

time, labour, and practice are therefore required, to obtain specimens of any considerable size. To Miss Mary Anning, of Lyme Regis, the merit is due, of having first accomplished this difficult task; Mr. Hawkins has subsequently carried the art to perfection, as may be seen in the marvellous examples of Ichthyosauri and Plesiosauri, in the British Museum.

The small specimens, such as the detached paddles, groups of vertebræ and ribs, &c., that are likely to come under the collector's notice in his personal researches, are not difficult of preservation. Mr. Hawkins employed a strong watery solution of gum arabic as the cement, and plaster of Paris as the ground, using shallow wooden trays of well-seasoned wood, in which the specimens were permanently imbedded: the bones, scales, &c. were then varnished with a solution of mastic; and the ground coloured blue, like the Lias. I have had considerable practice in the dissection of skeletons in the Lias, and having found the methods previously described answer every purpose, have not employed that recommended by Mr. Hawkins.

The scales of reptiles and fishes, either in connected masses or detached, are frequently in great perfection, and sometimes associated with the teeth and bones. In the Lias, even the remains of the skin and integuments (*Bd.* pl. 10.) are occasionally to be met with. Whenever any part of a skeleton is found lying in shale or stone, the surrounding