

cost of £70. We had also from Messrs Powell & Sons, Whitefriars Glass Works, several thousand wide-mouthed bottles, and tubes of various smaller sizes. The cases of empty bottles were taken from the racks and replaced by full ones as we proceeded. Whenever we had an opportunity, as, for example, when we reached one of our own dockyards, we sent home an instalment of full cases to the Admiralty, where they were received by the Hydrographer, and sent on to Edinburgh. They there passed into the custody of Professor Turner, F.R.S., who most kindly overhauled them, and saw that they were in good order, and the spirit sufficient, and stored them in a spare gallery in the University.

A large amount of material had been sent home from Bermuda, from Halifax, from the Cape of Good Hope, from Sydney, from Hong-Kong, and from Japan; and after the contents of the ship had been finally cleared out at Sheerness, we found, on mustering our stores, that they consisted of 563 cases, containing 2270 large glass jars with specimens in spirit of wine, 1749 smaller stoppered bottles, 1860 glass tubes, and 176 tin cases, all with specimens in spirit; 180 tin cases with dried specimens; and 22 casks with specimens in brine.

A book, which we called the "Station-book," was kept in the work-room, and whenever the ship stopped to dredge, or trawl, or make any special observation in any of our departments, a special sheet, to which a number was attached, was dedicated to the occasion, and every detail of date, position, depth, temperature, and nature of the bottom, was carefully entered as a heading, for which the form was printed at the top of the first page of each sheet. Then followed any details, and a rough list, zoologically arranged, of the animals procured.

The jars containing the animals from each station were labelled outside with the particulars of the station, and especially with its *number*; and to prevent any possible confusion, a slip of parchment, with the number written upon it with a dark pencil, was also dropped into each jar or tin. The duty of filling the station-books and carrying out these daily details devolved mainly upon Mr Moseley and Dr von Willemoes-Suhm, and I need scarcely say that the *possibility* of preparing such a report as we are now issuing is due to a great degree to the thorough efficiency with which this duty was performed.

The final packing of such delicate and brittle stores for their voyage home was a matter requiring much care and skill; it was done, in almost every case, under the direct superintendence of Mr Murray, who saw to the final labelling, and kept the reference books; and I may add that, of upwards of 5000 bottles and jars of different sizes sent from all parts of the world to be stored in Edinburgh, only about four were broken, and no specimens were lost from the spirit giving way.

Some other fluid media, such as glycerine and solutions of picric and chromic acids were employed occasionally for preserving specimens, but we never found that they were to be depended upon; and later experience has shown that objects preserved in any of these are not nearly so suitable for dissection and microscopic examination as when they are