CHAPTER VI.

FOSSIL BOTANY.

I now proceed to explain the arrangement and nomenclature of the fossil plants which are likely to come under the observation of the student, either in collections, or in the course of his personal researches in the field. The definitions will be rendered as simple as the subject will permit, and accurate figures of one or more species of many of the genera will be inserted. To determine the specific relations of leaves and stems, reference must be had to works expressly devoted to the subject; namely, the British Fossil Flora, and Histoire des Végétaux Fossiles, by M. Adolphe Brongniart. The classification of the last-named eminent botanist will be adopted, as the most natural, and easy of application.

With regard to the nomenclature, it may be necessary to remark, that when a fossil undoubtedly belongs to a recent genus of plants, the usual botanical name is employed: for example, Equisetum Lyellii. When the fossil does not possess all the