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Notes on a Fossil Wood from the Keokuk Limestone, Keokuk, Iowa

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lypteroïdes, *Botrychium virginicum*, *Camptosorus rhizophyllus*,
Cystopteris bulbifera, *Cystopteris fragilis*, *Onoclea sensibilis*,
Osmunda claytoniana, *Osmunda cinnamomea*, *Phegopteris*
hexagonoptera, *Polypodium vulgare*, *Pteris aquilina*, *Pellaea*
atropurpurea, *Woodsia obtusa*.

PEARL BEARING UNIOS.

BY PROF. F. M. WITTER.

(No Abstract.)

NOTES ON A FOSSIL WOOD FROM THE KEOKUK LIMESTONE, KEOKUK, IOWA.

BY PROF. C. H. GORDON.

(Abstract.)

Some years since a portion of supposed fossil wood was obtained from an eighteen inch limestone layer about six or eight feet below the Geode bed. It was secured by Mr. S. J. Wallace and placed in the rooms of the Keokuk Library Association. A brief mention was made of it in a letter to the editors of the *American Journal of Science and Arts*, as noted in the May issue of 1878.

It consists of a "section about three feet long, one end of which disappears in the bank and the other apparently taken off in quarrying years before. It is flattened into a thin coaly layer one-sixteenth to one-sixth of an inch thick and twelve inches across, and seems to be separated by pressure into two parts apparently not quite on the same plane." The flattened layer of carbonaceous matter has largely disappeared though enough remains to show its nature, and the cast of the woody fiber in the limestone is well marked.

At one place a leaf scar is quite clearly defined and at others small transverse ridges probably due to pressure. It

shows coarsely the costate structure of *Sigillaria*. The arrangement of the areoles cannot be made out though probably distant and not continuous. As stated by Lesquereux the decorticated layers are of little if any specific value, but the fact that, so far as we can learn, this formation has thus far proven destitute of land plants gives this example peculiar interest and on this account a name may prove serviceable. We therefore designate it *Sigillaria wallacii*, in honor of its finder.

GEOLOGICAL HORIZON AND LOCALITY.

From the Keokuk limestone six or eight feet below the base of the Geode bed; found in the bluff just below the Keokuk and Des Moines depot, Keokuk, Iowa.

ON THE KEOKUK BEDS AND THEIR CONTAINED FOSSILS IN THE VICINITY OF KEOKUK, IOWA.

BY PROF. C. H. GORDON.

(Abstract.)

AREA AND THICKNESS.

Outside the region covered by this paper, the most notable exposure of this formation occurs at Crawfordsville, Indiana, where its thickness is said to be two hundred and eighty feet. †

South of the Iowa line, exposures occur along the Mississippi in limited areas, and southwestward in Missouri, yielding most of the lead mined in that region.

At Keokuk it consists of two well defined divisions—the lower or Calcareous and the upper or Geode division. The Calcareous division consists of forty to sixty feet of limestone in varying layers, with clay or shale partings one to six inches thick. About the middle of this division occurs a pure massive layer termed the “white ledge” which furnished

†—American Geologist, Vol. II, p. 407.

[Proc. I. A. S., 1887-9.]