

stated by Dr. Bonney would at once disappear. Specimens of Eozoön or other fossils might be infiltrated or filled with these silicates, and when the latter were superabundant they might form separate concretions or grains, which might in some cases envelop the fossils or be attached to them in irregular forms, just as one finds in the case of the flints in chalk or the chert in some other limestones.³

It is scarcely necessary to say that no objection to the organic origin of the Eozoön can be founded on the fact that many of the specimens are fractured, crushed, bent, or faulted, by the movement of the containing rock, or on the circumstance that well-preserved specimens should be rare, and found chiefly in beds containing silicates capable of injecting their cavities. On the other hand, the circumstance that fragments of Eozoön are abundant in the limestone is one of the best possible proofs that we are dealing with a calcareous organism. It would be interesting to describe and figure a number of specimens in our collections illustrating these points; but to do so would require an extensive illustrated memoir, for which neither space nor means are at present available.

I observe, in conclusion of this part of the subject, that in any highly crystalline limestone we can hope to find well-preserved fossils only when their cavities and pores have been filled with some enduring siliceous mineral; but, on the other hand, that porous fossils, once so infiltrated, become imperishable. It still remains to consider shortly new facts bearing on the structure of Eozoön and its possible biological affinities.

³ It is a curious coincidence that Dr. Johnston-Lavis has described in the July number of this Journal, the aqueous deposition at ordinary temperature of crystals of pyroxene and hornblende, in cavities and crevices of bones included in an ash-bed of recent date, and in presence of calcite, apatite, and fluoride of calcium, as in the Grenville Series. This is a modern instance analogous to that suggested above.