

scattered around them. They so entirely preserve their natural woody appearance, that one of the colonists mentions among the extraordinary sights he witnessed on his first arrival in New Holland, the burning of trees into lime to manure the ground.*

A fossil Pine forest, on the eastern coast of Australia,† in the inlet called Lake Macquarrie, has very recently been described by the Rev. B. Clarke. At the base of a mountain range, composed of conglomerate and sandstone, with subordinate beds of lignite, terminating on one side of the lake or inlet, an alluvial flat extends to the water-edge, covering the sandstone rock which is found *in situ* beneath. Throughout the whole of this plain, stumps of fossilized trees are seen projecting out of the ground, presenting the appearance of a forest in which the trees are all cut down to the same level. At the distance of some yards from the shore, a reef is formed by vertical rows of the petrified stems, which project above the surface of the water. Many of the fossil trees on the shore, have the remains of roots extending into the sandstone rock below the alluvial detritus; and, like those in the Island of Portland, are in some instances surrounded by an accumulation of sandy rock, which forms a

* The fossil trees of Preservation Island, in New South Wales, described by Mr. Parkinson, are no doubt of a similar character.—*Org. Rem.* Vol. I. p. 381.

† Proc. Geol. Soc. 1843.