

where they grew. This interesting fact was observed at Carlton Bank, near Stokesly, forty miles from the coast, where the same phenomenon occurs. In both localities several species of fresh-water bivalves, were the only shells discovered in the laminated sandstone that contained the equiseta.*

CALAMITES.—Stem articulated, regularly striated, the articulations naked, or studded with tubercles, and sometimes encircled by a dentated sheath.

The plants of this fossil genus are closely related to the mareetail, but differ in the absence of the encircling sheaths, and in being uniformly striated. Some of the species attain a gigantic size, from one to three feet in diameter, and from thirty to forty feet in height. They abound in the coal formation, and must have constituted an important feature in the forests of the carboniferous epoch. They occur also in strata far more ancient, and some species belong to the earliest terrestrial Flora of which any traces remain. In most instances when specimens are found lying in the same plane with the strata, they are pressed flat; but when occurring in a vertical position they retain their natural form, and are cylindrical. An outer crust, or pellicle of coal, generally surrounds the stem, but no remains of internal structure have been observed.

* Geol. Proc.