

formation, nearly one half, out of eighty known species of *Arborescent* plants, have their leaves growing in parallel series. The remaining half are *Lepidodendra*, or extinct Coniferæ. (See Lindley and Hutton, *Foss. Flora*, vol. ii. p. 93.)

Stigmaria.*

The recent discoveries of Lindley and Hutton have thrown much light upon this very extraordinary family of extinct fossil plants. Our figure, Pl. 56, Fig. 8, copied from their engraving of *Stigmaria ficoides*, (*Foss. Flora*, Pl. 31, Fig. 1) represents one of the best known examples of the genus.†

The centre of the plant presents a dome-shaped trunk or stem, three or four feet in diameter, the substance of which was probably yielding and fleshy; both its surfaces were slightly corrugated, and covered with indistinct circular spots. (Pl. 56, Fig. 8. 9.)

From the margin of this dome there proceed many horizontal branches, varying in number in different individuals from nine to fifteen; some of these branches become forked at unequal distances from the dome; they are all broken off

* Pl. 56, Figs. 8. 9. 10. 11.

† Seventeen specimens of this kind have been found within the space of 600 square yards, in the shale covering the Bensham seam of coal at Jarrow Colliery near Newcastle, at the depth of 1200 feet.