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NOTES ON SPECIMENS, 1890.

ON NEW PLANTS FROM THE ERIAN AND CARBONIFEROUS, AND ON THE CHARACTERS AND AFFINITIES OF PALÆOZOIC GYMNOSPERMS.<sup>1</sup>

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In Palæo-botany it often happens that some specimen recently discovered opens up a multitude of new questions respecting former acquisitions. A noteworthy instance of this in my recent experience, has been the kind communication to me by Mr. R. D. Lacoë of Pittston, Pennsylvania, of some specimens of Palæozoic Gymnosperms obtained by him in the Catskill and Carboniferous of Pennsylvania. One of these is a large slab containing a leafy and fruit-bearing branch or stem of a new plant allied to *Cordaites* on the one hand and to *Næggerathia* on the other, and remarkable for its exhibiting in connection parts usually found separately. Another is a set of specimens of certain peculiar organs of fructification referred by European palæo-botanists to the genus *Dolerophyllum*, allied to *Næggerathia*, and which have not, so far as I am aware, been previously found in America. About the same time Mr. Francis Bain, of North River, Prince Edward Island, had placed in my hands some

<sup>1</sup> Reprinted from the CANADIAN RECORD OF SCIENCE, January, 1890.