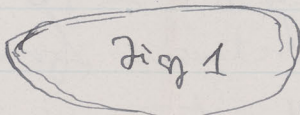


A. Parker

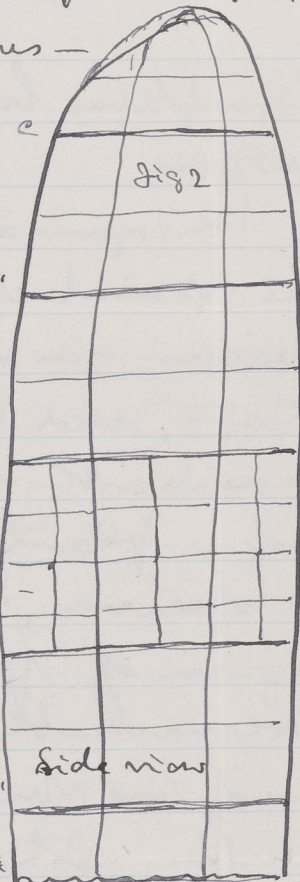
Utahaca, Tompkins Co, N.Y., U.S.A.

J. M. Dawson

Dear Sir! In your article on  
Plants in the March No. of the  
Proceedings Review you speak of  
early fossil plants, and this leads  
me to write and ask what can  
you tell me of a plant I have in  
a ~~very~~ very rare specimen, which has  
the general form of pteroids,  
but is so remarkably peculiar  
that I know of no specimen to  
compare it with. It is measured  
roughly seven inches long and three  
inches wide, and in cross section  
is ovoid thus; a little flatter  
on the (a) left side (a)  
than the (b) other (b).  
Its shape  is like the  
figure I next roughly draw.

not unlike a Gothic lance window, with three divisions. This is the side (a) of the first figure. About are

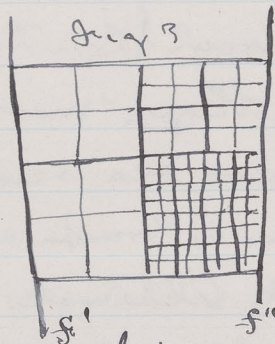
five trans-  
like rods  
stained  
windows,  
 $e'' e'''$ ,  $e'$   
as many  
but fainter  
 $e, e' & e''$   
fainter lines  
square  $d$   
but which  
distinct -  
only  $e''$   
one of the  $d$




verse main lines  
to support the  
slap of a gothic  
marked ( $e e' e''$   
When there are  
other transverse  
lines between  
them there are  
making each  
smaller still  
for the sake of  
vefs, I have drawn  
in detail on  
main divisions.

marked (d)  $d'$   $d''$  When each of the 24  
squares between each line  $e e' e''$   
 $e''' e''''$  are again divided into  
four parts  $24 \times 4 = 96$  squares to  
each part between (for example  $e'$   
 $e''$ ). And these 96 parts or  
little squares are again divided

into four other squares  $96 \times 4 = 294$ ,  
 smallest squares. And with a magni-  
 fying glass I measure there is still  
 another division of four each.



Thus the two left hand  
 divisions of Fig. 3. has  
 the four ribs that divide  
 a square, and on each  
 within the perpendicular

lar lines  $f, f', f'', f'''$  Fig. 2. The up-  
 per right hand square of Fig. 3, has  
 16 lesser squares. And the lower right  
 hand square the lesser still divisions.  
 And Fig. 5. shows one of the little squares  
 of the  Fig. 4 lower square of Fig.  
 3 as still again divided.

In these rough pen sketches I have  
 not shown the graduation of the ribs  
 of division very well. But  $f, f', f''$   
 are etc not elevated, and so on  
 lesser and lesser ribs of division to  
 the square until the last visible,  
 so that it looks like rindens of  
 glass in the several divisions.

If I have made this intelligible to you, please tell me what plant it is? Is it described in any book? What is known of it? And who ever saw it before me? Coal plants and the checkered oblique markings are familiar to me, as are sea weeds in Shennong & barbarian groups with single squares. So I want ultimate & tangible facts in reply, not the vague replies of our Cornell professors. It is a Shennong group plant, found in Shennong. I have another specimen, but is less perfect. I have some 3000 specimens of minerals, shells &c. So do not consider me a boor, but rather to be considered or replied to.

I shall publish a photo. of it, and a paper on it before long.

Respectfully  
A. J. Parker

Ch. S.

