

She will tell how every stagnant pool and every slimy puddle is peopled by countless myriads of living creatures, to whom a water-drop is a vast dominion, and a day a lifelong age.

She will tell how at the bottom of the ocean, unmoved by the fiercest blasts of the tempest, unswayed by the rush of the mightiest tidal wave, lies the oozy mother of all living things, slow pulsing to and fro with earth's possession, each mighty throb lasting 26,000 years!—*J. C. Glashan.*

THE POWER OF GROWTH.

THERE is no human engineering which can compare in power with the silent machinery of a growing forest. It has been estimated that the physical energy of the sap in the plant is four times that of the blood in man. Prof. Clark, of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, has recently succeeded in measuring the power of growth of a squash. He harnessed it in iron, put it in prison, and gave it a weight to lift. The squash, thus harnessed, was placed in a box in such a way that it could only grow by pushing upward and lifting a long lever with weights suspended on it. On Aug. 21st it was lifting 60 pounds; Sept. 15th it was lifting 1,400 pounds; Oct. 18th, 3,120 pounds; Oct. 31st, 5,000 pounds. How much more it could have carried is not known, for at this time the iron harness cut into the rind of the squash, thus putting an end to the experiment. There is, to our imagination, something grand in the thought of a force so vast, so almost incalculable, exerted without noise, and apparently far exceeding the ordinary exigencies of the plant. In every acre of well-cultivated ground a power is silently at work, which transcends man's mightiest machines by almost as much as the infinite transcends the finite.—*Illustrated Christian Weekly.*

WE should often turn our thoughts upon ourselves, and look into that part of the wallet which men commonly sling behind their backs that they may not see their own faults.