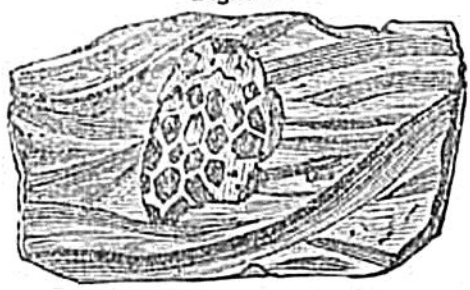
same beds in the Sidlaw Hills, at all the points where fig. 4 is introduced in the section, p. 48.

Fig. 544.

Parka decipiens, Fleming.
In sandstone of lower beds of Old Red, Ley's Mill, Forfarshire.

Fig. 545.



Parka decipiens, Fleming.
In shale of lower beds of Old Red, Fife.

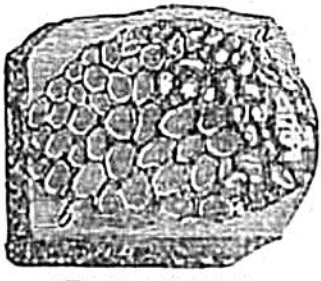
Dr. Fleming has compared these fossils to the panicles of a *Juncus*, or the catkins of *Sparganium*, or some allied plant, and he was confirmed in this opinion by finding a specimen at Balrudderie, showing the under surface smoother than the upper, and displaying what may be the place of attachment of a stalk. I have met with some specimens in Forfarshire imbedded in sandstone, and not associated with the leaves of plants (see fig. 544), which bore a considerable resemblance to the spawn of a recent *Natica* (fig. 546), in which the eggs are arranged in a thin layer of sand, and seem to have acquired a polygonal form by pressing against each other; but, as no gasteropodous shells have been detected in the same formation, the *Parka* has probably no connection with this class of organisms.

Fig. 546.

Fragment of spawn of British species of *Natica*.

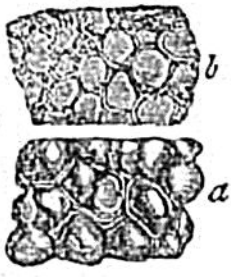
The late Dr. Mantell was so much struck with the resemblance of one

Fig. 547.



Fossil.—Old Red.

Fig. 548.



Recent.

Fig. 547. Slab of Old Red Sandstone, Forfarshire, with bodies like the ova of Batrachians. (Fossil.)
a. Ova? in a carbonized state.
b. Egg-cells?, the ova shed.

Fig. 548. Eggs of the common frog, *Rana temporaria*, in a carbonized state, from a dried-up pond in Clapham Common. (Recent.)
a. The ova.
b. A transverse section of the mass exhibiting the form of the egg-cells.

Fig. 549.

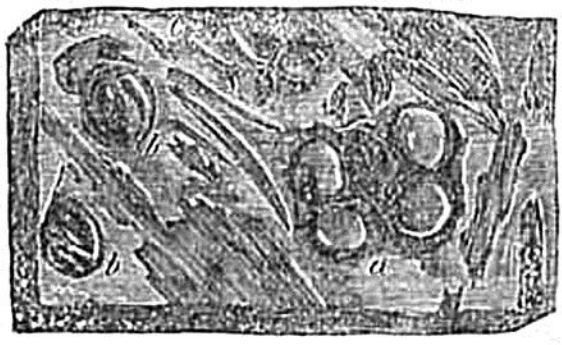


Fig. 549. Shale of Old Red Sandstone, or Devonian, Forfarshire, with impressions of plants and eggs of Batrachians?
a. Two pair of ova? resembling those of large Salamanders or Tritons—on the same leaf.
b, *b*. Detached ova?
c. Egg-cells (?) of frogs or *Ranina*.