

*Fossil Palms.*

The discovery of the remains of Palm Trees in the Brown-coal of Germany has been already

ments of Ferns and Grasses, and many remains of aquatic plants: all the rest belong to Dicotyledonous, and Gymnospermous ligneous plants.

Among these remains are many single leaves, apparently dropped in the natural course of vegetation; there are also branches with leaves on them, such as may have been torn from trees by stormy weather; ripe seed vessels; and the persistent calix of many blossoms.

The greater part of the fossil plants at Æningen (about two thirds) belong to Genera which still grow in that neighbourhood; but their species differ, and correspond more nearly with those now living in North America, than with any European species, the fossil Poplars afford an example of this kind.

On the other hand, there are some Genera, which do not exist in the present Flora of Germany, e. g. the Genus *Diospyros*; and others not in that of Europe, e. g. *Taxodium*, *Liquidambar*, *Juglans*, *Gleditschia*.

Judging from the proportions in which their remains occur, Poplars, Willows, and Maples were the predominating foliaceous trees in the former Flora of Æningen. Of two very abundant fossil species, one, (*Populus latior*), resembles the modern Canada Poplar; the other, (*Populus ovalis*) resembles the Balsam Poplar of North America.

The determination of the species of fossil Willows is more difficult. One of these (*Salix angustifolia*) may have resembled our present *Salix viminalis*.

Of the genus *Acer*, one species may be compared with *Acer campestre*, another with *Acer pseudoplatanus*; but the most frequent species, (*Acer protensum*), appears to correspond most nearly with the *Acer dasycarpon* of North America; to another