

## SAVED BY A SEAL.

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**I**N a certain Eskimo village, there once lived an old man who was so surly and grumpy that everybody feared and disliked him.

2. He hated the children, because they were happy, and he was miserable. When they were at play, he would sometimes steal up behind and cuff their heads or box their ears, just for the sake of making them cry instead of laugh.

3. He grumbled at the women and everything they did for him. He always spoke such bitter words to the men, that, after a while, he was left entirely to himself, and had no one to speak to and no one to care for him.

4. One morning this old man was standing upon the ice, watching some holes which could be seen dotted about here and there over its smooth surface. These were the breathing holes of the seals; for, as I should tell you, a seal must come to the surface now and again for fresh air.

5. The cross old fellow had his spear in his hand, ready to thrust at the first seal which should show its head above the ice; and he was keeping very, very quiet, lest he should frighten the seals away.

6. Now, on the shore near by, upon a ledge