

He further observes, that they not only thus shoot their threads upwards, and mount with them in a line almost perpendicular, they also project them in a line parallel to the horizon, as may be seen by their threads running from one wall to another in a house, or from one tree to another in a field, and even from wall to wall across gardens of considerable extent. The matter of which the spider's threads are formed, we have already observed, is a viscid juice, elaborated in the body of the animal, and emitted from papillæ situated at the extremity of the belly; which papillæ are furnished with numerous apertures that do the business of wire-drawers, as it were, in forming the threads. Of these apertures, M. Rheumur observes, there are enough in the compass of the smallest pin's head, to yield a prodigious quantity of distinct threads. The holes are perceived by their effects: take a large garden-spider ready to lay its eggs, and applying the finger on a part of its papillæ, as you withdraw that finger, it will take with it an amazing number of threads. M. Rheumur has often counted 70 or 80 with a microscope, but has perceived that there were infinitely more than he could tell. In effect, if he should say that each tip of a papillæ furnished  
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