

MR. SCOTT said the finding of the kangaroo mouse was important, as it belonged to the Alleghany fauna. He enquired whether pure spirits should be used for preserving reptiles.

MR. SMALL said that care should be taken that the spirits were not too strong, as, if they were, the colour and tissue were both apt to be damaged and perhaps destroyed. He had found from experience that the ordinary druggists' alcohol, 15 above proof, diluted with one-third its quantity of water, was the proper strength. It would also be found very convenient for the collector to keep a common wide-mouthed jar in which to place his specimens when collected, to lie in the spirits till required. A few days after being placed in the liquid they should be taken out and pricked in several places with a sharp pin or needle. This would allow the gas to escape and prevent any discolouration. They could always, if kept under the liquid, be placed in any shape required, as they remained perfectly pliant.

PROF. MACOUN had lost some specimens of small fishes by using too strong alcohol.