

discs of beautiful structure, appearing as if ornamented as the engine-turned case of a watch; and some other bodies, having the appearance of a cellular nucleus, from which radiate four spines of unequal lengths. Besides these were several other forms, never before observed in the fossil Infusoria of other countries.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY OF DUBLIN.

July 1st, 1841.—Mr. Yeates in the Chair.

The Secretary having read the Minutes of the last meeting,

Mr. Bergin read a letter from Captain Portlock, enclosing a portion of Infusorial earth from the county of Down, at the base of the Mourne mountains. It was taken from the bank of a river under the bog.

A small portion of this earth having been examined under the microscope, was found to contain principally *Navicula*, *Bacillaria*, *Eunotia*, with fragments of *Achnanthes*, and *Conferva*. Mr. Ball proposed to separate the species, or rather sizes, contained in Infusorial earths, by washing in glasses, in the manner employed for preparing emery of different degrees of fineness.

Mr. Yeates presented to the Society a modification of the compressor, answering as a fine adjustment and universal object holder. He was requested to furnish the Secretary with a detailed description of the instrument, which he promised to do.

Microscopical Memoranda.

Ehrenberg's further remarks on the Animals of the Chalk.—M. Ehrenberg has communicated the result of his continued researches on the living animals of the Chalk, to the Academy of Berlin. He stated, that he had received from Berzelius some fresh mud from the sea-coasts of Sweden, which the Archbishop of Gottenburg had collected in the Island of Tjoern, in the Cattegat. The most important, in a scientific point of view, were twelve living species, which had only hitherto been met with in a fossil silicious state, in the chalk marls of Caltanissetta in Sicily, and at Oran in Africa. Amongst them occurs, in a living state, the *Grammatophora* (hitherto *Navicula*) *Africana*, which has only been met with in a fossil state in the marls of Oran; the recent *Oceanica* also has only been met with in the marls of Greece. There is also to be met with in the waters of the Cattegat, a prismatic infusorial form, which Ehrenberg has observed in the marls of the Oran, which would belong to the genus *Staurastrum*, if it could be placed in the subdivision of Infusoria, characterised by a soft vertex (*carapace*), and which is distinguished by having four apertures at the four angles. He proposes to class it under a new genus, by the title of *Amphitetras antediluviana*. Among the living forms of the Northern Seas, he has also found one similar to the *Dictyocha Speculum*, but spiny, like the *D. aculcata* of Sicily. Lastly, he has discovered a series of eight species of the genus *Actinocyclus*, of the radiated subdivision, destitute of a septum, which form the great mass of silica in the chalk marls of Cal-