

PONEKE FOOTBALL CLUB.

WE give a photo engraving this week of the famed Poneke Football Club, of Wellington, without question the strongest club in the colony. It furnished no less than six of the members of the New Zealand Representative team which visited Australia last season. The following are the names of those:—T. R. Ellison (Captain), D. R. Gage, W. T. Wynyard, A. J. Stuart, R. Oliphant, H. Botland.

PRINTED AMID THE ICE.

ONLY JOURNAL IN THE ARCTIC CIRCLE.

The *Esquimaux Bulletin* is the most unique newspaper in the world, and is the only journal published within the Arctic circle. It is printed at Cape Prince of Wales, Alaska, in latitude 64deg. 40min., and is issued only once a year. Cape Prince of Wales is a low sand spit running out just where the Behring Strait joins

ing from Port Hope, which has a sarcastic sound in such a desolate region.

School prosperous. Eight white bears have been killed. Mr Martin says there are no furs this winter. Captain Tilden thinks he will get his schooner out of the river all right in the spring. W. T. Lopp and wife were the guests of Dr. Briggs last week. Three Cape Prince of Wales families who tried to reach Point Barrow last summer are reported to be starving to death just north of Cape Lisburne.

In these few lines is conveyed the tidings of ONE OF THOSE TERRIBLE TRAGEDIES

of which the Arctic has been so prolific. The news from Port Clarence is characteristic:

Reindeer thriving. Superintendent Bruce's health is improving. Moses, an Indian boy from up the Youkon, is the latest arrival at the herding school. Mr Gibson made a trip with a dog sled to Golovin bay in March. N. P. Lopp made the station a flying visit in March.

The *Bulletin* contains one marriage announcement:

Lopp—Kittridge—August 22, 1892, by Rev. A. S. McAllan, W. T. Lopp to Miss Ellen Kittridge. [United States papers please copy.]

THE SOCIETY NEWS

has a familiar ring.

test against the sale of liquor to Indians. He says:

The liquor question in the Arctic is a question of self-protection to the white residents and the Esquimaux race. The missionary teachers have been shot at and their lives threatened by drunken men this year. When sober the natives are friendly. When drunk they want to avenge their relatives killed in the Gilly affair. One bottle of liquor might be the death of us all.

Directly underneath this vigorous passage are the following significant items of news.

Kluk-suh shot and killed Tugi-zins-ya-bok last fall. Both were drunk.

Last summer two Cape Prince of Wales citizens went to Indian Point, Siberia, for liquor to trade on Kats Sound and here during the winter.

The *Bulletin* has two illustrations, one of the schoolhouse and the other of a scene on the Behring Strait. The heading is also decorated with a drawing of an Esquimaux' head. As the paper is edited by the teacher, Mr Thornton, it is very probable that it is designed as an auxiliary to his instruction, as well as a circular letter to be sent abroad by the few white inhabitants of that far northern land. He is greatly interested in his work, and his sympathies are wholly enlisted for the Indians under his charge.

Mr Thornton has made a profound study of the Esquimaux language, and is engaged in compiling a dictionary of the Aleut tongue. During the progress of his studies he has made a singular discovery. The Greek and Sanscrit were the only languages heretofore known to have three



Kinsey, ph. t.

FIRST ROW.—H. HARK (Umpire), G. MILLWARD (10st. 7lb.), H. G. DAVISON (11st.), C. MCANNALLY (11st.), A. PENDER (13st. 12lb.), G. HUME (11st. 10lb.), A. BLACKLOCK (10st. 12lb.), G. BECK (11st.), P. BRODERICK (11st.), W. S. HOOD (Hon. Treas.). SECOND ROW.—P. COONEY (12st.), F. YOUNG (13st.), H. LEE (14st.), W. J. WHITE (Hon. Sec.—12st. 6lb.), T. R. ELLISON (Captain—13st. 8lb.), W. T. WYNYARD (Deputy-Captain—11st. 12lb.), J. KELLY (12st.), A. J. STUART (11st. 12lb.), A. B. PARDOE-THOMAS (12st. 2lb.). THIRD ROW.—J. PUDNEY (11st.), W. ROBERTS (11st. 2lb.), W. H. ARNOTT (11st. 7lb.), A. MOUNTNEY (10st. 10lb.). ABSENT MEMBERS OF THE TEAM.—R. OLIPHANT (12st.), D. R. GAGE (11st. 12lb.), H. BOTLAND (12st.).

