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THE CURIOUS RACE OF ARCTIC HIGHLANDERS.

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THE Arctic Highlanders, the most northern inhabitants of the globe, are not so called because they dwell in the high lands, but because of the high latitude in which they live. Like all other Eskimo tribes they cling to the coast. Their settlements, a few igloos (stone or ice-huts for winter), or tupics (sealskin tents for summer), are scattered from Cape York, $75^{\circ} 55'$, to Etah, $78^{\circ} 18'$, on the shores of Foulke Fiord. Though these people spread over a considerable territory, they number only about three hundred souls. Inglefield Gulf might be considered as the center of their settlements, each of which usually contains from two to a dozen families. These settlements are more permanent in summer than in winter, for in the summer the ice is continually breaking up so that the people cannot travel far with the dog sledges, which are their sole means of taking long journeys. They possess kayaks, it is true, but these are rude, clumsy, and ill-shaped, as compared with those of the Eskimos in central and southern Greenland. The latter have tight skin coats which fit them so closely

about the head and wrists, and are tied so tight about the rim of the kayak—the aperture which the kayaker enters—that no water can possibly get into the boat. But the Highlanders know not of such a garment, and so only go out in their kayaks when the sea is smooth. In fact, there are but two months in the year, July and August, when it is possible for these people to use their little boats, for during the remaining ten months the sea is for the most part covered with ice.

With dogs and sledges, however, the Highlanders are experts. The dogs were originally domesticated wolves, but since Kane and other explorers entered the country, taking dogs with them from Europe and America, the Eskimo wolf-dog has been mixed with other strains of blood. However, the wolfish nature still remains, and the dogs yelp and howl like wolves. Six dogs constitute an ordinary sledge team, and will pull a load weighing from three hundred to a thousand pounds, the condition of the snow and ice of course to be taken into consideration in loading. The sledges vary from three and a half to five and a half feet in length, and from sixteen to twenty-eight inches in width. The runners are generally made of a great number of