of its structure can be deciphered in thin, polished sections of Laurentian limestones and serpentines, when carefully examined under the microscope. These beings have been entombed in Canadian soil, and we have again to thank the energy and ability of the Canadian geologists for this modern revelation. The microscopic examinations have been chiefly made by Dr. Dawson, of Montreal, and have been fully corroborated by Dr. Carpenter, of London, England.

As might be expected, this being belongs in the very lowest rank of God's creatures. It is classed with the Foraminifera, in the group of Protozoa. It was related to the nummulite, whose skeletons have contributed so largely to the material of the Pyramids—monuments which perpetuate the memory equally of nummulites and Egyptian monarchs. It was related, also, to the little disc-like forms called *Orbitoides*, so abundant in the white limestone of the southern portion of the "Gulf States." Indeed, the kindred of this primeval forerunner of animal forms have been permitted to maintain existence in all seas, and in all ages, down to the present day. The type came upon the earth when nothing could dispute its pre-eminence. It has claimed a place among the ranks of higher animals in the ascending series, and does not shrink even from the face of man. Nay, the type maintains a foothold in the stagnant pools that gather upon the surface of the land, where man asserts peculiar supremacy. It demands our reverence for its antiquity. Let us pay it our respects.

Gazing through the microscope into a drop of water from some standing pool, our attention would scarcely be arrested by the sight of a little shapeless lump, which is as soft, and jelly-like, and inanimate, to all appearance, as any thing can be. But this is our Protozoan. It may be the species upon which science has imposed the name *Amœba*