

# SCIENCE.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 1895.

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## THE MESOZOIC FLORA OF PORTUGAL COMPARED WITH THAT OF THE UNITED STATES.

### HISTORICAL NOTICE.

THE earliest studies in the Mesozoic deposits of Portugal seem to have been made by Mr. Daniel Sharpe, who read a paper before the Geological Society of London on April 11, 1832, describing certain beds in the vicinity of Lisbon and Oporto; in the former of which were included strata re-

ferred by him to the Oolite. On the 9th and 23d of January, 1839, he presented a second paper describing more fully the secondary formations in the vicinity of Lisbon.\* On November 21, 1849, Mr. Sharpe read still a third paper before the same society† of a much more extended nature and devoted entirely to the secondary formation. In this paper is a full list of all the fossils known down to that date carefully determined by Mr. John Morris. Included in these was a single fossil plant regarded by Mr. Morris as a variety of a species of the Yorkshire Oolite called by Phillips *Cycadites gramineus*. It was found at Cape Mondego, and from this circumstance was given the varietal name *Mundæ*. As Mr. Morris referred Phillips' plant to the genus *Zamites*, the Portuguese plant was made to bear the name *Zamites gramineus* var. *Mundæ*.

In 1858 Sr. Charles Ribeiro published a series of elaborate papers on the Geology of Portugal,‡ treating chiefly of the Carboniferous; but in two of these§ he considers the Lias and Oolite, mentioning the plant above referred to from Cape Mondego and

\* *Geol. Soc. Lond., Proc.*, Vol. I., p. 395; Vol. II., p. 31; *Trans.*, 2d Ser., Vol. VI., p. 115ff.

† *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc. Lond.*, Vol. VI., pp. 135-201.

‡ *Mem. Acad. Real. Sci. de Lisboa*, New Ser., Vol. II.

§ *Mina de Carvão de Pedra do Cabo Mondego, do districto de Leiria*; op. cit., Pt. II., Third and Fourth Memoirs (these memoirs are separately pagged).

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