

DWARFS IN THE SNOW.

DWELLERS AMONG GREENLAND'S ICY MOUNTAINS.

An Almost Extinct Race of Esquimaux—Their Hard Struggle for Existence—Strange Social Customs—Miss Olof Krarer, a Representative of This Queer Little People, Now Visiting This Country.

THE most interesting mite of humanity that has visited this country in many years is Miss Olof Krarer, the Greenlander, who has been lecturing on her native country and its people. Miss Krarer, says the Chicago *Herald*, is thirty-two years old, forty inches in height, weighs 140 pounds, and was born on the east coast of Greenland. She calls herself an Esquimaux, but she is very unlike the Esquimaux Indians on the west coast of the island, and belongs really to a separate race of people, which numbers about 500 souls, and is rapidly becoming extinct.

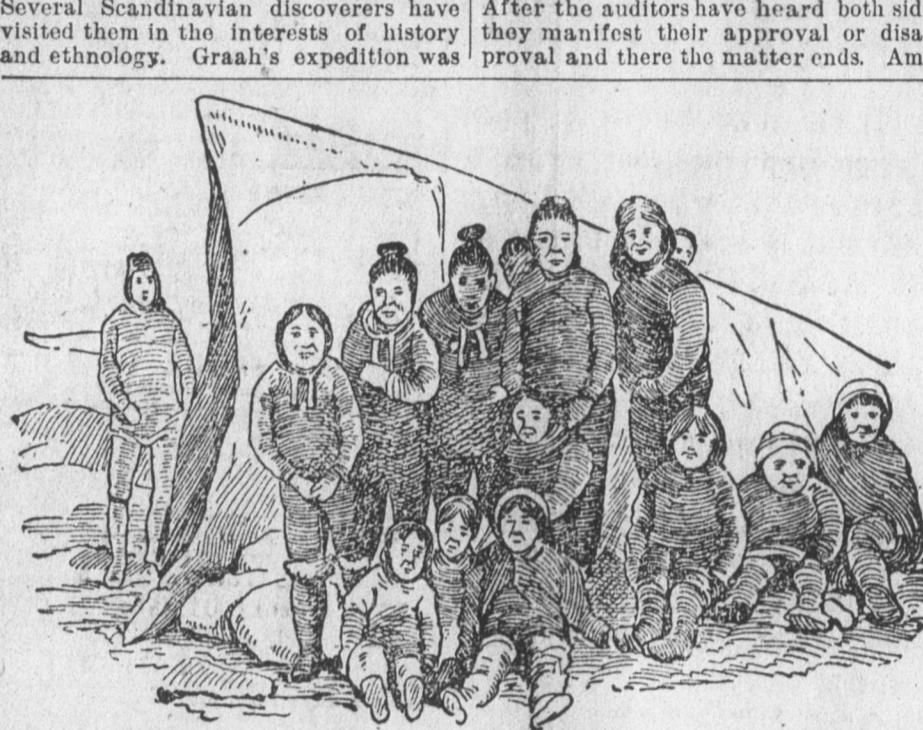
The Danish historians say that this race is the descendant of a Danish colony founded at Angmagsalik, in 986, by Eric the Red. Miss Krarer says that the traditions of her country make its people the descendants of the Scandinavian seamen who were wrecked on the coast from time to time, and were never able to escape. But however the colony may have been planted, the complexion and language of the people demonstrate their Caucasian origin. When the dirt is scraped off their faces they are as fair as any Dane. Several Scandinavian discoverers have visited them in the interests of history and ethnology. Graah's expedition was

times happens that the occupants of one hut are inimical to the occupants of another hut, but that does not prevent them from appearing to be upon the best terms when they happen to meet in one of the houses, as hospitality is with them a necessary duty. Thefts are not rare, according to Captain Holm, among the people of Angmagsalik, and they steal as often to gratify revengeful feelings as to satisfy their own wants. Captain Holm had rea-



A MARRIED COUPLE.

son to know this, as they stole from him not only bread, hardware and clothing, but also articles of which they did not make the slightest use, such as teaspoons and forks. Murders are quite frequent considering the small population. The only trial for such a crime is a public meeting, where the accuser and the accused tell their stories in a chant to an accompaniment from a drum. After the auditors have heard both sides they manifest their approval or disapproval and there the matter ends. Amid

