

had first been thawed, and then had frozen again. This brass plate, which I had found, I lost again, and could not go back [to look for it], as I had no weapon (ice-hook) with me, and could not walk up the ice-hill.

Only the wood did I bring back with me, and lost what was written upon it. The wooden post alone was brought home, to use for fire-wood in the summer. This wood which I found I have marked with my name, because I will keep it.

In my winter abode I have been very unlucky, for my wicked shipmates spoke ill of me to my master. They forged a lie against me, although they were the guilty persons. They opened a cask of brandy with a gimlet, and now and then they stole some of it. The people who did this laid the blame on me, and I was therefore dangerously situated, although I was altogether innocent. In the mean time I am glad of this lying accusation against me, inasmuch as we shall all be placed before God after death.

I hope that Heaven will preserve my friend, the dear Ross, in the coming time. Now I part from you; I give you my hand, and bid you farewell. Hereafter shall we see each other no more to our life's end; may we meet in the joy of Heaven!

Farewell!

I, thy very dear,

Adam Beck.

Godhavn, 30 August 1851.

The undersigned has translated literally the Greenland document, so as to express the natural phraseology of the Eskimoes as correctly as possible. As far as I can judge by the hand, the style and the construction of this document, it has been written by the schoolmaster, Paul Erik Rasmussen, of the Godhavn station.

(signed) *Nøsted,*

Seminary Warden and Missionary
at Jacobshavn.

Copenhagen, 6 February 1852.

The contradictions and obscurities in the above strange opus are not my fault. I have translated it as literally and correctly as I could from the Danish, without regard to elegance of expression. To make sense of it is another thing. I have added the explanatory words within brackets []; those within parentheses () are in the original Danish.

(signed) *George Stephens,*

Professor of English Literature in the
University of Copenhagen.

Copenhagen,
10 February 1852.

Admiralty, }
23 February 1852. }

J. H. Hay,
Chief Clerk.