

by Brongniart on the structure of *Lepidodendron*, *Sigillaria*, and *Stigmaria* is still treasured as a model of accurate methods of observation. His chronological summary of the periods of vegetation, and of the different floras according to their successive appearance on the face of the earth, is the first and most complete compilation of the fossil floras.

The numerous and valuable phytological works of H. R. Goeppert<sup>1</sup> extend over half a century, from 1834 to 1884. No other scientific man has been such a prolific writer on fossil plants, and there is scarcely any domain in fossil botany which has not come under Goeppert's special investigations. His monographs on the genera of fossil plants (1841-46), on the Tertiary floras of Silesia and Java, on fossil ferns (1836), and conifers (1850), as well as his excellent researches on the microscopic structure of fossil woods, coal and brown-coal, are among the best contributions that have been made to the knowledge of fossil vegetations.

In comparison with the flora of the older geological periods that of the Tertiary period was for a long time little investigated, but about the middle of the nineteenth century several works were devoted to this period. Franz Unger, Professor of Botany and Zoology in Graz, published between 1841 and 1847 the *Chloris Protogæa*, in which more than one hundred and twenty new species of Tertiary plants are described, illustrated, and classified under genera still existing.

In a second work on the flora of Sotzka, a great number of fossil Tertiary plants are represented on forty-seven folio plates, and the *Sylloge plantarum fossilium* (1860-66) contains descriptions and illustrations of three hundred and twenty-seven Tertiary species. The *Synopsis* of fossil plants (1845), of which a second edition appeared in 1855, provides a summary of the whole of phyto-palæontological material, and it was accompanied by the well-known series of coloured plates which Unger designed to convey an impression of the characteristic appearance presented by the successive floras in the world's history.

Alexander Braun (1845) made a special study of the remains of Tertiary plants found near Oeningen in Switzerland. The

<sup>1</sup> Heinrich Robert Goeppert, born 1800, at Sprottau in Lower Silesia, Doctor of Medicine, was originally a pharmaceutical chemist; in 1827 University Tutor, in 1831 Professor of Botany in Breslau; died 18th May 1884.