The Value and Banger of the Industry-A Picturesque Occupation With Large the Trade-The Various Species.

Rev. P. Tocque lately gave the Canadian Rev. P. Tocque lately gave the Canadian Institute, Toronto, an interesting account of the Newfoundland seal fishery. In the course of his paper he said that naturalists describe no less than 15 species of seals. The kind most plentiful and which pass along the coast of Newfoundland with the fold its are the phose Greenlandica, which along the coast of Newfoundiand which field ice, are the phoca Greenlandica, which is the technical or scientific name given to the harp or half-moon seal, who frequent the coast of Terre Neuve or Newfoundiand. is the technical or scientific name given to the harp or half-moon seal, who frequent the coast of Terre Neuve or Newfoundland. About the last of the month of February these seals whelp, and in the northern seas deposit millions of their young on the glassy surface of the frozen deep. At this period they are covered with a coat of white fur, slightly tinged with yellow. I have seen these "white coats" lying six and eight on a piece of ice, resembling so many lambs enjoying the solar rays. They grow very rapidly, and in about three weeks after their bith begin to cast their white coat. They are now captured, being killed by a stroke across the head with a bat, gaff or boat-hook. At this time they are in prime condition, the fat being in greater quantity and containing purer oil than at a later period of their growth. It appears to be necessary to their existence that they should pass a considerable time in repose on the ice; and during this state of helplessness we see the goodness of Providence in providing these amphibious creatures with a thick coat of fur, and a superabundant supply of fat as a defence from the intense cold of the ice and the northern blasts. Sometimes, however, numbers of them are gound frozen in the ice. When one year gound frozen in the ice.

other, it must participate in the nature of the former, and consequently live much longer than the latter." The Newfound-

which can be innated at pleasure. When menaced or attacked the hood is drawn over the face and eyes as a defence. The female is not provided with a hood. An old dog-hood is a very formidable animal. The male and female are generally found teresting, and if the famale happens. found together, and if the female happens to be killed first, the male becomes furi-ous. Somtimes ten or a dozen men have been engaged upwards of an hour in de-spatching one of them. I have known a half a dozen handspikes to be broken in en-deavoring to kill one of these dog-heads. They frequently attack their assailants, and snap off the handles of the gaffs as if they were cabbage stalks. When they inthey were cabbage stalks. When they in-flate their hoods it is very difficult to kill

SHOT DOES NOT PENETRATE THE HOOD, and unless the animal can be hit somewhere about the side of the head it is almost a

winter. Numbers are taken during the winter in seal nets. Winter in seal nets.

The square fipper, which is perhaps the great seal of Greenland (phoca barbata), is

great seal of Greenland (phoca barbata), is now seldom seen.

The walrus (trichocus rosmarus), sometimes called sea horse or sea-cow, is now seldom met with. Formerly this species of seal was frequently captured on the ice. This animal resembles the seal in its body and limbs, though different in the form of its head, which is armed with two tusks, sometimes 24 inches long, consisting of coarse ivory; in this respect much like an elephant. The under jaw is not provided with any cutting or canine teeth, and is compressed to afford room for the tusks,

it is killed. THE FLESH OF THE SEAL is frequently eaten; the heart and kidneys The first thing that occurs in Newfoundland to break the winter's torpor is the bustle and activity attending the outfitting of vessels for the seal fishery. In its prosecution are combined a spirit of commercial enterprise, a daring hardihood and intrepidity almost without parallel. The interest of every individual, from the richest to the poorest, is interwoven with it—from the poorest, is interwoven with it—from the bustling and enterprising merchant that, with spy-glass in hand, paces his wharf, sweeping ever and anon the distant horizon for the first view of his returning ship, to the little broom-girl that creeps along the street, hawking her humble comalong the street, hawking her humble com modity. The return of the seal hunters remodity. The return of the seal hunters reminds one of Southey's poems, "Madoc" and "Roderic the last of the Goths."

The seal fishery of Newfoundland has assumed a degree of importance far surpassing the most sanguine expectations of those who first embarked in the enterprise, and has now become one of the greatest source. has now become one of the greatest sources PRIVATE MEDICAL DISPENSARY f wealth to the country. In the com mencement the seal fishery was prosecuted

in large boats, which sailed about the midin large boats, which sailed about the mid-ile of April, and as its importance began to be developed, schooners of from 30 to 50 tons were employed, which sailed on the 17th of March. In 1845 the number of tailing vessels employed was 350, from 60 to 150 tons, manned by 12,000 men. The time spent on the voyage was from two to six weeks. The sailing vessels have now been mostly superseded by steamers from 300 to 100 tons, earrying from 150 to 280 men nach. In 1891, 19 steamers were engaged in the seal fishery. One steamer brought in 8,000 young harps the first trip and 18,000 old seals the second trip. The total value of both trips estimated at \$132,000 old some of the steamer brought.

