

reproductive spores, extend to the water. On the right is the naked

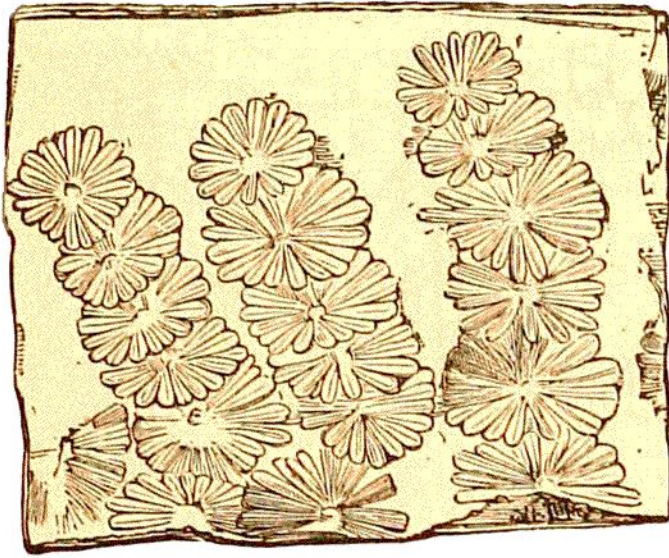


Fig. 67.—*Annularia orifolia*.

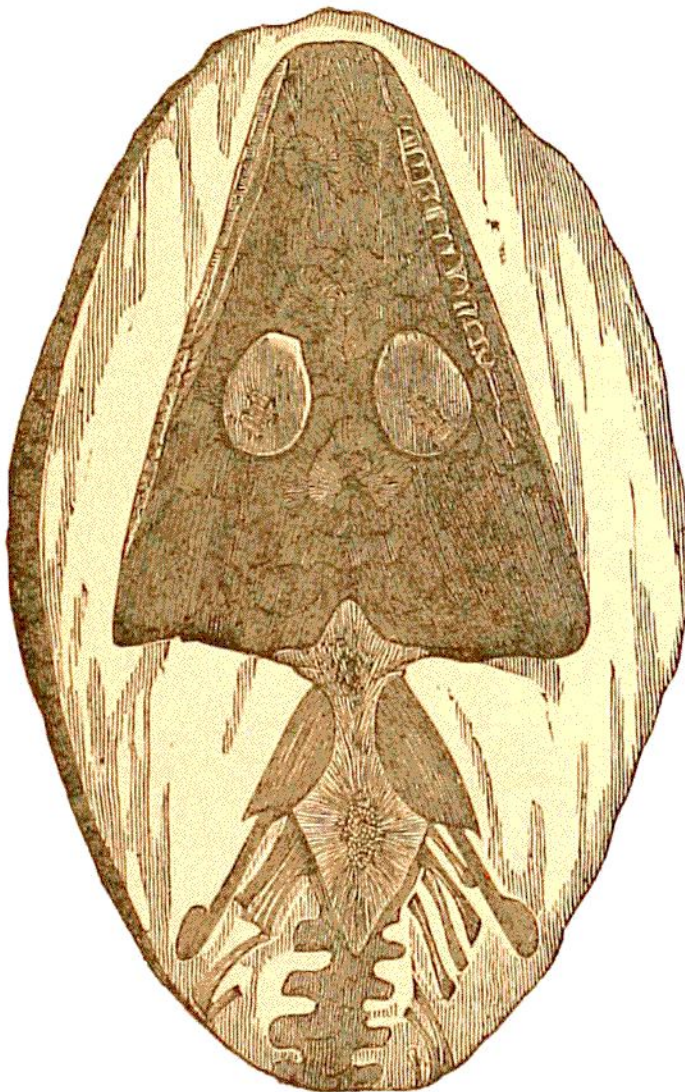


Fig. 68.—Head and neck of *Archegosaurus minor*.

trunk of another *Sigillaria*, a tree whose foliage is altogether unknown, a *Sphenophyllum*, and a *Conifer*. It is difficult to describe with precision the species of this last family, the impressions of which are, nevertheless, very abundant in the Coal-measures.

In front of this group we see two trunks broken and overthrown. These are a *Lepidodendron* and *Sigillaria*, mingling with a heap of vegetable débris in course of decomposition, from which a rich humus will be formed, upon which new generations of plants will soon develop themselves. Some herbaceous Ferns and buds of *Calamites* rise out of the waters of the marsh.

A few Fishes belonging to the period swim on the surface of the water, and the aquatic reptile *Archegosaurus* shows its long and pointed head—the only part of the animal which has hitherto been discovered (Fig. 68). A *Stigmara* extends its roots into the water, and the pretty *Asterophyllites*, with its finely-cut stems, rises above it in the foreground.

A forest, composed of *Lepidodendra* and *Calamites*, forms the background to the picture.