

3. PROTOTAXITES, gen. nov. (Fig. 4.)

Woody trunks with concentric rings of growth and medullary rays. Cells of pleurenchyma scarcely in regular series, thick-walled, and cylindrical, with a double series of spiral fibres. Disc-structure indistinct in the specimens observed.

I propose the above generic appellation for a tree having the spirally marked cells characteristic of the genera *Taxites* and *Spiropitys* of Göppert, but differing from any conifer known to me in the cylindrical form and loose aggregation of the wood-cells, as seen in the cross-section, in which particular it more

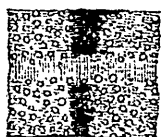


Fig. 4 a

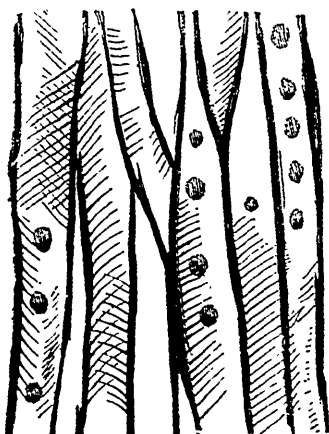


Fig. 5 b

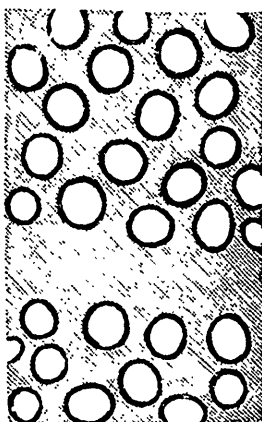


Fig. 5 c

Fig. 4. *Prototaxites Loganii*. a, cross-section, magnified 40 diams., showing growth-line and medullary ray; b, longitudinal section (300 diams.); c, transverse section (300 diams.)

nearly resembles the young succulent twigs of some modern conifers than their mature wood. A fine silicified trunk of this tree was brought from Gaspé by Sir W. E. Logan, and was shortly described in the 'Proceedings of the American Association' for 1856.