leaf-stalks, as in the arborescent ferns previously examined. The name *Sigillaria*, now commonly applied to this tribe of fossils, is derived from the Latin *sigillum*, a seal, and alludes to the regular and similar imprints on the surface. These trees are generally found lying in a horizontal position in the strata, and are quite flat, from the pressure produced by the superincumbent deposits, during their long entombment; but when they are in an erect position, at right angles to the plane of the beds, the original cylindrical form of the trunk is preserved. A remarkable instance, in which five stems of Sigillariæ were standing upright, with their roots in the soil below, apparently in the position in which they grew, was brought to light a few years since, in forming the Bolton and Manchester railway.* They stand on the same plane, and near to each other. Their roots are branched, and spread out in the bed of impure coal in which they are implanted. The trunks are surrounded by a soft blue shale. The largest tree is eleven feet high, and seven and a half feet in circumference at

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* These trees still remain *in situ*, and, thanks to the scientific zeal of Mr. Hawkshaw, have been carefully preserved. They are situated at Dixon Fold, Clifton, near Manchester. Instructive models, of a small, convenient size, may be obtained of these highly interesting relics of the carboniferous forests. An excellent Memoir on this discovery, with illustrations, by Mr. Hawkshaw, will be found in *Geol. Trans.* Vol. VI. pl. 17. See also *Geol. Proc.* Vol. III. pp. 139 and 270.