

armed with enormous teeth. Scales of *Pygopterus* have been found in the Northumberland Coal-shale at Newsham Colliery, and also in the Staffordshire Coal-shale. Some winged insects would probably join this slender group of living beings. It may then be said with truth that the immense forests and marshy plains, crowded with trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants, which formed on the innumerable isles of the period a thick and tufted sward, were almost destitute of animals.

On the opposite page (PL. XI.) M. Riou has attempted, under the directions of M. Deslongchamps, to reproduce the aspect of Nature during the period. A marsh and forest of the Coal-period are here represented, with a short and thick vegetation, a sort of grass composed of herbaceous Fern and mare's-tail. Several trees of forest-height raise their heads above this lacustrine vegetation.

On the left are seen the naked trunk of a *Lepidodendron* and a *Sigillaria*, an arborescent Fern rising between the two trunks. At the foot of these great trees an herbaceous Fern and a *Stigmaria* appear, whose long ramification of roots, provided with



Fig. 65.—*Sigillaria reniformis*.

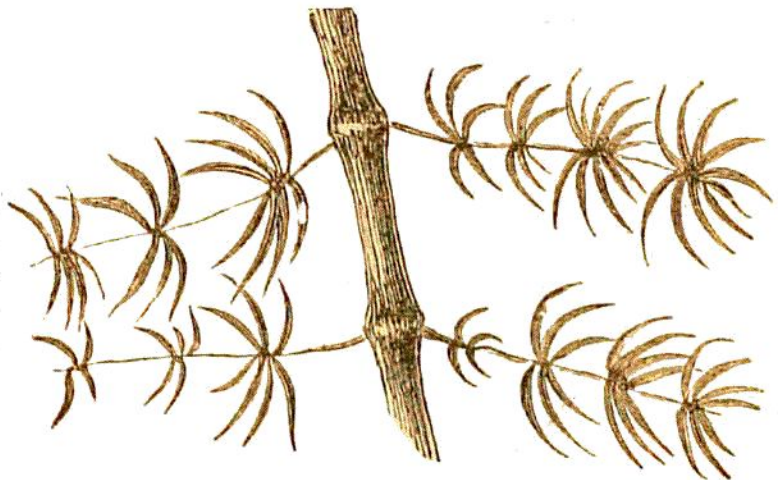


Fig. 66.—*Asterophyllites foliosa*.