in from 20,000 to 40,000 seals. of seals are taken in seal nets in winter and spring. A few years ago 150,000 seals were taken to the shore by persons who had walked on the ice in some of the nerthern bays of the island. Some years ago the ic

PACKED AND JAMMED SO TIGHT in some of the bays for several weeks that the seals on it could find no opening to go down, and numbers of them crawled upon an island, when some people happened to land upon the island and discovered them; 1,500 seals were there slaughtered among the bushes. Seals have been known to craw

1,500 seats were there staughtered among the bushes. Seals have been known to crawl several miles over land. The number of seals taken yearly on the coast of Newfoundland is from 400,000 to 600,000, producing, commercially, no less a sum than \$1,500,000. The seals are sold by weight. The young are sold at from \$4 to \$6 and the old at from \$4 to \$5 per cwt. The price, however, is regulated by the value of the oil in the British market. A young

sought after at a distance of the providing these amphibious creatures with a thick coat of fur, and a superabundant supply of fat as a defence from the intense cold of the ice and the northern blasts. Sometimes, however, numbers of them are found frozen in the ice. When one year old these seals are called "bedhamers," and the seals are called "bedhamers," of the back, which form the harp or half moon, and the male does not show this mark until two years old. The voice of the seal resembles that of the dog, and when a vessel is in the midst of myriads of these acreatures, their barking and howling sounds like that of so many dogs, literally driving away sheep during the night. The general appearance of the seal is not unlike that of the dog, where some have

CALLED IT THE SEA DOG.

sea wolf, etc. These seals seldom bring forth more than one, and never more than two, at a litter. They are said to live to a great age. Sometimes a stray one is caught in a net, reduced to a mere skeleton, with teeth all gone, which is attributed to old age. Buffon, the great French naturalist says: "The time that intervenes between their birth and their full growth being many years, they, of course, must live very long. I am of opinion that these animals live upwards of a century, for we know that cetaceous animals in general live longer than quadrupeds; and, as the seal fills up the chasm between the one and the other, it must participate in the nature of the former, and consequently live much the seal is defented to a superish to gether. They were found the former, and consequently live much the chasm between the one and the other, it must participate in the nature of the former, and consequently live much the chasm between the one and the other, it must participate in the nature of the former, and consequently live much the content in the proper in the guident and the proper in the and sometimes vessel and ew perish to-

longer than the latter. The Newfoundland seals probably visit the Irish coast. A number of seals were killed on the west coast of Ireland in 1856, among them the old harp, and Sir William Logan gives an account of the skeleton of this kind of seal having been found embedded in the clay around Montreal 40 feet deep.

The phoca cristata, or hooded seals, are so called from a piece of loose skin on the head, which can be inflated at pleasure. When menaced or attacked the hood is The Newfoundland seal is different from

The Horse Power of a Whale. The horse power of a whale has been made a subject of study by the eminent anatomist, Sir William Turner, of the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, in conjunction with the equally eminent Glasgow shipbuilder, John Henderson. The size and dimensions of a great finner stranded sever dimensions of a great finner stranded several years ago on the shore at Longriddy furnished the necessary data for a computation of the power necessary to propel it at a speed of twelve miles an hour. This whale measured eighty feet in length, twenty feet across at the flanges of the tail, and weighed seventy four tons. To attain a speed of ed seventy-four tons. To attain a speed of twelve miles per hour it was calculated that 145 horse power was necessary.

hopeless case to attempt to kill him. They are very large, some of their pelts which I have measured being from 14 to 18 feet in length. The young hoods are called "blue backs." Their fat is not so thick nor so pure as that of the harps, but their skins are of greater value. They also breed further to the north than the harps and are generally found in great numbers on the outer edge of the ice. They are said not to be so plentiful and to cast their young a few weeks later than the harps.

The harbors seal (phoca vitulina) frequents the harbors of Newfoundland summer and winter. Numbers are taken during the Handsome Spiders.

unfortunate captive. Better Than a Post Card.

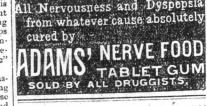
A contributor to a New York paper says compressed to afford room for the tusks, projecting downwards from the upper jaw.

A contributor to a New York paper says:

"I met a hotel chambermaid the other day Drojecting cownwards from the upper jaw. It is a very large animal, sometimes measuring 20 feet long, and weighing from 500 to 1,000 pounds. Its skin is said to be an inch thick, and covered with short yellowish brown hairs. What is called the seal is the skin with the fat or blubber attached, the carcase being left on the ice where ed, the carcase being left on the ice where teeth upon which the strain was the greatest."

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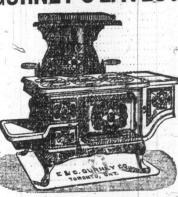
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