

India, while in America the meagre representatives of the European development have again a facies of their

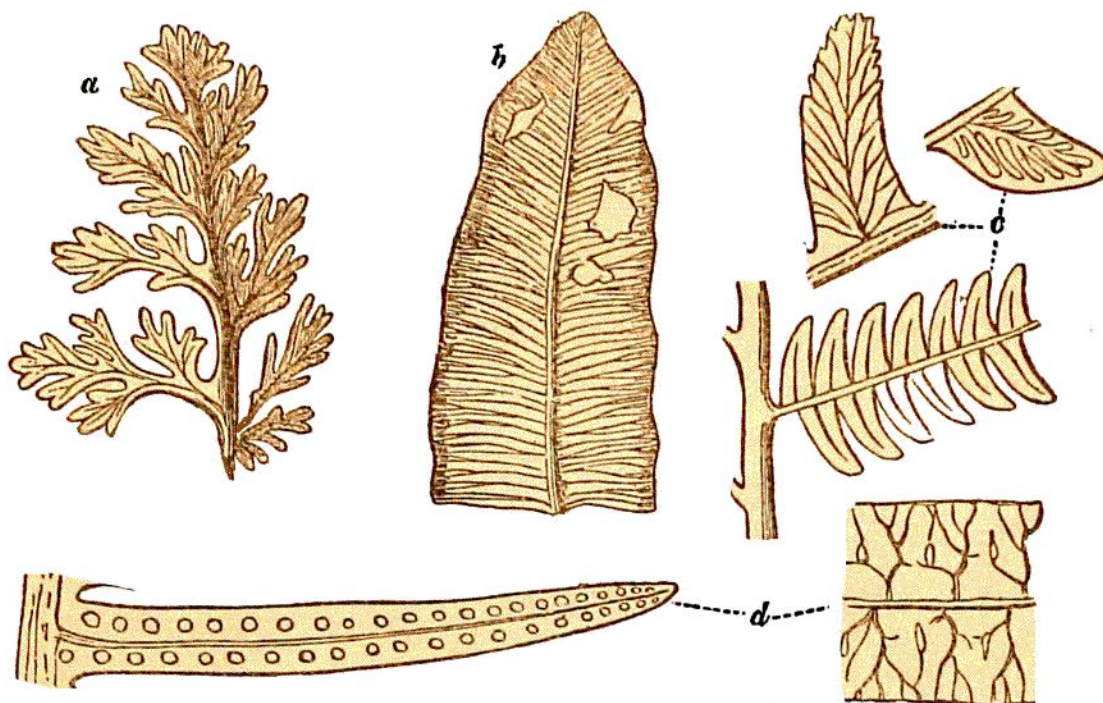


Fig. 381.—Jurassic Ferns (Lower Oolite).

a, *Sphenopteris trichomanoides*, Brongn.; *b*, *Tæniopteris major*, Lindl. and Hutt. ($\frac{2}{3}$); *c*, *Pecopteris dentata*, Lindl. and Hutt. (nat. size and mag.); *d*, *Phlebopteris polypodioides*, Brongn. (nat. size and mag.).

own. Hence no generally applicable petrographical characters can be assigned to this part of the geological record.

The flora of the Jurassic period, so far as known to us, was essentially gymnospermous.⁴⁰ The Palæozoic forms of vegetation traceable up to the close of the Permian system are here absent. Equisetums, so common in the Trias, are still abundant, one of them (*E. arenaceum*) attaining gigantic proportions. Ferns likewise continue plentiful, some of the chief genera being *Alethopteris*, *Sphenopteris*,

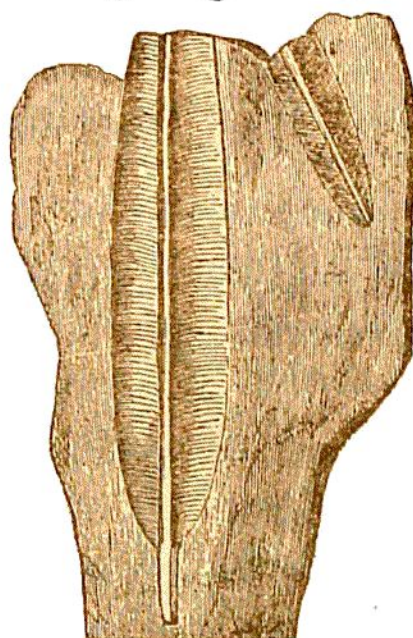


Fig. 382.—Jurassic Fern—*Tæniopteris vittata*, Brongn. ($\frac{1}{2}$).

⁴⁰ The entire known Jurassic flora of Britain, up to the top of the Portlandian stage, comprises between 60 and 70 genera and about 200 species—doubtless a mere fragment of the whole flora of the period.