

coal formation, the floras of the Lower Carboniferous (Sub-carboniferous of some American geologists) and the Millstone Grit, and in a report upon these¹ similar deductions were expressed. It was stated that in Newfoundland and Northern Cape Breton the coal formation species come in at an early part of that period, and as we proceed southward they belong to progressively newer portions of the Carboniferous system. The same fact is observed in the coal beds of Scotland, as compared with those of England, and it indicates that the coal formation flora, like that of the Devonian, spread itself from the north, and this accords with the somewhat extensive occurrence of Lower Carboniferous rocks and fossils in the Parry Islands and elsewhere in the Arctic regions.²

Passing over the comparatively poor flora of the earlier Mesozoic, consisting largely of cycads, pines, and ferns, which, as we have seen, is probably of southern origin, and is as yet little known in the arctic, though represented, according to Heer, by the supposed Jurassic flora of Cape Boheman, we find, especially at Komé and Atané in Greenland, an interesting occurrence of those earliest precursors of the truly modern forms of plants which appear in the Cretaceous, the period of the English chalk, and of the New Jersey greensands. There are two plant groups of this age in Greenland, one, that of Komé consists almost entirely of ferns, cycads, and pines, and is of decidedly Mesozoic aspect. This was regarded by Heer as Lower Cretaceous. The other, that of Atané, holds remains of many modern temperate genera, as *Populus*, *Myrica*, *Ficus*, *Sassafras*, and *Magnolia*. This he regards as Middle Cretaceous. Above this is the Patoot series, with many exogenous trees of modern genera, and representing the Upper Cretaceous. Resting upon these Upper Cretaceous beds, without

¹ "Fossil Plants of Lower Carboniferous and Millstone Grit Formations of Canada," pp. 47, 10 plates. Montreal, 1873.

² G. M. Dawson, "Report on Arctic Regions of Canada."