water. It is of great importance not to give any rotatory motion to the sieves in this part of the process, for such is very ruinous to fragile organisms. The sieves should be gently churned up and down, whether singly or together. The result, of course, is that the rougher stones and gravel and the larger organisms are washed and retained in the upper sieve. The fine mud or sand passes through the whole of the sieves and subsides into the bottom of the tub, while the three remaining sieves contain, in graduated series, the objects of intermediate size. The sieves are examined carefully in succession, and the organisms which they contain gently removed with a pair of brass or bone forceps into the jars of sea-water, or placed at once in bottles of weak spirit of wine.

The scientific value of a dredging operation depends mainly upon two things,—the care with which the objects procured are preserved and labelled for future identification and reference, and the accuracy with which all the circumstances of the dredging, position, depth, nature of ground, bottom temperature, date, &c., are recorded. With regard to the preservation of the animals, I cannot here go into detail. There are many ways of preserving, special to the different invertebrate groups; and 'taxidermy' is in itself a complicated art. I will merely mention one or two general points. A specimen in almost every group is of infinitely greater scientific value if it be preserved entire with its soft parts. For this purpose the most usual plan is to place it at once in spirit of wine diluted to about proof. Care must be taken not to put too many specimens