

alike relating itself to the economic appliances of science in the telegraphic lines of daily commercial intercourse, and bearing its part in the grand triumphs of intellect by which we reach forth to grasp at truths written for us in the central sun, in the revolving planets, and amid the wondrous galaxy of stars that stretch away in mysterious magnificence into the infinite depths of space, until imagination and reason tremble alike in the vain effort to conceive of a finitude for that visible Universe, by which the heavens declare the glory of God, and nightly utter knowledge of Him who alone is truly infinite.

But the subsidiary labours already referred to in connection with the Atlantic Telegraphic expedition bring us into relation with another branch of scientific labour in which Canada maintains a no less efficient staff of workers. The novel and interesting truths of Natural History revealed by the deep-sea soundings conducted under the guidance of Sir Leopold McClintock and Dr. Wallich, not only greatly enlarge the sphere of organic life, and open up an ample field for fresh explorations of the naturalist in those deep zones of the ocean which have hitherto been assumed to present conditions incompatible with organic life: but they are calculated to throw fresh light on the palæontology of the long emerged terra firma; and, with their accumulated calcareous shells of the minute Foraminifera, amounting, in some of the specimens of soil brought up from the profound depths of the ocean bed, to 95 per cent. of the whole mass; and their highly organized and brilliantly tinged living radiata and mollusca: to illustrate the processes by which vast strata which now invite the study of the geologist, were slowly accumulated in the abysses of the primeval ocean.

The distinguished geologist who so honorably presides over the labours of our provincial corps of observers, and whose former occupancy of this chair reflects an honor on the humblest of his successors, is peculiarly devoid of that ambition which, among scientific workers on both sides of the Atlantic, is seen to tempt some from the patient fidelity to their legitimate pursuits, in the search for showy but often worthless disclosures that win the temporary meed of vulgar applause. He rather exhibits to us in a preeminent degree the example of a modest and patient searcher after those hidden truths of nature, the full worth of which will only be fully appreciated when other generations have entered into his labours; and it is then seen how largely such earnest and faithful verification of the thousand isolated facts of