

collected together in the same locality, as many may probably belong to the same individual, and thus the dental organization of the original be determined. Teeth collected from the same stratum in different places, should not, therefore, be mixed together. Several series of the same kind of teeth should be preserved, and as many as possible of each kind; for specimens, apparently identical, may prove to be highly instructive as a series. I have often had occasion to regret the disposal of supposed duplicates, in my earlier researches, which would have tended to elucidate the characters of those specimens which were retained.

The Ichthyolites, and their detached teeth and fins, in the Chalk and other soft limestones, may be cleared by means of a penknife or graver, and small sharp chisels. It is preferable to leave the teeth attached to small blocks of the chalk; as in the examples, figured *Lign.* 130. But to develop the beautiful Chalk Ichthyolites, particularly those of the Salmon, *Macropoma*, &c., some practice and considerable dexterity are required. The compressed fishes, as the *Beryx*, like those in the Tertiary limestones, often lie in the sedimentary plane of the stone, and may be sufficiently exposed by a blow of a hammer or a pick, to show the nature of the fossil, and admit of being easily developed. But the fishes, with sub-cylindrical bodies, very commonly split asunder in a transverse direction; and those with spinous scales, as the