

of the United States and the corresponding formations in Canada. On the eastern side of the American continent, in Virginia, the Potomac series is supposed to be

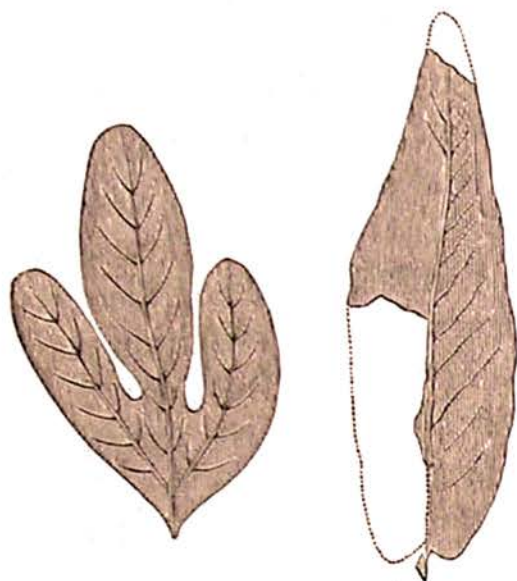


FIG. 69.—*Stercalia* and *Laurophyllum* or *Salix*, the oldest Angiosperms known in the Cretaceous of Canada.

of Lower Cretaceous age, and here Fontaine, as already stated, has found an abundant flora of cycads, conifers, and ferns, with a few angiospermous leaves, which have not yet been described.

In the Canadian Rocky Mountains, a few hundreds of feet above the beds holding the before-mentioned species, are the shales of the Mill Creek series, rich in many species of dicotyledonous

leaves, and corresponding in age with the Dakota group, whose fossils have been so well described, first by Heer and Capellini, and afterward by Lesquereux. We may take this Dakota group and the quader-sandstone of Germany as types of the plant-bearing Cenomanian, and may notice the forms occurring in them.

In the first place, we recognise here the successors of our old friends, the ferns and the pines, the latter represented by such genera as *Taxites*, *Sequoia*, *Glyptostrobus*, *Gingko*, and even *Pinus* itself. We also have a few cycads, but not so dominant as in the previous ages. The fan-palms are well represented, both in America and in the corresponding series in Europe, especially by the genus *Sabal*, which is the characteristic American type of fan-palm, and there is one genus which Saporta regards as intermediate between the fan-palms and the pinnately leaved species. There are also many fragments of stems