

an enemy, to kill one of them. Their strength is so great, that they have been seen to kill a large Bison, and seizing him with their teeth, drag him up a steep hill. When full grown and fat, they sometimes weigh as much as 1,800 lbs.

Old Adams, or as he was better known under the euphonious title of Grizzly Adams, devoted many years' of his life to the trapping and taming a number of these animals; the account of his hair-breadth escapes is full of the most marvellous exploits, but the result in the number of Grizzly Bears in subjection, in his menagerie, being chained only to posts, and not in cages, shows what man can do by toil and perseverance.

The following notes of the habits and character of this animal, were transmitted to the writer, by Capt. R. B. Marcy, U.S.A., whose name is well known among men of Science. "This Bear is, in some respects, the most sagacious animal I have ever met with. Before lying down, he goes several hundred yards in the direction from which the wind comes, then turns around and goes back some distance with the wind, but at a short distance from the first track, after which, he makes his bed and lies down. Should an enemy now come upon his track, he must approach him with the wind, and with the bear's keen sense of smell he is certain to be made aware of the approach before he is himself seen, and thus is enabled to make his escape.

"When pursued, the grizzly bear sometimes takes refuge in a cave, and the hunters then endeavour, by making a dense smoke at the entrance, to drive him out; but instead, he frequently, when the smoke becomes too oppressive, approaches the fire, and with his fore paws beats upon it until it is extinguished, then returns into the back part of the cave."

"Yet another anecdote was related by a Delaware Indian, which goes far to prove this curious animal, one of the most stupid in the brute creation. He says, that when the Bear enters a cave, it sometimes becomes necessary for the hunter to take his rifle, and with a torch to guide him, follow Bruin in. One would imagine this a very hazardous undertaking, and that the Bear would soon eject the intruder; but on the contrary, he sits upright upon his haunches, and with his fore paws covers his face and eyes until the light is removed. In this way the hunter is enabled to approach very close without danger, and taking deadly aim with his trusty rifle, poor Bruin is no more.

As a set off, however, to this stupidity, an acquaintance of mine, an old Bear hunter from the frontier of Texas, removed to California, and shortly after his arrival there, went out to hunt a "Grizzly," and followed one of them into a dense thicket, where he came upon him and gave him the contents of his rifle. No sooner had he done this, however, than the Bear turned upon him, and in a few minutes literally tore him in pieces."

The next species is the Polar Bear, (*ursus maritimus*), met with far up among the icebergs of the Arctic Seas, and peculiar to those regions, being found only along the sea coasts of the North, where it is so common that no voyager to those regions, returns without being able to give more or less vivid or frightful accounts of its power or ferocity. To most other animals, cold is distressing; to him it is welcome and delightful. In captivity, it seems to suffer much

from heat, and its restlessness, from this cause, can only be quieted by keeping it supplied with a water-tank, or by throwing repeated pails of water over it. His prey, for the most part, consists of Seals, Fish, and the carcases of Whales; his scent is very acute. He is a capital swimmer, catching Seals in the water, and diving in search of Fish, when not otherwise satisfied. He is often found miles from land, floating on the Arctic Ice, from which he swims to the shore, without difficulty.

In the Walrus he meets with a fierce enemy; the dreadful combats that occur, at times, between them, generally terminating in the defeat of the Bear. This animal is able to live exclusively, on vegetable food, as has been proved by experiments; his carnivorous habits, probably, depending on the circumstances of his situation, and the absence of vegetation in his haunts. Their fore paws are frequently rubbed bare, this is accounted for, as follows:—to surprise a Seal, a Bear crouches down with his fore paws doubled under him, and pushes himself forward with his hind legs, till within a few yards, when he springs on his victim, either in the water or on the ice.

The Greenlanders never eat the heart or the livers, saying that these parts cause sickness. It is a curious fact, that the liver of this animal is, to a certain extent, poisonous,—a circumstance unknown in almost every other animal. This fact was noticed by Barentz, who nearly lost three sailors by eating it, and it has since been verified by Capt. Ross.

## THINGS NOTABLE IN THE CITY OF MONTREAL AS THEY STRIKE THE EYE OF THE PASSING STRANGER.

(Continued.)

A cosmopolitan cannot take up the Montreal daily newspapers, and con over the "city items," together with the reports of the Police and Recorder's Courts, without being impressed with the painful feeling, that the hands of the dial are being turned backward.

One day the singular fact is recorded, that a farmer or country dealer has been brought up before the Court, tried and convicted of selling a piece of beef, or perchance a pig's head, sparrow, or tail, outside of the walls of the Corporation shop.

The fact of his having paid the market toll before exposing the said articles for sale, is no reply. The offence of selling the people's food by any party not embraced in the Corporation Patent of Monopoly, is far too serious to be condoned by the pre-payment of Corporation dues, though professedly imposed for that purpose. In the sale of butcher's meat, fish, poultry, and vegetables, the interests of the purchasers are entirely ignored, and the whole system is regulated with a view to the special benefit of two conspiring par-