was brocht me at Aberdene.' I may add to this notice of the old chronicler, that up to a comparatively recent period, ornaments of amber, especially amber beads of large size, or, as they were termed by our ancestors, 'lamour beads,' were highly valued by the humbler Scotch. That mysterious attractive property which resided in this gem-like resin, and which has since been found pregnant with that wonderful science to which the substance has given its Greek name, *electrum*, threw a halo of mystery around it, that served to enhance its native beauty. The Laird of Dumbiedykes was, it must be confessed, neither a very fervent nor very poetical lover; but a lover he was; and yet he could find nothing more apt with which to compare the eyes of his mistress, when turned upon him in her gratitude, than to beads of amber. 'Dinna ye think,' said the laird, 'puir Jeanie's e'en, wi' the tears in them, glanced like lamour beads, Mr. Saddletree?'

To the geologist this precious gum of the Tertiary ages is fraught with a peculiar interest, from the circumstance that it forms the best of all matrices for the preservation of organisms of the more fragile kinds. Mosses, fungi, and liverworts, are plants of so delicate a structure, that they are rarely or never preserved in shale or stone; but specimens of all three have been found locked up in amber in a state of the most perfect keeping. And, besides containing fragments of the pine which produced it, it has been found to contain minute pieces of four other species of pine, with bits of cypresses, yews, junipers, oaks, poplars, beeches, etc.,—in all, forty-eight different species of shrubs and trees, which must have flourished in the forests where it grew, and which, 'viewed in the group, may be regarded as constituting,' says Professor Göppert, 'a flora of a North American character.' You will of course remark how directly this evidence bears on that of Professor Agassiz. The most remarkable organisms of the amber, are, however, its insects,—a kind of