

unnecessary; and the description of the development of the specimen of *Hylæosaurus* (p. 735.), affords a practical lesson to the young collector.

When a vertebra is found in an imperfect state, it should be closely examined on the spot, and if it present proofs of recent fracture, the detached processes should be sought for; even if the body of a vertebra be imbedded in stone, and the processes appear to have been broken off before it was enveloped in the rock, the corresponding parts will often be found in the same mass of stone. There is, in the British Museum, a very fine Saurian vertebra imbedded in a large slab of Tilgate limestone, in which the spinous process is seen lying in the same block, several inches distant from the centrum, or body: when observed in the quarry the latter only was exposed, and I was about to detach it from the slab, for the convenience of carriage, when I perceived indications of the spinous process. The vertebra was therefore allowed to remain, and the stone chiselled away, so as to expose the spine; and the specimen then displayed its present interesting character.

It may frequently happen that a fragment of a large bone,—as, for example, the thigh-bone of the *Iguanodon*,—may be obtained from a quarry; and after an interval of some weeks, the corresponding portions be discovered. This was remarkably exemplified in the first specimen, which revealed to me the peculiar characters of the femur of the *Igua-*