would accommodate him. The other two sons of Akoull were respectively about nineteen and thirteen years old, both very intelligent and lively. The eldest had been for some time married, and was already a father; his wife was a very nice looking girl: they both played on the fiddle, but their instrument had only two strings made of deer-gut or sinew—I also saw one of silk—and the bow was much shorter and thinner than ours. Several of the young men had a notion of playing,