

SPHENOPTERIS MARGINATA, Dawson.

[= *Sphenopteris rotundifolia*, Andrä.]

Plate VIII, figures 18, 19, 20 and text fig. 1.

1862. *Sphenopteris marginata*, Dawson, Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc., vol. 18, p. 231, pl. XV, fig. 38B.
1868. *Sphenopteris marginata*, Dawson, Acadian Geol., p. 551, fig. 192D.
1869. *Sphenopteris rotundifolia*, Andrä, Vorwelt. Pflanz-Rheinl., p. 37, pl. XII.
1871. *Sphenopteris marginata*, Dawson, Foss. Pl. Devon. Upp. Sil., p. 52, pl. XVI, fig. 184.
1888. *Sphenopteris marginata*, Dawson, Geol. Hist. Pl., p. 73, fig. 23D (from the 1905 edition).
1900. *Sphenopteris marginata*, Dawson, Kidston in Ami, Ottawa Naturalist, vol. 14, p. 100.
1900. *Sphenopteris marginata*, Dawson, Kidston in Ami, Trans. Nova Scotia Inst. Sci., vol. 10, pp. 168 and 169.
1910. *Sphenopteris marginata*, Dawson, Matthew, Oldest Silur. Fl., Bull. Nat. Hist. Soc. New Brunswick, vol. 6, p. 248.

I have retained Dawson's name for this species, but recognise that it may have to yield to Andrä's because the figures published by Dawson in 1862 were of very small fragments and they do not sufficiently characterise the species. But, on the other hand, there is no doubt about the type. In Dawson's later description he gives a larger figure (1871, pl. XVI, fig. 184) of a specimen which is now in the McGill University collection, No. 3317, labelled in Dawson's writing as the type. A photograph of this is given in fig. 18, pl. VIII of the present paper. A second specimen of Dawson's shows the form of the pinnules rather more clearly (see fig. 19, pl. VIII). These photographs should be compared with Andrä's (1869 plate XII) when the great likeness between them will be at once apparent. Unfortunately, owing to the graphitization and slight alteration of the Canadian specimens, the finer branches of the veins are destroyed, but in those pinnules in which any of the veining is preserved, it agrees entirely (so far as it goes) with that shown in fig. 2a in Andrä's plate XII. The plant appears to be fairly common in the St. John beds, and there are specimens in the collection of the Natural History Society of St. John, and also in the British Museum. One of these (v. 4087 of the British Museum Geological Department) is shown in pl. VIII, fig. 20, of