

The Ferns differ chiefly in some of the details of the leaf. *Pecopteris*, for instance (Fig. 48), have the leaves once, twice, or thrice pinnatifid with the leaflets adhering either by their whole base or by the centre only; the midrib running through to the point. *Neuropteris* (Fig. 49) has leaves divided like *Pecopteris*, but the midrib does not reach the apex of the leaflets, but divides right and left into veins. *Odontopteris* (Fig. 51) has pinnatifid leaves, like the last, but its leaflets adhere by their whole base to the stalk. *Lonchopteris* (Fig. 50) has the leaves several times pinnatifid, the leaflets

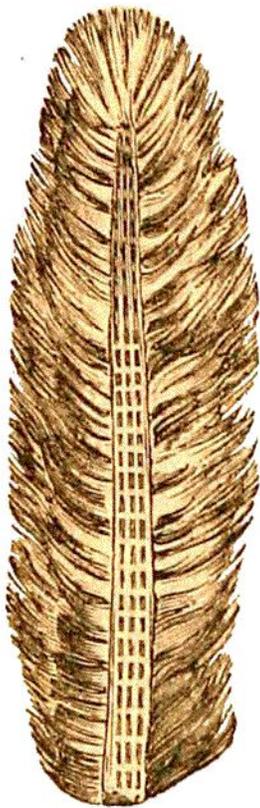


Fig. 45.—*Lepidostrobus variabilis*.

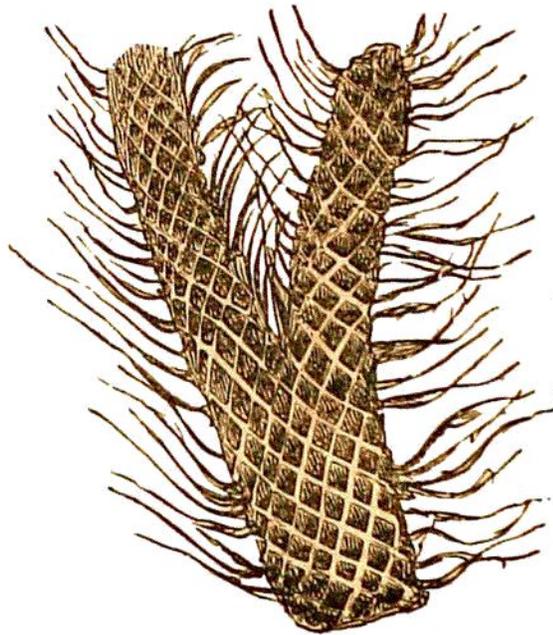


Fig. 46.—*Lepidodendron elegans*.

more or less united to one another, and the veins reticulated. Among the most numerous species of forms of the Coal-measure period was *Sphenopteris artemisiæfolia* (Fig. 52), of which a magnified leaf is represented. *Sphenopteris* has twice or thrice pinnatifid leaves, the leaflets narrow at the base, and the veins generally arranged as if they radiated from the base; the leaflets are frequently wedge-shaped.

CARBONIFEROUS LIMESTONE. (SUB-PERIOD.)

The seas of this epoch included an immense number of