

STATISTICS OF POPULATION.

After the first tragic attempt of the Moravians at converting the Eskimo, which ended in the massacre of their missionaries, a successful station was established at Nain in 1771. In 1776 another mission was started at Okkak, 130 miles north of Nain, and in 1782, the mission at Hopedale, about the same distance south of Nain, and near the site of the old tragedy.

At the end of the eighteenth century, the Eskimo living at the Moravian Mission settlements were as follows (probably only a small part of the entire population of the coast, as the Moravians estimated the total population of the coast at 3,000¹ when they began operations in 1763).

Nain.....	63 persons	30	professing Christianity
Hopedale.....	51 "	33	" "
Okkak.....	48 "	22	" "

Fifty years after the settlement, the number had increased to:

Nain.....	168 persons
Hopedale.....	149 "
Okkak.....	394 "

The gradual increase and ingathering of the Eskimo in the vicinity of the Moravian stations was doubtless in a large measure due to the wisdom of the Brethren in selecting good hunting sites for their establishments.

In 1830 a settlement was begun at Hebron, north of Okkak, which in six years had attracted a population of 148.

In 1840 the resident population of all stations was as follows:

Nain.....	298 persons
Hopedale.....	205 "
Okkak.....	352 "
Hebron.....	179 "

1,034 "

The Eskimo at this time were reported to have mostly deserted the coast north of Hebron and gone to Ungava, so this

¹ The statistics which follow are taken from the Mission reports.

