

ovary having receded into a vegetative branch, which now either ripens into the well known prickly pear or continues unchanged as a vegetative part of the plant. Trelease.

SMITH, B., On a *Lepidodendroid* stem from the Coal-measures. (Geol. Mag. Vol. II. Dec. 5, 1905. p. 208—211, and text figure.)

The stem figured was derived from the Middle Coal-measures of South Staffordshire, near Dudley, and shows a number of mammillated leaf-cushions, unusually distant from one another, and separated by broad bands of striated bark. The wide separation of the leaf-cushions is exceptional in the case of British *Lepidodendra*. In this instance each cushion is placed at a distance of 1,6—1,7 cm. from its neighbour in the same spiral, and 2—3 cm. from its nearest neighbour in the spiral above or below. The bark between the leaf-cushions is wrinkled longitudinally, the fine corrugations anastomosing at small angles. The general appearance of the specimen seems to favour the idea that it is a part of an old branch or stem. It is compared with *Lepidodendron serpentigerum*, and other species in which the leaf cushions are more widely separated.

Arber (Cambridge).

WEISS, F. E. and J. LOMAX, The Stem and Branches of *Lepidodendron selaginoides*. (Mem. and Proc. Manchester Liter. and Phil. Soc. Vol. II. 1905. Mem. 17. p. 1—8, and Plate.)

The specimen described is a stem, having the structure of Binney's *Sigillaria vascularis* (with a ring of secondary wood), giving off branches which possess the organisation of *Lepidodendron selaginoides* Sternb. (without secondary wood). It is stated to be the first example to be described showing actual continuity between these two types of stem, although the conclusion that they are identical has been generally accepted for a long time past.

It is pointed out that the main axis is interesting in possessing a complete and evenly distributed ring of secondary wood, whereas the lateral branches are without any secondary xylem. The mode of branching is fully discussed and illustrated.

Arber (Cambridge).

Personalnachrichten.

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