

colonist of the coral islands. The fossil fruit was found in the inferior oolite, near Charmouth, and is now in Dr. Buckland's collection. It is of the size of a large orange, and is covered by a stellated rind, or epicarpium, composed of hexagonal tubercles, forming the summits of cells which occupy the entire surface of the fruit.* The fossil plants discovered in the oolitic system comprise four marine species, thirty-nine terrestrial cryptogamia, and forty belonging to coniferæ and other tribes.

The Wealden contains abundance of coniferæ and plants allied to the cycadeæ. One of its ancient forests preserved in stone, and in which the trees still occupy their original position, has been already submitted to our notice. Equiseta, ferns, cycadeæ, and plants allied to the palm, dracæna, thuya, and yucca, occur in Tilgate forest; at Hoër, in Scania, M. Adolphe Brongniart has discovered a similar flora.†

In the chalk we have the fruits and stems of

* Dr. Buckland's Bridgewater Essay, p. 503.

† Professor Römer, in his *Versteinerungen des Nord deutschen Oolithen-Geberges* (Hanover, 1836), points out the existence of the *Wealden* in Hanover, where it occupies a considerable area to the north of the Porta Westphalica, including the coal-field of Bückeberg, the impure coal of which is analogous to our Sussex lignite strata. After stating that this formation, which has a thickness of about 800 feet, lies upon the oolite, and dips under the green sand, (as was known to the late distinguished geologist Hoffman—the first, indeed, to suggest that the tract was occupied by an equivalent of the Wealden,) Römer enumerates many fossils which characterise in succes-