

ESQUIMAU AND PIGMY.*

IT is a strong, intelligent face, with marked Scandinavian features. that looks out from the frontispiece of Eivind Astrup's entertaining account of his Arctic experiences. He was but a boy of nineteen, unable to speak English, when he joined himself to Lieutenant Peary's first expedition in 1891. Looking at his portrait we do not wonder that his services were enlisted for the second expedition of 1893-94.

Aside from an account of the journey taken in company with Lieutenant Peary from Smith's Sound to Independence Bay, the young Norwegian leaves the reader to learn of the minutiae of the expeditions from his chief, for whom he seems to have unbounded admiration; but without pretense to scientific preparation or exhaustive treatment he sets forth information of great value. He cultivated the acquaintance of the northern Esquimaux, learned their language, lived with them, hunted with them, journeyed with them, drew from their reluctant lips their crude theological notions, examined their ethical status—in short, presents what we may accept as an accurate picture of life among these denizens of the extreme north.

It is a far cry from Greenland to the Congo, but there is a striking similarity between the work of Mr. Astrup and that of Captain Burrows. The latter, by recommendation of Mr. Stanley, entered the service of the King of Belgium in 1894, and served three years as an administrative officer of the Congo State. During these years he kept his eyes and ears open, and now makes good use of the information gained. He, too, speaks as a critical observer of the people among whom he lived, rather than as a traveler. He lets in a flood of light on the repellent subject of cannibalism, and of the Pigmy tribes he appears to have learned more than any professional explorer. He, too, tells his story in the plain, straightforward way of the man who is to be believed. It is interesting to note that the illustrations for both books were furnished by the authors, a matter of considerable mo-

* With Peary Near the Pole. By Eivind Astrup. Translated from the Norwegian. J. B. Lippincott Co. \$3.50.
'The Land of the Pigmies. By Capt. Guy Burrows. T. Y. Crowell & Co. \$3.00.

ment. And thus, without boast or pedantry, rather with commendable modesty, these two young men have made no small nor insignificant contribution to the anthropological data in their several fields of service.

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