

internal resource for a supply, during periods when no other available supplies of food are procurable from external sources, the animals of the arctic regions would speedily become frozen, remaining like marble statues fixed on the surface of the fields of ice and snow.

A most remarkably abundant provision of fatty, and oily matter, formed from hydrogen and carbon, is found in the blubber which envelops the bodies of the sto red-up whales like a thick blanket. The philosophy of this surprising provision of available food and fuel, accumulated in these large fishes, admits of the following explanation. It appears that whales, in ranging from one feeding-ground to another, sometimes have to cross broad oceans. Without an extraordinary supply of carbon, provided like a stock of coals in the bunkers of a steamer, for sustaining continuous combustion during a long voyage, the whales might fail in exerting a motive power sufficient to propel their great bodies through the waters of the great oceans. Whales have been captured from whose bodies more than two hundred barrels of oil have been extracted. As spermaceti and cetine contain above 90 per cent. of carbon and hydrogen, one of these fishes, therefore, carries with him about ten tons of combustible fuel, which is ready at all times to become absorbed and burnt, whenever this leviathan of the deep desires to develop powerful impulses of motive power, and rises to the surface of the ocean, to draw in a long breath of air, containing the requisite quantity of oxygen to burn his supply of carbon, and to allow it to recoil to its natural condition of carbonic acid gas. The more a whale exerts his locomotive powers, the oftener it is necessary for him to breathe, or "blow," as the whalers term it.

As amid abundant granaries and well-stored market-houses where there is little danger of falling short of a due supply of daily food, it is manifest that in the economy of nature there is no real necessity for this extraordinary supply of a surplus stock of carbonaceous fuel, enveloping the ribs of human beings.

The hump on the back of the camel—the locomotive engine of the wild deserts of Asia and Africa—may be deemed by the superficial observer as a deformity, or as a sort of natural saddle, ready prepared to bear the impositions of loads of merchandise, and thus stamping this animal as a "beast of burthen," apparently by the original design of the Creator. But this uncouth appendage, so far from being designed expressly for the purpose of a saddle, does really subserve the more essential purpose of a knapsack of providence, to supply from this superabundant deposit of fat, which principally composes the hump, the carbon necessary for propelling the locomotive mechanism of his body across the wide wastes of land, where no blade of grass is found to replenish his exhausted supplies of carbonaceous food. A surplus supply of water is similarly provided in the extraordinary sacs of his stomach, as a substitute for the tank applied to an artificial locomotive engine.

Adventurous mariners navigate their barks among the icebergs of the polar regions, to procure the valuable store of fat organized into the bodies of the whale, of the seal, and walrus, which they transport to marts of commerce for distribution, for the purpose of being burned as fuel in the lamps, instead of in the lungs, the purpose for which it was originally designed. Men strip off the fur and down from the bodies of animals, whose breasts, exposed by submersion into icy water, and to keen wintry winds, require these non-conducting coverings, to sustain the animal heat generated by combustion in their bodies. These prized spoils of soft downs and furs are appropriated as a covering to sustain the same genial excitation within the glowing bosom of a civilized belle. In the colder bosom of an esquimaux belle, residing in a crystal palace, and beneath a dome built of blocks of ice, not only are these soft external appliances of robes of fur necessary for sustaining a genial glow of life's warm current, but also the most extraordinary combustion of fatty, oily matter in her lungs. One of these