

ON COLLECTING FOSSIL INSECTS.—The only certain localities in which the British collector can reasonably expect to obtain examples of the fossil remains of Insects, are Stonesfield, where the elytra of beetles are by no means scarce—Coalbrook Dale, in which remains of this class are sometimes, but very rarely, found in the ironstone nodules—Wainlode Cliff, in the Lias shale; but these specimens are so minute and obscure as to require an experienced eye to detect them—and Dallards, near Dinton, and Stone, near Aylesbury; the two localities of Wealden strata, in which the Rev. J. P. Brodie has discovered the insects previously described.

Should the student visit the celebrated sites of these fossils in France and Germany, namely, Aix, Cœningen, Solenhofen, &c., he will have but little difficulty in obtaining an interesting series, at a moderate expense. The marls and limestones in which they occur are of a laminated character, and readily split asunder in the direction favourable for the display of the insects. In some examples the form of the insect only is seen through a thin opaque pellicle of calcareous earth, which may be removed by a penknife or graver, and the wings, elytra, antennæ, legs, &c. disclosed. Very thin mastic varnish heightens the colours of such specimens, and renders them more durable.