the London clay of the Isle of Sheppey, Bracklesham Bay, Bognor, and Newhaven, in Sussex, and in Alum Bay, in the Isle of Wight.

In the sands of the desert of Sahara, in Egypt—among the mammalian bones of the Sub-Himalayas—and in the tertiary deposits of Virginia, associated with Cycadeæ—drifted coniferous wood and stems have been discovered.

Stems of trees of this family, of a highly interesting nature, are found in various parts of Australia and Van Dieman's Land; partly in a calcareous, and partly in a siliceous state. The same trunk often possesses a white friable calcareous external zone, many inches thick, traversed by veins of silex, or opaline chalcedony, while the centre or heart of the stem is a pure silicified mass; in both states the internal organization may be detected. This fossil wood is to be seen in most cabinets, large quantities of the stems having been sent to England by emigrants.* The trees, from which the specimens brought to this country were obtained, appear to have been subjected to the same kind of change as those of the Isle of Portland, for they are described as standing erect to the height of several feet in a bed of arid sand, apparently in the places where they grew; their petrified stems and branches being

* My late friend, Sir Francis Chantrey, had a magnificent specimen, upwards of six feet long, which is now in the British Museum.