

particularly in those of the Tertiary formations, are commonly so perfect, as merely to require careful removal: those in the clays are more fragile, and must be extracted with great caution; and when very delicate, should be left attached to the clay or shale; as in the examples, *Wond.* p. 350. The specimens extracted entire, may be kept either in paper trays, lined with wadding, or fixed to pieces of card, or thin board covered with paper, by thick gum-water; attaching three or four specimens, in different positions, so as to expose the essential characters, as the aperture, spire, and back of the univalves; and the hinge, muscular imprints, &c. of the bivalves. Where only casts remain, search should be made for an impression of the outer surface of the shell, and a cast taken of it in wax or plaster of Paris. In indurated clays, sometimes both shells and casts may be obtained; and a specimen of each should be preserved. Mastic varnish delicately applied to fragile shells tends to preserve them, and improves their appearance. It is desirable to collect the same species in various states of growth; the form of the young shell (as in *Rostellaria macrop-tera*. *Ly.* I. p. 341.) often differing essentially from that of the adult. It will be found convenient to have trays or boards of different colours; and to select one tint for the shells collected from a particular formation, or deposit; for example, the newer Tertiary may be placed on yellow paper; the older, or Eocene fossils, on light-blue. It is also