

fly to pieces on the slightest blow of the hammer or chisel. When of moderate size, it is best not to attempt their removal from the stone, but to trim the block into a convenient shape, and carefully chisel away the surrounding part, so as to expose the essential character of the bone. In all cases this is an excellent method where practicable, for such specimens have a double interest; they are at once illustrative examples of the fossils, and of the rock in which they were deposited.

But many specimens will not admit of the adoption of this method; and with large ones it is inconvenient and undesirable, except where bones lie in juxta-position. The large specimens in Tilgate grit, (figured in the fossils of Tilgate Forest,) were all extracted piecemeal from the rock: and most of the large bones of the *Iguanodon*, &c. now in the British Museum, were originally in many hundred pieces, and were cemented together with glue in the manner above described; no method is so convenient and effectual.

When a bone is too imperfect to be united as a whole, it may be imbedded in Roman cement, or plaster of Paris, which when dry may be coloured of the prevailing tint of the rock. For large, heavy specimens, the cement is preferable; it is of easy application, and the fissures and cracks of the bones may be filled up with it, taking care first to cover the parts with thin hot glue, or the cement, when it dries, will shrink and fall out. A thin coating of