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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).