

NEW WORK BY MR DARWIN.--Mr John Murray has just published a new work by Mr Darwin, titled "Movements of Plants." It continues the investigations described in "Movements and Habits of Climbing Plants," and its purpose is to show that plants and animals are under the operations of the same great laws. Most of the fancied peculiarities of the latter are shown to be shared by the former. Plants move, they are sensitive, they have appetites, they are carnivorous. We learn from this new book how they sleep, how certain leaves, like beasts of prey, rise in the evening and sink in the morning, and how there are plants which take pains to avoid intense light. Mr Darwin demonstrates that plants and animals have acquired habits of moving at stated periods, and that many of the actions of the former closely resemble the unconscious movements of the latter. The tips of the radicles of plants are so sensitive, their influence on all adjoining parts is so great, that, Mr Darwin tells us, they act like the brains of the lower animals. In short, Mr Darwin has shown, to the discomfiture of old notions, that unity reigns where it was imagined there were diversity and confusion, and his new volume helps to complete the revolution he has for years been working in the domain of botany.