

Young People's Department.



CREATURES OF NORTHERN SEAS.

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IT is a curious thing to think sometimes how some animals live. In the South, in nice warm countries, it is not so strange; but in the north, where it is nearly always bitterly cold, where there are great, big blocks of ice floating about in the waters, and where scarcely anything will grow on land, it does seem a wonder how anything can live at all. Yet God has made the animals in such a way that they can live no matter how great the cold. They are covered with good, thick fur, which keeps the frost out, and their lungs are made so that the keen, sharp air does not hurt them. Indeed, there are some animals which can only live in very cold places. The polar bear, for instance, is most wretched when brought down to warmer lands. Men go to the Arctic regions because of these creatures, for their skins are found to

be of so much value. What a beautiful thing, for instance, is a sealskin jacket! How happy a girl or lady feels when she gets one! How beautiful, how glossy, and how warm it is! Yet there are thousands of creatures, floating about on the ice and plunging into frozen waters, with those lovely jackets on them which they never bought. God gave them to them for their clothing. Yet it is dear clothing for them after all, for men are killing them all the time to rob them of their coats! Men kill the seals by striking them with clubs. The poor little creatures when they are struck cry like children, and look up at the men who are killing them with their large, beautiful eyes, so pitifully that the men themselves shed tears while they strike. It is right, of course, to kill them, for the dumb animals were given for the use of man; but how wonderful are the works of God! In wisdom has He made them all.