

PANDANUS, or *Screw Pine*.—I cannot close this review of fossil Coniferæ, without mentioning the highly interesting discovery of the fruit of a Pandanus, in the lower Oolite, near Charmouth; this specimen is now in the collection of Dr. Buckland, at Oxford. The fruit is of the size of an orange, and its surface is covered with hexagonal tubercles, which are the summits of the cells containing the seeds. The living screw-pines are natives of warm climates, and abound in the groups of islands in the Pacific; they are generally the first important vegetable tenants of the newly-formed coral islands. This extraordinary fossil is fully illustrated in *Bd.* pl. 62, and p. 503.

A few fragments of stems with transverse rings, as if left by amplexicaul leaves, have been found in the Coal; these may have belonged to some species of Pandanus.

PALMACITES, *Fossil Palms*.—The trees of this family, the greater part of which inhabit inter-tropical regions, are remarkable for their elegant forms and peculiar aspect. They have a single cylindrical stem, which, like that of the arborescent ferns, rises to a great height, and is crowned with a tuft or canopy of foliage; the leaves are often of considerable size, and either pinnated, or fan-shaped, and plaited in regular folds. The Date and Coconut are well known examples of their fruit. The surface of the stems is scored with transverse