purple in colour, but becomes blue after 6–7 days. After the ‘secretion’ of the cytoplasm the nuclear chromatin segments diminish in size, while the nucleoli become more and more evident, and the nucleoplasm has the same appearance as in a leaf which has never been fed. The third layer of gland-cells, perhaps concerned in the secretion of mucus, also shows marked changes; for the long spindle-shaped nuclei of the resting condition shorten within one minute, after ten minutes they are more or less globular, then pass through changes similar to those described above, and after some days resume their spindle shape—an indication of rest.

LILY H. HUIE.

A NEW CYCAD FROM THE ISLE OF PORTLAND¹.—

Dr. Woodward lately obtained an exceedingly fine specimen of a cycadean stem from the Purbeck beds of Portland, which is now in the fossil-plant gallery of the British Museum. The stem, which is probably the largest known, has a height of 1 m. 18.5 cm., and measures 1 m. 7 cm. in girth at the broadest part. A striking feature of the specimen is the conical apical bud enclosed by tapered bud-scales, bearing numerous ramental outgrowths on the exposed surface. The surface of the stem presents the appearance of a prominent reticulum of projecting ridges, of which the meshes were originally occupied by the persistent petiole-bases. The substance of the leaf-stalks has for the most part disappeared, while the interpetiolar ramental tissue has been mineralized and so preserved as a projecting framework. In structure the ramenta are practically identical with those of *Bennettites*, as described by Carruthers and other writers. The petiole-bases also agree very closely with those of *Bennettites*, consisting of a mass of parenchymatous tissue traversed by numerous vascular bundles and secretory canals, with a distinct band of cork at the periphery. No trace of any inflorescence has been found. It is proposed to name the plant *Cycadeoidea gigantea*.

A. C. SEWARD.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE LORANTHACEAE OF CEYLON². II. ANATOMICAL.—I. Emergences on the Embryo of *Loranthus neelgherensis*.—The hypocotyl of the fully-developed embryo

¹ Abstract of a paper read before Section K at the Liverpool Meeting of the British Association, 1896.

² Ibid.

Seward, A C . 1896. "A new cycad from the isle of Portland." *Annals of botany* 10, 626–626. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.aob.a088633>.

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