

raised at the expense of one of the controversialists, who makes a hasty retreat, pursued by the scoffs and jeers of the whole auditory, while his opponent, triumphantly claims the victory. All disputes and quarrels among these people are settled by this whimsical mode of duelling; and the wordy contest being over, the opposing parties are generally reconciled and as good friends as ever.

By the arrival of the annual ships at Upernavik, the Esquimaux residents were supplied with various articles of food which they covet exceedingly, particularly coffee, which they consume in great quantities when they have become accustomed to its use. It is fortunate for them that they have not the same passionate fondness for alcoholic liquor; but, as I have said before, they have no relish for any thing of the kind. As soon as the lading of the ship was deposited in the storehouse, the Esquimaux customers thronged to the place with the commodities for which they receive European productions in exchange. Soon after a fire was kindled before every tent, and scores of Esquimaux women were employed in the preparation of coffee. They make it very strong, and drink it without milk or cream of course, as these articles are not within their reach; but for the purpose of sweetening the beverage, they hold small pieces of sugar candy in their mouths as the Netherland ladies do



ESQUIMAUX AND HIS KYAIK.

when they drink tea. While their store of coffee lasts, they drink the liquid preparation ten or twelve times per day.

The Esquimaux of this settlement do not live in stone houses like