

together in one jar, or they will very shortly become discoloured; and the jars ought to be looked to carefully and the spirit tested, and if necessary renewed after they have been set aside for a day or two, as sea animals contain a large quantity of water. In hot weather, and if the specimens be bulky, it is often better to use strong spirit. The ordinary methylated spirit of commerce answers sufficiently well for ordinary purposes, though if a specimen be reserved for minute dissection, I prefer using pure, or even absolute alcohol.

For very delicate transparent objects,—such as salpæ, siphonophora, polycystina, &c.,—Goadby's solution seems to be preferable: but do what we may, a preserved specimen of one of these lovely objects is a mere *caput mortuum*, a melancholy suggestion of its former beauty; good only for the demonstration of anatomical structure.

In preserving marine animals dry, as much of the soft parts should be removed as possible, and replaced by tow or cotton, and the object to be dried should be steeped in several changes of fresh water to get rid of the whole of the salt, and then dried very thoroughly and not too quickly. Every specimen, whether dry or in spirit, should be labelled *at once*, with the number under which this particular dredging is entered in the dredger's note-book. It is wonderful how soon things get into confusion if this be not rigorously attended to. The small paper tickets with a fancy margin and gummed on the back, which haberdashers use for ticketing their goods, are to be had of all wholesale stationers at nominal prices, and they are very con-