

THE MISSIONARY
AND
SABBATH SCHOOL RECORD.

Vol. VI.]

JANUARY 1, 1849.

No. 1.



THE SHEPHERD'S DOG.

A SHEPHERD who inhabited one of those valleys or glens which intersect the Grampian mountains, in one of his excursions, to look after his flock, happened to carry along with him one of his children, an infant of three years old: this is not an unusual practice among the Highlanders, who accustom their children from their earliest infancy to endure the rigours of the climate. After traversing his pastures for some time, attended by his dog, the shepherd found himself under the necessity of ascending a summit at some distance, to have a more extensive view of his range. As the ascent was too fatiguing for the child, he left him on a small plain at the bottom, with strict injunctions not to stir from it till his return. Scarcely, however, had he gained the summit, when the horizon was darkened by one of those

impenetrable mists, which frequently descend so rapidly amidst these mountains, as in the space of a few minutes almost to turn day into night. The anxious father instantly hastened back to find his child; but, owing to the unusual darkness, and his own trepidation he unfortunately missed his path in the descent. After a fruitless search of many hours, he discovered that he had reached the bottom of the valley, and was near his own cottage. To renew the search that night was equally fruitless and dangerous; he was therefore compelled to go home, although he had lost both his child and his dog, who had attended him faithfully for many years. Next morning, by break of day, the shepherd, accompanied by a band of his neighbours, set out in search of his child; but after a day spent in fruitless fatigue