

greater uniformity in the carboniferous flora, throughout a large part of the globe, than appears to have prevailed in the co-existing conchological fauna, so far as it is known at present. Those English naturalists who assisted me in naming my American plants, came to the opinion that two thirds of them are the same as species well known in the coal measures on the other side of the Atlantic. M. Adolphe Brongniart informs me that he has arrived at the same result, the general accuracy of which cannot, I think, be impugned by questioning the botanical determinations arrived at from such characters, as the venations of fern leaves, or the markings left by the attachment of fronds on the bark of such trees as *Sigillaria* and *Lepidodendron*. If the prevailing vegetation of two distant parts of the globe were now to become fossil, the more common species would nowhere present so uniform a character, if we confined our comparison simply to corresponding organs, namely, the leaves, bark, fruits, the internal woody fibre, whether cellular or vascular, and the roots, if, indeed, the *Stigmariæ* be of that nature. As to the ferns, it should not be forgotten, that, although in the existing state of the globe, they are less cosmopolite than lichens and mosses, there are some of them, nevertheless, which have an extremely wide range, such as *Didymochlæna sinuosa*, common to Brazil, Java, and Manilla; and *Polypodium incanum*, to Brazil and the Cape of Good Hope. The recent ferns of North America, according to Pursh's Flora, are sixty-nine in number, of which fifteen, according to the same authority, are natives of Europe. It is also worth remarking, that very few of the *genera* of liv-