

Being pressed to eat some of it, they took a little, evidently from complaisance, and placed the rest in their canoes. Of rum, even when diluted with water, none of them would taste. Our party having determined the situation of the island in N. lat. $70^{\circ} 21' 57''$, W. long. by the chronometers $51^{\circ} 28' 33''$, variation of compass $80^{\circ} 59' 17''$ westerly, rowed over about two miles westward, to a low point of land, near two Esquimaux tents, or huts. The visitors showed much dexterity in launching and getting into their canoes, having first taken great care to place the old man safely in his. As soon as the boat's crew began to row, the Esquimaux began their former imitation of our *hurra*, give way, and as there was a little sea, their canoes, it was observed, could not have kept up with the boats.

When our party came in sight of the huts, the men, women, and children came out to meet them, calling out as loud as they could *pilletay*, (give me,) the only word that could be discovered in the uproar. The dogs, on the other hand, set off to the top of a hill, to avoid the strangers. The Esquimaux at this place consisted of the four men who had been on board the *Hecla*, and four women, one of them perhaps the wife of the old man, for she seemed of an equal age. The other women might be of about thirty, twenty-two, and eighteen years of age. The two eldest of these had infants in bags at their backs; besides whom seven children appeared from twelve to three or four years old. One of our officers offered an axe to a woman for a dog, and she went immediately with a halter of thongs, with which she brought back one of the finest of their pack. A bargain was supposed to be settled for a canoe belonging to the old woman, and the men were going to draw it down to the water; but she had been misunderstood, for she laid hold of the canoe with loud lamentations; nor would she part with it, although a larger price than before was offered for it.

In stature these Esquimaux are much below the ordinary size of human beings. The old man, although a little bent by age, measured 4 feet 11 inches; the other men from 5 feet 4 to 5 feet 6 inches. Faces round and full, complexion not very dark, teeth white, eyes small, nose broad but not flat, hair black and straight, hands and feet remarkably small. The women about 4 feet 10 or 11 inches, features regular, eyes small, black, and quick, teeth even and very white, hair deep black, spread over the shoulders. The youngest female displayed much natural reserve, probably unmarried, for she was not tattooed, as the others were. The dresses of both sexes made of seal-skin, consist of a jacker, with a hood for the head, and trowsers. The tents in which they pass the summer are chiefly supported by a pole of whalebone, fourteen feet high, set up perpendicularly, and reaching several feet

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