

careful examinations of the rocks of the Little River Group, to describe and figure them in a Monograph of the Flora and Fauna of the Devonian Period in the vicinity of Saint John, which paper I hope ere long to have ready for publication." This paper never appeared, but it is, probably, in manuscript, the source of several quotations from Hartt in the works of Dawson which I found it impossible to locate. At about this time Mr. (now Dr.) G. F. Matthew, who had been working for some time on the beds, published a paper on the relations of the Little River group to the rocks in the vicinity of St. John (Matthew, 1863). Thus, sent by Hartt and Matthew, the plants from the Fern Ledges went to Sir William Dawson at the time he was studying the Perry, Gaspe, and New York plants which are undoubtedly Devonian. He put all these collections together and described them as of a single period, and so his confusion was not readily detected, for, among the plants in his Devonian Flora are a number that truly are Devonian. But these were not from St. John. That at first, at any rate, he was himself a little uneasy about some of the St. John plants is clear from several remarks he makes after his identifications of species. Though by 1862 (Q.J.G.S., vol. 18, p. 303) he said "The Devonian age... (of the St. John beds) I regard as established by their fossils, taken in connexion with the unconformable super-position of the Lower Carboniferous conglomerate"; and though his suspicions were lulled into allowing him to say "The fossiliferous portion of the St. John series presents the richest local flora of the Devonian period ever discovered. It far excels, in number of genera and species, the Lower Carboniferous flora as it exists in British America, and is comparable with that of the Middle Coal-measures, from which, however, it differs very remarkably in the relative development of different genera, as well as in the species representing those genera;" yet a page or two on he writes "*Calamites cannaeformis* Brongniart. This species, presenting the characters which it exhibits in the coal-measures, occurs in the ledges... it has not, I believe, been found previously in rocks older than the Lower Carboniferous." Again he says, "*Sphenopteris Hoeninghausi*, Brongniart. One of the ferns from the slates near St. John appears to be identical with the above species, which belongs to the Lower