PONEKE FOOTBALL CLUB—WELLINGTON.

Winners of Senior Championship, 1893.

THE ARCTIC OCEAN.

It is destitute of timber, and is about as barren and desolate a spot as could well be imagined. On it, however, is situated an Esquimaux village and a missionary school. The teacher is Harrison R. Thornton, a relative of Ex-Supreme Judge James D. Thornton, of San Francisco, from whom a copy of the last number of the *Bulletin* was procured. It is dated May 1, 1893.

The *Bulletin* is a small sheet 12 x 8 inches, printed on one side only, of stiff, white paper. It is printed by the hektograph process, which is simply a method of multiplying copies of writing. The writing is first made on paper with prepared ink, and is then impressed upon gelatine. From the gelatine impressions are taken on many other sheets. As there is practically one mail to and from Cape Prince of Wales during the year one issue of the paper during the period is quite sufficient.

This curious little paper contains a variety of news arranged under different heads. In mirifical imitation of the daily papers in other localities, it triumphantly carries at the head of its columns the legend,

'LARGEST CIRCULATION IN THE ARCTIC,'

and also the additional boast of 'Only yearly paper in the world.'

The headings are 'Local Items,' 'Rural Notes,' 'Society,' 'Fashion,' 'Marriage Notices,' 'Whisky in the Arctic' is the heading over an editorial. Every scrap of news is like a breath from the far north. As space is scanty, condensation is a fine art with the editor. He displays quite a fund of humour, too, and there is a strain of gentle playfulness in nearly everything he writes.

Under the head of 'Rural Notes' he chronicles the follow-

Mr and Mrs Thornton, of the East End, gave a dinner party in October. Among the invited guests were: Mr Bruce and Mr and Mrs Lopp.

Superintendent Bruce of Reindeer Station, and Mr Spencer of Norton Sound, spent ten days in town last March.

Mr and Mrs Lopp entertained Mr and Mrs Thornton at dinner Christmas.

The fashion notes have a decidedly original sound. Evidently they refer only to the native denizens of the Cape:

Took-toot-na has a new pair of safety-pin earrings.

Ke-rook sports two of Dr. Driggs' glass bottle-stoppers for labrets.

Kum-muk is out in new trousers of the finest flour-sack cloth.

A-ya-huk has a new overcoat of the fashionable dried peaches brand. He got the bugs from a ship.

From the local items it is learned that the winter was mild, the coldest day being 31 degrees below zero. The population of Cape Prince of Wales is stated at 527, and the average daily attendance at school was 100. One man netted forty seals in a single day last October. Tane-na has just purchased a new forty-foot canoe, and Mr and Mrs Thornton are preparing for the walrus hunt. Evidently there is some sport in that bleak land.

A few lines tell of a feat that must have been both dangerous and difficult.

A midwinter mail was carried from Point Hope to St. Michaels, a distance of 700 miles, on dog and deer sled.

The name of the hardy mail carrier is not even mentioned.

Think of travelling

700 MILES OVER THE ICE AND SNOW OF AN ARCTIC

WINTER MERELY TO CARRY THE MAIL!

Those people must hunger for news.

In his solitary editorial the editor makes a spiritual pro-

numbers—singular, plural and dual. Mr Thornton has discovered that the Aleut language also has three numbers. This he regards as a discovery of which philologists may well take note, as the origin of the Esquimaux has been the subject of much discussion and speculation. Mr Thornton is gathering a large quantity of material respecting the manners, customs, religious ideas, traditions and lingual peculiarities of the tribes of Alaska, which he will probably publish in book form.

FICTION 'A PEARL.'

[I am inclined to believe that fiction is a beautiful disease of the brain. Something, an incident or an experience, or a reflection gets imbedded, imprinted, in the properly constituted mind, and becomes the nucleus of a pearl of romance. See 'Stories and Story-Telling,' by Andrew Lang, in the *Illustrated* for August.]

A little grain of sand—a common grain That swelled th' uncounted millions of the shore, Drifted upon an oyster's marble floor, And there for years did secretly remain; Until (oh! fair reward of toil and pain!) Men saw a radiance through the open door,— When it abandoned shelter, prized before, And, as a beauteous pearl, came forth again. So, in the mind creative lies a thought,— A common incident of every day,— Till it becomes a pearl of fiction, rare, With subtle iridescent beauty fraught,— Which, raised from depths of silence where it lay, Sets all the little gapping world a-stare.

ALICE F. BARRY.