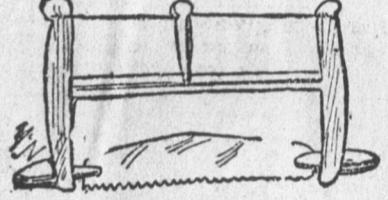


ESQUIMAUX WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

made in 1829, Holm's in 1883, and Nordenstjold's in 1888. Captain Holm has only recently returned to Denmark, and has made an elaborate and almost heart-rending report concerning Miss Krarer's countrymen. He lived among them two years, and took more than one census of them. They then numbered 548, of whom 413 inhabited the flocks around Angmagsalik. They are much smaller than Europeans, but larger than other Esquimaux. One remarkable fact concerning their physique is noted by Captain Holm. Their arms are of ordinary length and very muscular, while their legs are short, slender, and weak. The cause of this physical development is obvious. The men live by the harpoon. They spend their lives in diminutive boats, in which their legs are as motionless and constrained as the foot of a Chinese woman

these chants of accusation and denial the adversaries betray no hostile feeling, but frequently appear as if they did not have the slightest cause of offence.

Family ties among the dwellers at Angmagsalik, or at least ties of blood, are regarded as imposing the obligation of mutual aid under all circumstances.



AN ESQUIMAUX SAW.

But, strange to say, marriage is not regarded as a family tie. The slightest tie of kindness is an enduring bond, but the wife is treated as a mistress or servant, from whom the man may separate whenever he pleases. When the wife becomes a mother, however, her position is more assured. The husband is always the head of the family, and after him come the sons, even if they are quite small, because they are regarded as the future of the family, who are to provide for their parents in old age. As long as the parents live, therefore, the sons dwell with them and contribute to their support. East Greenlanders often marry before they reach an adult age, if they are in condition to support a woman. No one is permitted to marry any relation that is as near as a cousin. Skillful hunters frequently have two wives. This is not often against the wish of the first wife, who, in many cases, when she is unable to prepare all the skins her husband takes, demands that he shall take another wife. Sometimes a man takes two wives in order that he may have two rowers to his boat. But Captain Holm saw no instance in which a man had more than two wives. The Esquimaux family lives entirely on meat, and they have no regular meals nor meal hours.

wrapped around him. His head is covered with a cap and his legs are tied together with a fox skin. If one of his ancestors perished in his kajak, which is almost certain to have been the case, the body is thrown into the sea, or placed on the beach where the rising tide will carry it off. It is frequently the case that the body will be seen distinctly at the bottom of the sea, not far from the hut of the deceased person, a long time after his death. But the ancient way of disposing of the dead is to lay them on the ground and cover them with stones, and this is still done to a considerable extent. To economize stones, which are not very abundant, the body is doubled up so that a smaller number of them will cover it. Strange to say, it is a rule among people that the name of a dead person must never be pronounced. If a man happens to have the name of a dead man, he changes it at once, so that the dead man's name may never be pronounced. Even if the dead man bore the name of an animal, as soon as he dies the name of the animal's species must be changed by the whole tribe. The consequence is that the language is in a constant state of change.

The natives of Angmagsalik are great astronomers in their way. They have definitely determined, to their own entire satisfaction, that the stars are of the size of a fox-skin. They have wit enough to observe that the moon governs the tides, and the fact comes in for frequent mention in their legends. They know just where the sun is at any hour of the day and at any time of the year. They have great talent for geography and a remarkable memory for places. They can describe accurately places they have not seen for twenty years, and even draw a pretty good map of them. They can also tell exactly how long it takes to go from one place to another.

The legends of these strange people afford a singular confirmation of the Old Testament history. They teach that the world was at first without sea or mountains, and that the Great Spirit, not liking the men who then inhabited it, destroyed it. He opened caves, into which men fell, and then water covered the face of the earth, filled the caves, and drowned them. When the earth appeared anew it was all covered with glaciers. These glaciers melted in large parts, and there fell from heaven two beings who repeopled the earth.

The people of Angmagsalik are sprightly and intelligent. They are persevering and intrepid hunters. They are polite, hospitable, and obliging to one another, and yet reserved, suspicious, and deceitful. Such sentiments as love, friendship, and devotion are rarely met among them.

Miss Krarer says that in her country the days and the nights are of the same length. For four long months the people sit in darkness, with only the light of the moon and stars. Then for two months there is a period, which is the pleasantest of the year. Then for six months the sun is seen above the horizon. Sunrise to the poor Esquimaux is a jubilee something like Christmas in other countries. It is the only thing that he can measure time by. He takes no reckoning of any period shorter than a year. The east coast of Greenland, she says, is the coldest and most dismal spot in the Arctic regions. Her first recollections are of the snow-hut which was her home, and the bitter cold and frequent hunger from which she suffered. Fuel, properly speaking, there was none, as there was no vegetation, and what feeble fires her race could afford were fed with the flesh of reindeer, and the bones of fish and of the walrus. These fires were kindled by a flint, but even flints were scarce.

