

the competition of the rest of the organic world, and against the incidence of destructive inorganic forces, by a ceaseless struggle for survival; and for the successful pursuit of this struggle, very many devices are employed by different animals. Some owe their safety to their speed and agility in escaping pursuit; some to the strength and formidable weapons which enable them to repel; some to defensive armour which renders them invulnerable to their foes; some are protected by an appalling stench, which repels attack; others by the acrid taste of their skin or their bodies, which renders attack distasteful; many depend on concealment, many on the inaccessibility of their haunts, many on parasitism on some larger and more efficient host. Some forms of life survive by reason of their enormous and astounding fertility, which speedily supplies whatever inroads are made in their numbers; others, by reason of their high intelligence, which enables them to evade or overcome adversaries far superior in speed and strength. The tricks, devices, and stratagems that are pressed into the service of survival are endless and innumerable; but, of all methods that have been tried, none is