

The living species of this family amount to nearly two hundred, the greater number of which, like the ferns, inhabit the islands of intertropical regions. They are diminutive plants, with delicate foliage, none exceeding three feet in height. Most of them trail on the ground, but there are a few erect species, one of which (*Lycopodium densum*) is a native of New Zealand (*Ly.* p. 116.).

The fruit of the club-mosses is an oval or cylindrical cone, which in some species is situated at the extremity of the branches, and constitutes an imbricated spike. Now associated with the stems of the Lepidodendra, and very often imbedded in masses of their foliage, and in some instances apparently attached to the extremities of the branches, are numerous oblong, or cylindrical, scaly cones, garnished with leaves. These have received the names of *Lepidostrophi* (scaly-cones), and are believed to be the fruit of the trees with which they are usually collocated.

LEPIDOSTROBUS.—Cylindrical cones composed of winged scales, their axis traversed by a longitudinal cavity or receptacle, and terminating in rhomboidal disks, imbricated from above downwards.

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Lepidodendra were more nearly related, both in form and structure, to the *Crassulaceæ* (house-leek tribe), than to the club-mosses; but we think M. Brongniart has satisfactorily shown the contrary.