

of many of them must have been fifty or sixty feet, at least.*

Count Sternberg has applied the name *Syringodendron* to many species of *Sigillaria*, from the parallel pipe-shaped flutings that extend from the top to the bottom of their trunks. These trunks are without joints, and many of them attain the size of forest trees. The flutings on their surface bear dot-like, or linear impressions, of various figures, marking the points at which the leaves were inserted into the stem. This fluted portion of the *Sigillariæ*, formed their external covering, separable like true bark from the soft internal axis, or pulpy trunk ; it varied in thickness from an inch to one-eighth of an inch, and is usually converted into pure coal. (See Pl. 56, Fig. 2. *a*, *b*, *c*.)

A fleshy trunk surrounded and strengthened only by such thin bark, must have been incapable of supporting large and heavy branches at its summit. It therefore probably terminated abruptly at the top, like many of the larger species of living *Cactus*, and the abundant disposition of small leaves around the entire extent of the trunk seems to favour this hypothesis.

* M. Ad. Brongniart found in a coal mine in Westphalia near Essen, the compressed stem of a *Sigillaria* laid horizontally, to the length of forty feet ; it was about twelve inches in diameter at its lower, and six inches at its upper extremity, where it divided into two parts, each four inches in diameter. The lower end was broken off abruptly. Lindley and Hutton's *Foss. Flora*, vol. i. p. 153.