

shales and limestones of the Silurian owe their carbonaceous matters to the decomposition of Algæ, though possibly some of it may have been derived from Graptolites and other corneous Zoöphytes. In any case, such micro-

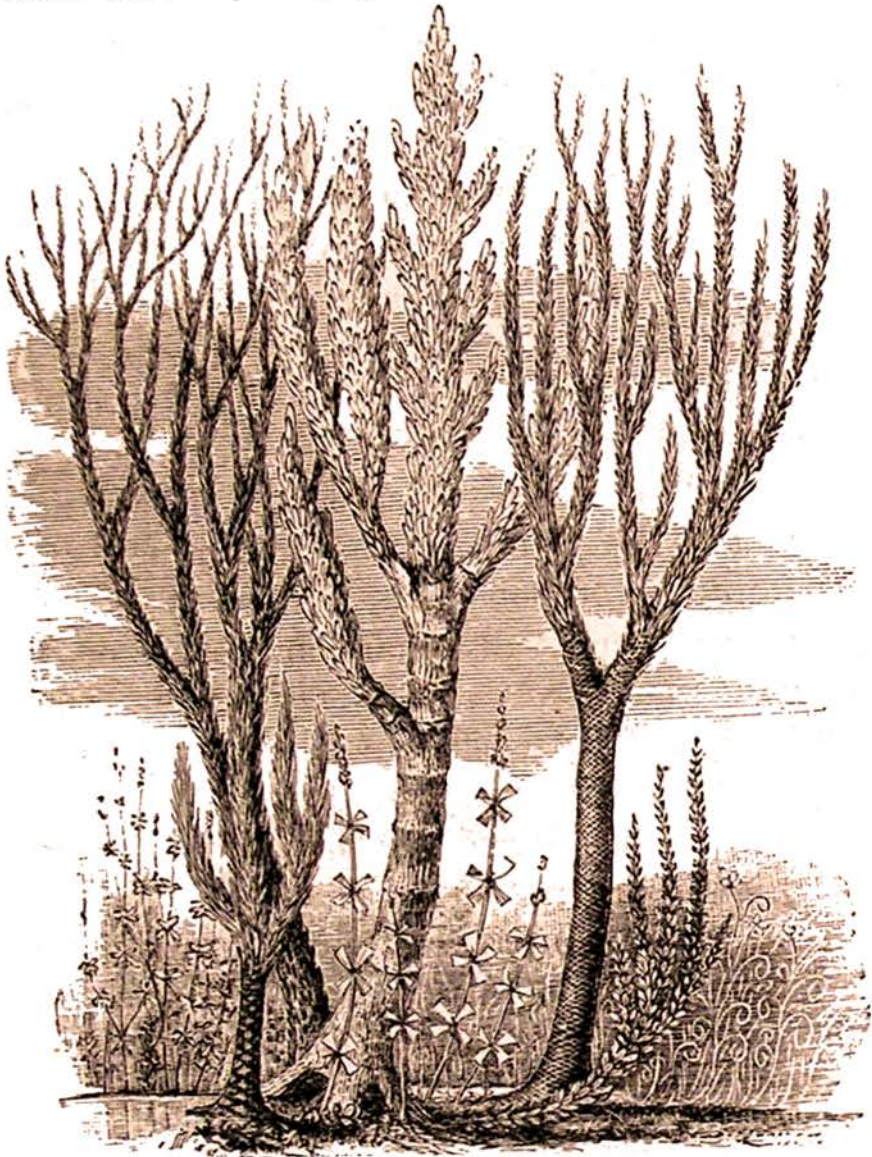


FIG. 14.—Silurian vegetation restored. *Protannularia*, *Berwynia*, *Nematophyton*, *Sphenophyllum*, *Arthrostigma*, *Psilophyton*.

scopic examinations of these shales as I have made, have not produced any evidence of the existence of plants of higher grade, while those of the Erian and Carboniferous periods, similar to the naked eye, abound in such evidence. It is also to be observed that, on the surfaces of