"A third species exists, very small indeed, of a very light colour, approaching closely to white; local name 'Dafre' (pronounced Darfray). It attaches its nest to the surface of trees, and delights in lofty positions. The nest varies in size from a man's fist to three or four times that size, and is very light in aspect, nearly white. All admit that this bee is stingless. I regret that I have no specimens at hand. I mention these different species at the present time, simply because I have forwarded them in the box.

"A fourth species is found with the local name 'Vranh'; French sound, the *an* sounded like *an* in 'franc.' Many of the natives pronounce it as if written with *f*, Franh. This species burrows in the soft sticks of which the rafters in the natives' houses are made. They take a longitudinal direction, and extend from three to ten inches in length. They have the diameter of a bullet; sometimes two will be seen parallel. At the end will be found a shallow excavation, in which are deposited the eggs, and which are separated from the main cell by a perpendicular division, consisting of the fine particles of the wood made in process of excavation, united by some agglutinal, which no doubt they have the power of secreting. One of the specimens sent differs from the others. Is it not a male? It was found in the same nest with the others."

MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY.

Oct. 14, 1846.—J. S. Bowerbank, Esq., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

A paper by John Anthony, Esq., "On a Method of rendering the Appearances in delicate Structures visible by means of oblique transmitted light."

This method depends upon the placing the object in such a position that the fine lines or other delicate markings are exactly at right angles to the illuminating rays, when these lines, &c. will be at their maximum of distinctness, and thus tissues may be rendered distinctly visible whose existence when viewed in the ordinary manner might be considered as exceedingly doubtful. The object employed to illustrate this position was the Navicula of the Humber, one of the most delicate of test objects, which under ordinary circumstances appears perfectly transparent, but when viewed in this way, not only exhibits a double set of lines but also transverse lines, giving the whole the appearance of being covered with a delicate net-work. Four drawings of this object were exhibited, showing it in as many different positions, making a complete revolution of the field in which the markings just mentioned were distinctly visible. In order to bring out these appearances, it is necessary that the light should be very oblique, and must be passed laterally through the "bull's eye," in such a manner that the object (the Navicula) may appear of an intensely blue colour nearly opaque. The stage is then to be gradually turned round until the shell is in the position to be best seen as described.

1847. "Microscopical Society." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 19, 69–69.

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