

importance; affording generally the most marked characters of the beds in which they occur. These should, therefore, be particularly sought after, and their relative abundance or rarity in different situations noticed. The fossils should, if possible, be kept united with portions of the rock or matrix in which they are found; and where they are numerous,—in sand, clay, or any moist or friable matrix,—it is, in general, better to retain a large portion of the whole mass, to be examined afterwards, than to attempt their separation at the time of collecting.

“ 8. The *loose substances* which are found above the solid rocks, in the form of gravel, silt, rolled pebbles, &c., should be carefully distinguished from the *solid strata* upon which they rest. And the more ancient of these water-worn materials, found on the sides or summits of hills, &c. should be distinguished from the recent mud, sand, and gravel, brought down by land-floods, or by rivers. The bones and teeth of quadrupeds are not unfrequently found in the more ancient gravel; and the collection of these remains from distant quarters of the globe, is an object of the greatest interest to geology.

“ 9. Besides a note of the locality, there ought, if possible, to accompany every specimen, a short notice of its geological circumstances; as, for example, whether it be found in large, shapeless masses, or in strata? If in strata,—what are the thickness, inclination to the horizon, and direction with respect to the compass, of the beds? If these cannot be measured, an *estimate* should always be recorded while the objects are in view. Are they uniform in dip and direction?—curved, or contorted?—continuous, or interrupted by fissures or veins? Is the whole cliff, or mass of strata in sight, of uniform composition?—or does it consist of different kinds of stone? If the strata be different,—what is the order in which they are placed above each other successively?

“ 10. A *label*, distinctly written, should accompany every specimen, stating its native place, its relative situation, &c.