researches have been unremitting, I have obtained but few fossil plants that will admit of satisfactory conclusions as to their original structure. I shall restrict my present remarks to a brief account of the principal varieties, and the circumstances under which they occur.

Entire layers of the calciferous grit of Tilgate Forest are so full of minute portions of carbonaceous



TAB. 72.—Sphenopteris Mantellii. Tilgate forest. (A fossil fern peculiar to the wealden.)

matter,* as to acquire a dark mottled colour; and upon examining the imbedded particles, they appear

* Fossils of Tilgate Forest, Plate 3, fig. 6.