

base of the stem, other stems budded, and numerous root-lets proceeded, whereby the plants were anchored in the mud or sand of the lagoons, where they grew in dense thickets. According to Sir J. Dawson they seem to have fringed the great jungles of Sigillariæ, and to have acted as a filter that cleared the water of its sediment and prevented the vegetable accumulations of the coal-swamps

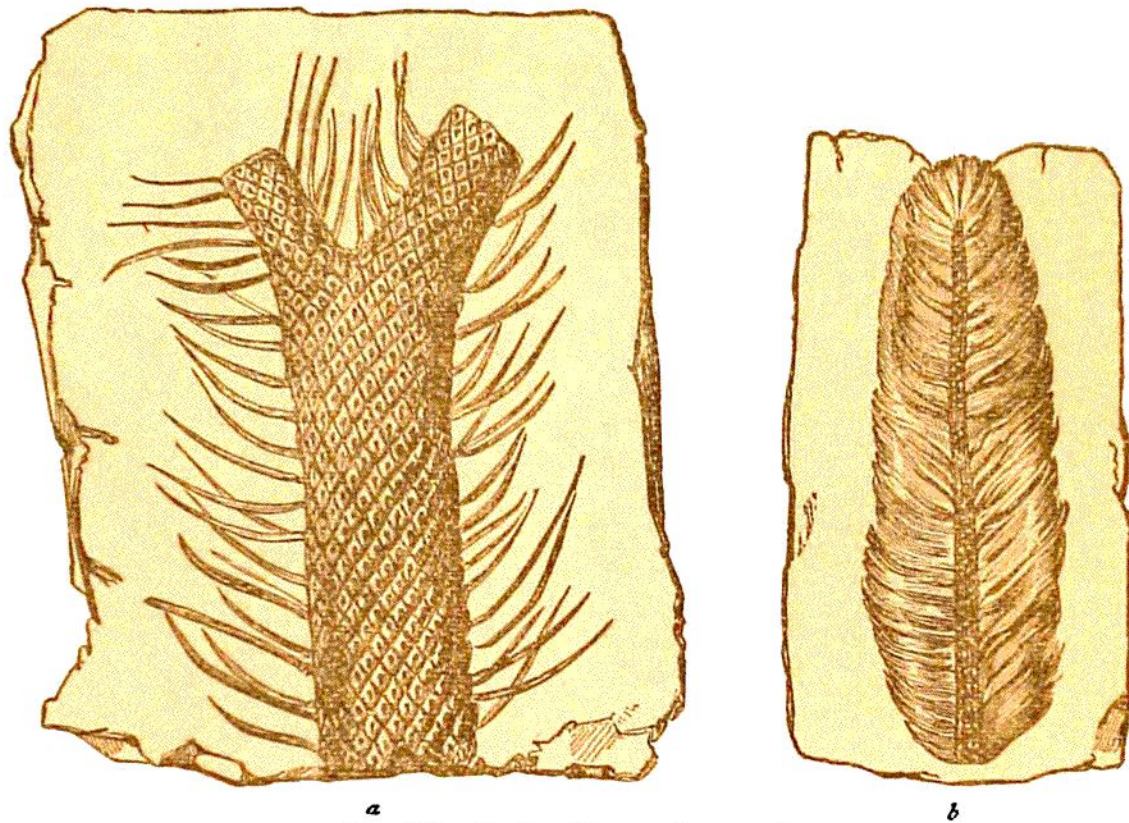


Fig. 367.—Carboniferous Lycopods.
a, *Lepidodendron* (1); *b*, *Lepidostrobus*, nat. size.

from admixture with muddy sediment. To the foliage of *Calamites* different generic appellations have been attached (Fig. 366). The name *Asterophyllites* (*Calamocladus*) is given to jointed and fluted stems with verticils of slim branches proceeding from the joints and bearing whorls of long, narrow, pointed leaves. In *Sphenophyllum* the leaves were fewer in number and wedge-shaped; in *Annularia*, the close-set leaves were united at the base. *Calamodendron* is believed by some botanists to be the cast of the