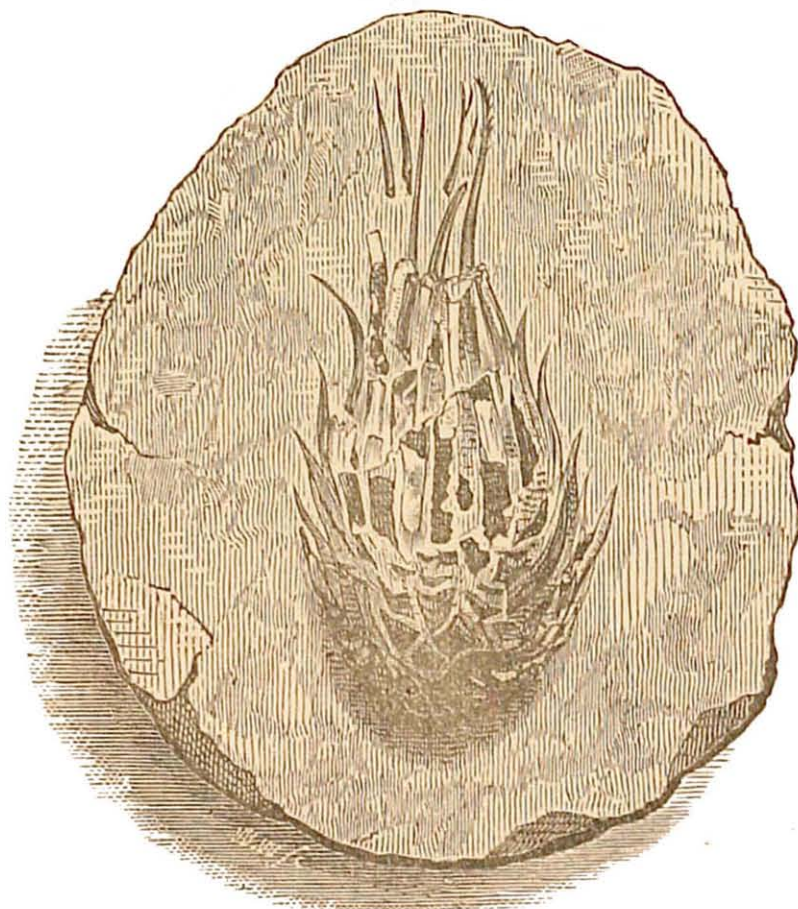


Fig. 138.



CONE.

enormous bud, with strong woody scales, some of which extended from base to apex. The first described of these two species seems to have been more decidedly a *cone* than the other ; but it is probable that they were both connecting links between such leathern seed-bearing flowers as we find developed in *Cycas revoluta*, and such seed-bearing cones as we find exemplified in *Zamia pungens*. The bud-like cone, however, does not seem to have been that of a Cycadaceous plant, as it occupied evidently not a terminal position on the plant that bore it, like the cones of *Zamia* or the flowers of *Cycas*, but a lateral one, like the lateral flowers of some of the *Cactus* tribe. Another class of vegetable forms, of occasional occurrence in the Helmsdale beds, seems intermediate between the Cycadaceæ and the ferns ; at least, so near is the approach to the ordinary fern outline, while retaining the