An Esquimaux mother who tells her child that she will punish it always keeps her word, even if she is not in a hurry about it, and when she gets ready her penalty is as barbarous as it is unique. Her threat is that she will burn her little daughter with a bone, and heats her like a great bone and heats her at the fire, and then presses it on some part of the little girl's body until there is an excruciating burn. The scar is a long reminder to the little one of the danger of filial disobedience, but the mother must draw the line somewhere, so she never burns the child's face. As may readily be judged from this fact,

OUR GROWTH SINCE 1880

OFFICIAL CENSUS STATISTICS FOR WESTERN STATES.

Population of All Cities in Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Iowa Having 5,000 or More People—Disputes May Now Be Settled.

(Washington special.)

Town pride and town rivalries may now be set at rest. The Census Office is nearly through with the official count of all towns having a population of 5,000 or more. Superintendent Porter is now issuing bulletins of statistics of cities, giving the population in 1880 and 1890, and other interesting matter. The statistics for Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin and Iowa are given below. They are official and final, and may therefore be relied on in settling points of dispute:

TOWNS.	1880	1890
Alton	11,973	10,988
Bellefontaine	17,190	20,000
Cairo	9,11	14,000
Canton	3,762	5,589
Champaign	5,108	10,825
Clinton	10,285	14,000
Danville	7,733	11,523
Decatur	9,547	16,841
Dixon	3,658	5,149
East St. Louis	9,185	12,875
Elgin	8,787	17,429
Forsyth	4,769	7,431
Galesburg	6,451	6,456
Jacksonville	11,637	15,212
Joliet	10,927	12,357
Lincoln	6,038	27,407
Litchfield	4,326	5,183
Mattoon	5,737	6,889
Moline	7,801	11,953
Muncie	5,000	5,837
Normal	10,292	12,000
Paris	4,373	5,049
Peoria	29,259	40,758
Quincy	27,238	31,478
Rockford	15,129	28,561
Springfield	11,709	13,656
Sterling	5,87	5,822
Streator	5,158	6,120

TOWNS.	1880	1890
Anderson	4,126	10,759
Brazos	3,441	5,905
Council Bluffs	1,251	4,088
Elkhart	6,933	11,000
Evansville	29,280	50,671
Ft. Wayne	26,890	35,349
Galena	4,121	6,027
Huntington	7,036	7,036
Indianapolis	75,036	107,445
Jeffersonville	9,357	12,000
Kokomo	4,042	8,224
Lafayette	14,860	18,407
Leavenworth	6,722	7,128
Ligonier	1,193	13,000
Madison	8,943	8,923
Marion	1,123	8,724
Michigan City	7,366	10,764
Montgomery	5,219	11,339
New Albin	2,026	2,026
Princeton	5,930	6,494
Richmond	12,743	26,849
Rockville	4,259	5,337
Shelbyville	7,451	5,159
South Bend	13,590	20,287
Terre Haute	26,012	36,027
Valparaiso	4,461	5,083
Vincennes	7,680	8,715
Wabash	3,800	5,196
Washington	4,223	6,052

TOWNS.	1880	1890
Burlington	3,330	6,518
Clinton	19,450	22,528
Cedar Rapids	10,104	12,000
Council Bluffs	18,163	21,400
Creston	5,081	9,207
Davenport	21,891	25,161
Dubuque	23,498	50,000
Fort Madison	2,070	7,499
Iowa City	7,123	6,528
Keokuk	12,117	14,075
Linn	4,095	5,793
Marion	11,105	13,986
McMinnville	6,930	11,942
Muscatine	4,532	7,528
Oskaloosa	4,508	7,300
Otello	9,001	13,996
Sioux City	7,866	37,825
Waterloo	5,633	6,679

TOWNS.	1880	1890
Adrian	7,840	9,239
Alpena	6,153	11,228
Ann Arbor	8,061	5,051
Battle Creek	7,063	13,000
Big Rapids	20,630	27,826
Coldwater	4,681	5,403
Detroit	116,340	205,668
Flint	3,609	*8,000
Grand Rapids	32,016	61,347
Ironwood	6,039	11,184
Jackson	16,105	20,779
Kalamazoo	11,937	17,857
Lansing	8,319	12,782
Manistee	6,930	12,793
Marquette	4,690	9,036
Menominee	3,288	10,606
Midland	4,393	5,245
Michigan City	11,022	29,000
Michigan Center	1,102	2,500
Le Croix	14,505	25,000
Marquette	10,324	13,322
Manitowoc	0,367	7,528
Marinette	5,412	11,515
Menomonie	4,777	5,465
Milwaukee	118,987	261,450
Oconto	4,632	6,028
Oshkosh	15,748	22,753
Oneida	1,631	21,023
Port Huron	4,869	6,245