

ished and grooved, as if the ice had only recently retreated. Inland, where a protecting cover of clay or other superficial deposit has been newly removed, the peculiar ice-worn surface may be as fresh as that by the side of a modern glacier.

From the evidence of these striated rock-surfaces and the scattered blocks of rock that were transported to various distances, it has been ascertained that the whole of northern Europe was buried under one continuous mantle of ice. The southern edge of the ice-sheet must have lain to the south of Ireland, whence it passed along the line of

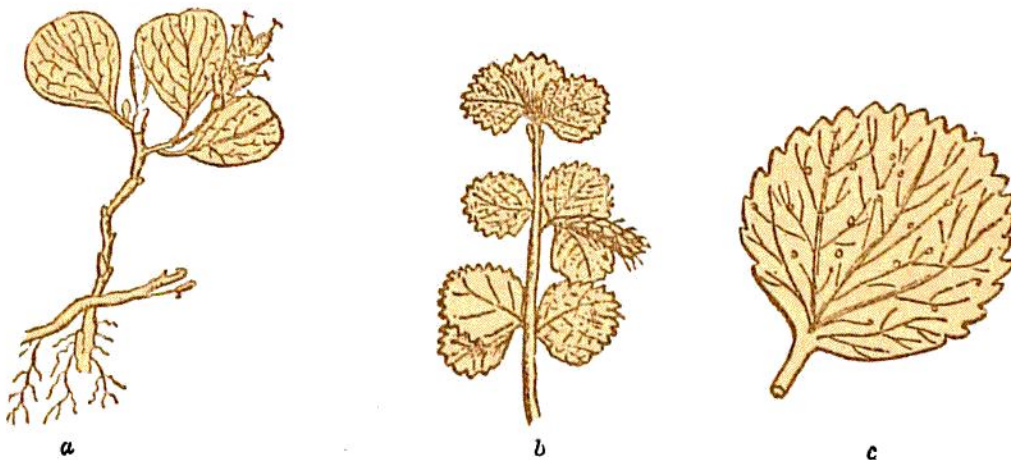


Fig. 454.—Arctic Plants found in Glacial Deposits.

*a*, *Salix polaris*, Wahlenb. (3); *b*, *Betula nana*, Linn.; *c*, Leaf of same, showing the size to which it grows in more southern countries.

the Bristol Channel, and thence across the south of England, keeping to the north of the valley of the Thames. The whole of the North Sea was filled with ice down to a line which ran somewhere between the coast of Essex and the present mouths of the Rhine, eastward along the base of the Westphalian hills, and round the projecting promontory of the Harz, whence it swung to the base of the Thuringerwald and struck eastward across Saxony, keeping to the north of the Erz, Riesen and Sudeten mountains; thence across Silesia, Poland and Galicia by way of Lem-