

about in rollicking games in a land of summer and sunshine. His life is but a hard struggle for existence. He has no settled abode, but wanders about from place to place. In summer time his family dwells in a tent of skins, while the master is far away on the seas fishing fowling, and chasing the wolves. For the winter home, when the snow begins to fall thickly and the seas to freeze, he fashions out of snow and ice a hut, dome-like in shape, several feet in thickness with a long entrance. A rude sperm-oil lamp supplies the only light and heat.

The difficulties to be encountered in planting and carrying on a mission in such a country, and among such a people, are necessarily very great. But no difficulties, however great, no hardships, however severe, could deter the Moravian Christians—that most heroic people—from carrying the Bread of Life to this starved and hermit race. The self-denial, the consecration, and the bravery of these Christians is almost unparalleled in the history of missions. The wilderness and the solitary place of many a land has been made glad by them, and never does Cowper sing more beautifully than when he kindles at the heroism of these humble Germans:

“ Fired with a zeal peculiar, they defy
The rage and rigor of a Polar sky,
And plant successfully sweet Sharon's rose
On icy plains and in eternal snows.”

They went forth to their work with the one idea of winning souls for Christ. Their resolve found expression in the simple words with which they often used to cheer each other:

Lo, through snow and ice we press,
One poor soul for Christ to gain,
Gladly bear we want and stress
To uphold a Saviour slain.

The first missionary band arrived in Labrador in July, 1752 under the leadership of Ehrhardt, a converted sailor. They found a way of access to the country through the Hudson Bay Company. A few days after their arrival, the leader and several of the company were murdered by the treachery of the natives. The remainder of the company returned at once to England. Thus ended the first attempt to evangelize Labrador.

But the zeal of these Moravians was not to be so easily quenched. Ehrhardt had perished, but the self-sacrificing zeal of