

*mites*—were doubtless thirty feet in height. The impressions of their huge and prostrate stems may often be traced upon the shale which overlies a seam of coal. Of ferns, no species living in temperate latitudes attains the dimensions of a tree; but there formerly flourished within the limits of the Northern States ferns which attained to arboreal dimensions, single fronds of which reached the length of six to eight feet. The club-mosses—*Lepidodendra*—of the same epoch grew to the magnitude and aspect of stately palms (Fig. 66). Among us they trail upon the ground, or rise but a few inches above it. The largest living club-



Fig. 66. Remains of a *Lepidodendron*.