

was found to be 2 feet 9 inches. The microscopes are secured to the table by brass hold-fasts like those in common use on carpenters' benches. The hold-fast, when brought to bear upon the back of the footpiece, holds the instrument rigidly firm. Two holes are bored in the table for the hold-fast, one for holding the microscope in position when in use, and the other for securing it when set aside.

The centre of the table is divided by low fixed battens into oblong compartments for micro-re-agents, Canada-balsam, glycerine jelly, and the paraphernalia used in examining objects with the microscope and mounting microscopic preparations, ink-stands, and drawing materials. Two large moderator lamps swing below the cupolas; movable branches for candles are screwed to the bulkheads; and for examining minute surface animals at night, when they are frequently in greatest abundance, the Bockett microscope lamp, made by Collins, is found most useful.

Three of Hartnach's small model microscopes, with objectives 2, 4, 7, 8, and 10, are in constant use in the work-room; but one of Smith and Beck's binoculars is found more convenient for observing objects such as the large foraminifera, by reflected light. There are also several other microscopes by Ross, Zeiss, and other makers, available, and a number of the ordinary dissecting microscopes.

The heat of the tropics affects unfavorably many of the substances in common use in mounting microscopic preparations; thus, glycerine jelly will scarcely set at all, but remains nearly fluid, and the different varnishes and lacs remain soft and sticky. It is unsafe to put preparations on edge, and we find small pine-wood cases, supplied by Baker and Holborn, containing each twelve horizontal trays, with accommodation for six dozen slides, most suitable for storing. It is almost inconceivable how difficult it is to keep instruments, particularly those which are necessarily made of steel, in working order on board