

As we approach the 60th degree of latitude, the *elk*, the *marten*, the *sable*, the *beaver*, the *ermine*, animals covered with a rich and beautiful fur, which is eagerly sought after by man for purposes of comfort and luxury, and hence these frozen countries have become the region of an extensive fur trade. The most useful domestic animal in this climate is the *reinder*.

22. Name some of the largest animals of the frigid zones?

In the frigid zones the quadruped species again assume a fierce and formidable character. The *great white bear* roams over the fields of ice, and rushes boldly to the attack of man; the *walrus*, or *sea-horse*, rises amid the ice-bergs with his enormous tusks; and the mighty *whale* rolls through the sea, and mingles his frightful roarings with sound of the tempest.

METALS AND MINERALS.

23. Where are gold and silver found in greatest abundance?

Gold is usually found in a perfectly pure state at the foot of ranges of mountains, from which it is washed down by rivers. It is most abundant in California, South America, East and West Africa, and Australia. In 1866, a mass of gold, three feet long, and nearly pure, was taken from a quartz-mine, near Placerville in California. Canada also possesses gold mines which have been worked since some time, at St. François de la Beauce.

The richest silver mines are those of Mexico and Bolivia. Since the discovery of America, nine-tenths of all the silver in the world have come from these mines. Silver mines are found in all the states of South America.

24. Where are the most productive mines of iron and copper?