

era, viz.: Oak, Hickory, Poplar, Maple, Mulberry, Hornbeam, Box-elder, Laurel, Bay, Dogwood, Sumac, Olive, Buckthorn, Magnolia, Smilax, White Cedar, Sequoia, Cypress, and Sabal. These identifications have been made from scanty and defective material, and we may fairly presume that further investigations will greatly increase the number. Yet these plants, belonging probably to the earliest Cenozoic Epoch, show, according to Lesquereux, "the greatest affinity with species of our own time." From other beds of the middle or earlier Tertiary we have still other existing genera, such as Persimmon, Beech, Black Gum, Aristolochia, etc. The facts in our possession relative to the middle and later Tertiary Epochs show a most decided approximation to the existing flora. From a pleiocene deposit near Somerville, Tennessee, Lesquereux identified the following recent *species*, viz.: Carolina Laurel, Carolina Plum, Myrtle-leaved Oak, and Common Beech. From the chalky banks of the Mississippi River, near Columbus, Kentucky, a collection was made, of which all the species are recent, viz.: Live Oak, Dwarf Chestnut, Winged Elm, Gmelin's Planer-tree, Entire-leaved Prinos, New Jersey Tea, Pecan, Honey Locust, and Sweet Flag. It is true that Dr. D. D. Owen has assigned the deposit containing these remains to the Post-Tertiary Age; but their position is one hundred and twenty feet below the ferruginous sands containing the bones of the extinct sloth *Megalonyx Jeffersoni*; and, as the nature of these species is incompatible with such a climate as we universally associate with the Glacial Epoch, it is quite likely this assemblage of vegetable remains represents the general nature of the arboreal flora in existence near the close of the Tertiary Age.*

* Dr. Newberry has shown that even the Cretaceous flora of North America was very similar to that now existing.—*Amer. Jour. Sci. and Arts* [2], xxix., 215 *et seq.* See also Lesquereux's determinations.—*Amer. Jour. Sci. and Arts* [2], xlv., p. 104, and xlvii., p. 286.