

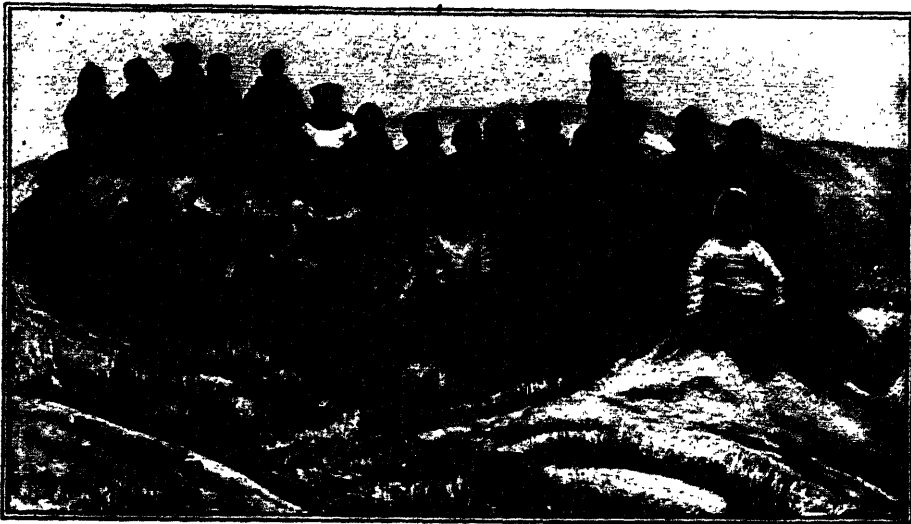
country, as do the Eskimos, to supply them with food and fuel and raiment, but upon supplies and equipments which they have carried with them from civilized communities.

It is interesting to study the way these Eskimos work out their problem of existence, the manner of life, and the peculiar customs which they have developed.

They eat almost nothing but flesh, with very little fish. Most of the meat is eaten raw and without salt. They do not eat blubber, as reported, nor do they drink oil. They enjoy a portion of fat, as we do; but for the most part eat the lean meat, with much gristle, bone, and cartilage, as well as the skins of animals, especially that of the whale, of which they are very fond and which they always take raw. After a little practice I did not object to the raw whale meat myself. It is a little tough and leathery, but a person with good teeth can grind it up by giving it more attention and power than is bestowed on a piece of

diet almost exclusively of meat, mostly eaten raw, would develop some peculiar and fierce traits of character. Animals such as the wolf, lion, hyena, tiger, et cetera, who live upon such diet, as a rule are lean, hungry, and savage. The American Indian who subsists on flesh, is treacherous and warlike in disposition. But on the contrary, the Arctic Highlanders are a most amiable people. They not only seldom quarrel but are of a kind and gentle disposition. They appear very happy in their marital relations, and though they swap wives now and then, this does not indicate any particular dissatisfaction among the parties concerned, and the original husband and wife will generally return to each other.

Love, such as is known as a potent influence in more southern climes, seems here to have little or nothing to do with tying the marital knot. But as the little blind god is always represented, to say the least, in an exceedingly light costume, it may be that the rigorous climate ex-



GROUP OF CHILDREN.

ordinary meat. After eating a meal of whale skin the appetite seems to be satisfied for at least twelve hours. Blubber is used for the most part for fuel, either being burned in the lamps in the igloos, to make heat and to melt ice, or it is mixed with moss and made to burn under a stone, for cooking or heating purposes.

It would naturally be supposed that a

cludes him from the arctic circle. Among the Highlanders, the women who are in the greatest demand for wives are the ones who are the best seamstresses, who can make the best garments, and who can clean and tan skins after the most approved fashion. On the other hand, those men are considered the most desirable husbands who are the best hunters, those who can capture the most seals and bears.