

plants of this family, is to be found in the Isle of Portland, where Cycadeæ, transformed into flint, may be seen standing erect in the very places where they once flourished, between rows of petrified fir-trees, whose silicified roots extend into a bed of bituminous rubble (See *Wond.* p. 361. *Bd.* p. 404. *Geol. S. E.* p. 335). The fossil cycadeous plants of the Isle of Portland, have been beautifully illustrated by Dr. Buckland, in *Geol. Trans.* Vol. II. second series, of which memoir the account in *Bd.* p. 404, is an abstract. M. Ad. Brongniart has placed them in a new genus, with the following characters.

MANTELLIA.—Stems cylindrical, or almost spheroidal, without a distinct central axis; covered with rhomboidal scars, whose horizontal is wider than their vertical diameter. There are two species; one, which is short and spheroidal (*M. nidiformis*, called *crow's nests* by the quarrymen); the other is longer, and more cylindrical (*M. cylindrica*). A specimen has also been found in the Portland limestone at Swindon, in Wilts. On the shore near Yaverland, on the south coast of the Isle of Wight, the fruits of cycadeous plants have been washed up with the bones of the Iguanodon, and other characteristic Wealden fossils: these may have been the cones of the same species as the Portland stems. A figure of one of these fruits (from *Foss. Flor.*, where it is described under the name annexed), is given in *Lign.* 38.