ESKIMO OF HUDSON'S STRAIT.

Many other religious customs common to the race were noticed, but as nothing dissimilar was seen in them it is needless to relate them as they have often been told before.

Although Mr. Rink has shewn the Eskimo are rich in legendry, only one legend that was at all connected could be understood by ourselves. This was told by Ugaluk, and ran as follows : Not many years ago there lived a Cubloonack, or whiteman, on the eastern shore of Hudson's Bay where there were lots of Inuite and a few Udlers, or Indians. This Cubloonack was a very bad man, and used to speak to a lot of them, and taught them to sing different songs. One day an Udler came into the village and the Cubloonack caught him and calling all the Inuite about him he tied the Udler to a stake, and piling weeds and brush about it burned him alive. Nearly every day he used to walk up a hill by a circuitous path and as he walked he sang songs, all the Eskimos following in procession and when they reached the top of the hill he would talk to them about the sky. One day when the procession had gone up half way the Inuite refused to go any further so the Cubloonack went on alone, and he was never seen again, but they were sure he went up to the sky.

It is to be regretted that owing to our time being taken up with other matters while in the Strait little can be added to our present knowledge of the language; it may be worth noting, however, that although there is so little communication between the north and south shore of the Strait there is greater similarity in the pronunciation than there is between those living at Cape Prince of Wales and Cape Chudleigh. The chief difference in all cases being the use or disuse of the final sound of k which is one of the main characteristics of the Eskimo language. As for instance at North Bluff the Eskimo say nannoo (bear) whilst at Cape Prince of Wales it is pronunced nannook.

Wonderful though it is that the language remains so intact, it does not seem to be generally known what communication there is between the Eskimo at one place and those at a distant part of the coast. Regarding this I can only instance the case of one man who, with his family, I met at Cape Prince of Wales. This man,