

specimens become very brittle and easily broken. They should therefore be stored in small firm boxes. Cigar boxes are very convenient.

*Grasshoppers* and other *Orthoptera* may be killed in the cyanide bottle and each one rolled up lightly in soft paper and then stored away in the same manner.

*Beetles* and *Bugs*—All *Coleoptera* and *Hemiptera* may be either placed at once in alcohol or in bottles containing sawdust dampened with alcohol.

*Bees*, *Ants* and *Wasps* may be collected for examination in alcohol but when possible they should be killed in the cyanide bottle and pinned in a cork-lined box.

*Flies* must be killed and pinned at once.

*Spiders* may be collected in alcohol.

*Cyanide Bottle*—This may be made either by placing a small quantity of Cyanide of Potassium in the bottom of a bottle and pouring in sufficient wet Plaster-of-Paris to cover it; or a hole can be hollowed out in the cork and a piece of cyanide inserted. This can be kept in place either with a plug of cotton wool, or a piece of chamois leather or linen may be tied over the cork. For beetles a few very small pieces of cyanide dropped into a bottle half filled with dry sawdust will answer.

It must be remembered that the active principle of Cyanide of Potassium being Prussic Acid it is intensely poisonous—any left on hand after the bottles are made should be at once destroyed.

*Plants*—Botanical specimens are made by pressing plants between sheets of dry paper and changing the papers every 12 or 24 hours until the specimens are dry. When staying for any length of time at one place a convenient press may be made as follows: Put down a few sheets of paper and on the top of these arrange a specimen, then a few more sheets of paper and another plant, and so on until all are arranged. Upon the top of the pile so formed put a box in which stones or sand to about the weight of twenty pounds may be placed. When travelling two boards held together with straps will answer all purposes. The quicker plants are dried the better the specimens will be. The papers for drying plants should never be left unchanged for more than 24 hours.

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