The weight of more than ten tons of earth annually passes through that body and is brought to the surface. It may then be seen what a wonderful process is in operation; but we have yet to carry on.

The land they turn over is fertilized by the process, and its particles are made sufficiently minute to be absorbed by the soil, and to form the basis of the vegetable life of various sorts of plants. It is clear that the channels they dig through the soil also serve an important purpose in ventilation, in natural drainage, and in admitting oxygen and carbonic acid to the roots lying at a depth beneath the surface.

There is much more which Mr. Darwin shows us to the mighty results which worms have achieved in the process of denudation and fertility. They can be seen with minute and almost loving care regarding their habits, and all the intelligence, skill, and forethought that is shown in their modes of work, which cannot fail to charm and interest the reader. One of the most entertaining and instructive scientific books ever published is Mr. Darwin's new work. The origin of species.
As long as we have under our eye specimen of all the successive modifications, we are guarded against regarding them as all real new species. But, supposing that all the links could be lost, and that we saw for the first time nothing but the original and the most and furthest carried variation of all, our ideas on the subject would be very different, and free from the prejudices of new unwarriedly infected. That this occurs in nature in the struggle for existence is of the very essence of Mr. Darwin's theory, which is so fully and carefully defined in the "Origin of Species," and to be dwell upon still more fully in the promised works of which we have spoken. We must not attempt to understand or interpret life, but at once adopt the theory of this most original and conscientious student of nature, it is simply impossible to deny that the facts and the results are valuable contributions towards that broader study of the creation which the most modern school of philosophers are only now commencing.