

# THE CHRISTIAN REGISTER.

"ON EARTH PEACE, GOOD WILL TOWARDS MEN."

VOL. I.] MONTREAL, MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1823 [No. 24.

## LIFE OF MATTHEW STACH, MORAVIAN MISSIONARY IN GREENLAND. [Concluded.]

### *Other visits to Greenland.*

We have entered at large into the particulars of our Missionary's first Visit to Greenland, as it gave an opportunity of stating the chief circumstances connected with the foundation of the Brethren's mission in that country, and which afford important lessons to other Missionaries. We shall be brief in the narration of his subsequent visits.

### *Second Visit.*

Matthew Stach arrived in Greenland the second time, on the 17th July, 1742. Crantz says—

"During the two years of his absence, only one Greenlander, a woman, had been baptized; but there were many that listened to the Word with joy, from whom a plentiful harvest might soon be expected."

Some circumstances are stated respecting this woman which we shall extract, as they may furnish useful hints in other Missions. The account of her conversation is thus given by the Brethren.—

"In a Greenland house, where all beside were hostile to us, there was a young woman who was very much affected. While we were speaking, she held her hands before her face to hide her tears, and softly sobbed forth—" O God, thou knowest that I

am exceedingly corrupted from my first parents: have mercy upon me!" When we afterwards asked her why she knelt, she answered, "because I now begin to believe: I pray daily to God to be gracious to me." Being directed to persevere in prayer, she began to weep, and to exclaim, "O Jesus! my heart is thoroughly depraved, make me truly sorry for it: take away the bad thoughts, and form me according to thy pleasure. And as I yet know little of thy Word, give me thy Holy Spirit to instruct me." Her companions, very naturally hating the person whose example was a constant reproof to them, treated her with a severity quite foreign to the national character; so much so, that she was glad to take the first opportunity of seeking an asylum with the Brethren.

"She was never weary of listening to the doctrine of the Cross, and began to speak of it to others. No sooner did any Heathens come to the place, than she paid them a visit, explained to them the reason of her living here, told them of all the blessings which she had enjoyed, and of the still greater happiness she had in view; and her admonitions were not without their effect. Having been prepared for baptism, and made acquainted with the nature and design of that holy ordinance she declared that she no longer believed that Jesus was the friend of sinners because we had told her so, but because she felt it in her own heart. She was Baptized at her earnest request, and called Sarah."