

er notes the number of turns of the reel. In an hour this messenger of man's ingenuity makes its excursion through five miles of watery waste to the abysmal regions of perfect repose, and brings to the light of day the soil with which the rain of shells of minute infusorial organism from the upper waters has been for ages mantling the ocean's floor. Here and there a giant peak rising from these sunless depths lifts his head to see the sky, and the dredge and trawl tell us that along his rugged sides, and on the hills and plains below and even in the inky blackness and the freezing cold of the deepest valleys there is life.—*Detroit Free Press.*

THE SAULT STE. MARIE CANAL.—As triumphs of engineering skill, the lock and the canal are superior to anything of the kind in the world. But in addition to their substantial magnificence of construction, they give us an all-Canadian waterway to Lake Superior, and provide an avenue of traffic to the great North-West the value of which can be judged of only by those who are familiar with the shipping trade of the great lakes.

GOHMA LAKE.—High up in the Himalayas there is a gorge whose steep sides are 4,000 feet high, and through this gorge runs one of the tributaries of the Ganges. Last September one of the sides of the gorge slipped down and made a natural dam 900 feet high across the course of the stream. The result was that a lake was formed three miles long and 500 feet deep. Since that time the water has risen steadily at the rate of two feet a day, and finally carried away early in September 1894 the upper part of this dam. This enormous body of water swept through the upper Ganges, but the measures taken by the Eng-

lish Government to prevent a great loss of life exhibited in a striking manner the practical mercy of the British rule as compared with the carelessness of the natives themselves. The lake was watched day and night by engineers and a special line of telegraph wire laid from the lake to give instant warning to the towns on the upper Ganges, so that not one life was lost by the flood. The new lake thus formed is called Gohmalake.—*The Mail.*

MOUNT ST. ELIAS ON BRITISH SOIL.—THREE RIVAL PEAKS—The party that has been engaged in surveying the boundary line between Alaska and the British possessions has returned to Washington. The main body of the great region bought from Russia is definitely located on the 141st meridian. One of the most important results was to settle that Mount St. Elias was not on United States soil. Its height was found to be 18,023, or considerably higher than the estimate of several exploring parties. The most astonishing thing was the discovery of two, if not three, other mountains farther inland on British territory that are higher than the famous saint's mountain. Of these, Mount Logan is 19,534 feet high, and there are two other nameless peaks that overreach Mount St. Elias by several feet.—*Our Times.*

Build thee more stately mansions, O
my soul,
As the swift seasons roll,
Leave thy low-vaulted past,
Let each new temple, nobler than the
last,
Shut thee from heaven with a dome
more vast,
Till thou at length art free,
Leaving thine outgrown shell by life's
unresting sea.

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.