

Dr. Buckland has discovered in the New Red sandstone formation at Allesley, near Coventry, silicified trunks of trees, principally of coniferæ; and it is not improbable that further research in that locality, may bring to light fern-stems like those of Chemnitz.*

SIGILLARIA.

Among the most common, yet striking objects, that arrest the attention of a person who visits a coal-mine for the first time, and examines the numerous vegetable relics that are profusely dispersed among the heaps of slate, coal, and shale, are long flat slabs, with their surfaces longitudinally fluted, and uniformly ornamented with rows of deeply-imprinted symmetrical figures; these are disposed with such perfect regularity, that the specimens are often supposed to be engraved stones, instead of natural productions. These fossils are the remains of the epidermis, rind, or bark of the stems of gigantic trees; the regular imprints on the surface, being the scars left by the separation of the

and structure. The reader will be amused by the perusal of the ingenious but unsuccessful attempt of the excellent author, to elucidate their nature. I have still a specimen which was presented to me by Mr. Parkinson, more than twenty years since, as one of the most curious and puzzling fossils that had ever come under his notice.

* Vide Geol. Proc. II. p. 438.