from those of animal nutrition, and involve very simple compounds, yet that the protoplasm of plants is not absolutely prohibited from availing itself of food, such as that by which the protoplasm of animals is nourished, under which point of view these phenomena of carnivorous plants will find their place, as one more link in the continuity of nature.

NOTE ON CARNIVOROUS PLANTS.—Mr. Andrew Murray writes to the *Gardener's Chronicle* that he has, within the last few weeks, made some observations at the Ochil Hills, Kinrossshire, on *Pinguicula* and *Drosera*, with reference to the fly-digesting powers they are asserted to possess. He states that he found the leaves of *Pinguicula* close, quite independently of a fly being in them or not. "The leaves are found with their margins in all stages of curling over, some with no insect on them much more curled over than others with several." The secretion which Dr. Hooker states kills a captured insect, he finds is glutinous, and he believes it does not fall on to the insect, but that death results from the secretion adhering to and closing up the spiracles by which the insect breathes. With regard to *Dionæa* he suggests that it should be carefully noted (1) whether the secretion is never present until after an insect has been captured; (2) whether it is always present after one has.—*Nature*.

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