

thicknesse of duste upon them. I cannot abide to stay in my chaumbre; I will to her (for I have not seen her now since yestreen)

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Mar. 1. Right well hath it been sayde that woman hath ye face of a faire angel and ye hearte of a stinginge serpent. She ensnareth and deceiveth man, and her conscience troubleth her not a whit thereover. Greatly do I rejoice that I have never fallen into ye meshe. (Albeit one of ye same may think in her vaine hearte that she hath bewitched me, I care naught for her. I did but dissemble some sort of likinge that I might ye better studie ye sexe.

I doe hereto say that if ye cursed, lyinge knave, Jones, cometh anigh these chaumbres I will throw him through ye painted oriel.

Ap. 1. I chronikle naught upon this daie, lest it should seem to mock me, for trulie I am the verie foole of fortune. (Nevertheless I have bespoken two gross of candles and have gotten my bookes out of pawne with ye monie my father lately dispatched to me. I did write him that I had naught to give ye pious palmers who do come abegging to ye college.)

May. 1. I have not yet loste all hope of bettering my evil case. If a man sit with his feet in a bathe of colde water he may worke till three of ye morne. (Albeit I have but lately seene that newly-made booke ycleped *Dante, Hys Inferno*, and verilie I did all but envie ye lotte of manie a wight by him encountered in ye abode of Plutoe)

June. 1. I am horridlie besetten by fears and dreadinges. My hande is sore shaken. I can not hold ye quille.

June 10. Ye mercie of Providence be prayed! But soothe to say, ye clawes of Satan were nigh to graspinge me. Now will I go afishing with a gladde hearte FESTE.

#### OPEN MEETING OF THE NATURAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION.

Another open meeting of the Natural Science Association is numbered with those of the past. The large audience that filled the amphitheatre of the Biological Building on Friday evening, February 11 will all agree that in every way it was a decided success.

The music alone was well worthy of a long tramp through the rain and slush of that disagreeable evening, but when this was supported by the pleasing and instructive addresses that were delivered, the entertainment was all that could be desired. Dr. Coleman, the President of the Association, occupied the chair. It is not necessary to say to any one who knows or has heard Dr. Coleman that the position was happily filled. In giving the Assembly a few words of welcome, he expressed his satisfaction with the activity of the Association and with the many interesting papers which have been read since he became president. He enumerated certain desirable qualities, the extent of which is greatly increased by the study of the Natural Sciences. Dr. Sheard, the Medical Health Officer, gave a most excellent address on "The Relation of Contagious Diseases to Public Health." With his happy method of expression he introduced many facts concerning infection, which certainly were a revelation to many of his hearers. Contagion and Infection are synonymous terms, though contagion is often spoken of in cases only where the disease is communicated by actual contact with the person suffering. He illustrated the growth and habitat of the disease germ, which in general is a micro-organism of a lower plant type, by referring to the diphtheria bacillus. The mucous membranes of the throat, nose, etc., are its favorite haunts. It multiplies rapidly, and secretes a toxalbumen, which is poisonous to the system. The disease is cured by introducing into the system enough anti-toxin,

i.e., an antidote for the poison of tox-albumen, to overcome the force of the poison. He described the periods of (a) Incubation—when the germ is gaining a foothold, but cannot be noticed. (b) Invasion—the time of attack, when the disease can be seen to be doing its work. (c) Despumation—the period of recovery, when the bacilli are cast off as minute scales. It is during this last period that the disease is most infectious. He concluded by referring to the danger attached to the method used in some public schools of the collection and indiscriminate re distribution of pencils, scribblers, etc. If disease is present, this forms a most potent means for its dissemination.

Dr. Bensley's address on "Poison Glands in the Animal Kingdom," proved very interesting. Poison glands were described; their structure was explained, and the different organs which serve to ensure the insertion of the poison into the enemy or prey, were described. Starting with the Animals and Birds, he mentioned the representatives of each class through the vertebrate and invertebrate kingdoms, which possess these organs, the lowest type being the thread cells of the coelenterates. He took up the poison organs of the venomous serpents at greatest length, as snake-bite produces more cases of fatality in some warm climates than many of the infectious diseases do. It has been found possible to produce anti-venom similar to the anti-toxins in common use to destroy the effects of the poison, if in the system, or to procure immunity from the effect of the venom. This has been quite successful in India, where many deaths are caused each year from snake-bite. The lecture was illustrated by numerous lantern slides projected on the screen by Mr. B. A. Bensley.

The opening number of the programme was a selection by the Varsity Banjo, Guitar and Mandolin Club. It was so enthusiastically received that the club responded to an encore. Unfortunately all of the members were not able to reman, and their second number had to be dispensed with.

Miss Mac Dickenson, as she always does, captivated the audience by her vocal solos. She was on the programme for two numbers. "The Owl" and "Go Sleep, My Honey," both of which she gave with guitar accompaniments. The appreciation of those who listened was shown by the prolonged applause, and Miss Dickenson in each case kindly responded to an encore.

Miss Bertha Rosenstadt, who has long been the favorite pianist in University circles, contributed a piano solo to the programme, and to the satisfaction of those present responded to a second demand on her powers of entertainment.

Mr. A. B. Steer, who gave a piano solo, was favorably received, but he did not return to ameliorate the insatiate cravings of those who were charmed by his first appearance.

When the programme was completed, a large number took advantage of the invitation to take a glance at the variety of objects in the museum, which, through the kindness of Prof. Wright, was thrown open for inspection.

C. M. FRASER, *Secretary.*

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