

self and Mr. Duggar (in the preceding paper), and another is due to a *Fusarium*. The differences in the effects of the two are described.

W. F. GANONG,  
*Secretary.*

SMITH COLLEGE, NORTHAMPTON, MASS.

*ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN FOLK-LORE SOCIETY.*

THIS meeting, held in connection with the affiliated societies, at Columbia College, on December 28th and 29th, was indicative of progress. According to the report of the Council the number of members had remained about constant, amounting to about five hundred. The report of the Treasurer showed that annual receipts and expenses were about equal. As the next volume of the series of *Memoirs of the Society* was announced a second part of 'Current Superstitions,' by Mrs. Fanny D. Bergen, including those relating to animals and plants; the first part of this work forms the fourth volume of the *Memoirs*, of which six volumes have now appeared.

As officers for 1899 were elected Professor C. L. Edwards, of the University of Cincinnati, President; Miss Alice C. Fletcher, Washington, First Vice-President; Mr. C. F. Lummis, Los Angeles, Cal., Second Vice-President. The Secretary and Treasurer hold over.

A committee was appointed to take into consideration the subject of the collection and record of folk-music, and to propose plans for the more adequate collection of negro folk-music in America.

The address of the retiring President, Dr. Henry Wood, of Johns Hopkins University, dealt with 'Folk-lore and metaphor in literary style.' The object of the speaker was to exhibit the dependence of the consciously artistic metaphor of literature to the traditional metaphor which forms its underlying basis.

Among papers read may be mentioned observations on 'The study of ethics among the lower races,' contributed by Dr. Washington Matthews. The writer considered the study of myths and traditions to be the safest guide in this field, which as yet has scarcely been traversed; but in the use of such material it is necessary to proceed with caution and employ the critical methods of modern science. If the gods of the tribe are considered as approving any action, or if the author of the tale appears to look for the approbation of his audience, it may be concluded that the act is regarded as possessing a moral quality, however, repulsive it may appear according to our ideas. That there exists a strong sense of the morality of conduct is obvious from the security of life; thus the Navahoes live in entire peace without courts or punishments. With this people there exists no penalty for theft; the thief is merely required to restore the stolen property. According to the myths incest is presumed to be confined to witches and cannibals. Truthfulness is not inculcated as a duty, yet Dr. Matthews had found the veracity of the people to be about equal to that of the whites. Expectation of reward in a future life does not exist. Conscience forms an effective power. The tales attest the frequency of active benevolence.

Mr. W. W. Newell offered some observations on the relation, in sun-myths, of the visual impression to the symbolic conception. He pointed out the antiquity and universality of the radiant disk as a solar symbol, arguing that the effect on the sight must have been constant. He considered the variety of the myths to be the result of causal explanations, the orb being considered as an object somehow to be got through the sky, treating of the Indian myths regarding the sun-bearer, who is often confounded with the orb he carries. Dr. Boas observed that among the Kootenay, for

example, the sun is regarded as an animal; but perhaps it was conceived that the light emanated from a certain part of the creature, just as in the numerous myths where the luminous disk is regarded as part of the decoration of a sun-bearer.

Mr. A. L. Kroeber presented a collection of animal tales of Eskimo, in part as made by himself from Smith Sound Eskimo. In these tales there is a contrast between Indian and Eskimo conceptions. Among Indians animals play an important part and are conceived as human in character. With Eskimo, on the contrary, animal stories are few; they belong chiefly to two classes, the first describing a marriage between a human being and an animal, the second answering to European beast fables. The paucity and brevity of the latter differentiate them from the Indian narratives. Dr. Kroeber subjoined a list of recorded Eskimo animal tales.

Dr. Livingston Farrand read a paper on the 'Mythology of the Chilcotin,' in which the relations of the tales of this people with those of their neighbors was discussed, with a view to obtaining a criterion in regard to the vexed question of diffusion or independent origination of similar myths. Dr. Farrand concluded that identity of theme was of minor importance as proof of borrowing, while agreement in details, among races contiguous or in communication, could be explained only on the hypothesis of diffusion.

Notes on American Indian names of white men and women were presented by Dr. A. F. Chamberlain, of Clark University, and 'Contributions toward a bibliography of folk-lore relating to women,' by Mrs. Isabel Cushman Chamberlain.

Miss Cornelia Horsford communicated information in regard to traditions connected with an apparent footprint on a rock of Shelter Island.

Other papers were offered by Dr. Robert

Bell, Professor Thomas Wilson and Mrs. F. D. Bergen. Demonstrations were made of phonographic records of Indian song.

W. W. NEWELL.

#### SCIENTIFIC BOOKS.

*Kalender für Geologen, Paläontologen und Mineralogen.* Herausgegeben von DR. K. KEILHACK. 2d annual edition, 1899, with a portrait of Professor C. W. v. Gümbel. Leipzig, 1899, published by Max Weg. Pp. 288, with blank pages for notes. Price, 3 Marks.

A handbook for geologists comparable to the numerous pocket aids, edited for the use of engineers, has never been issued. Dr. Keilhack began in 1898 the work, which is here described, in such a way as to fill some of the needs for such a book of reference. The list of contents of the present edition will serve as a sufficient notice of the booklet. The work gives a list of the official geological surveys of all countries, including the American States, with their officers, the maps published, the prices of the maps and information concerning the other publications of the surveys. Where possible, the annual money allotment is stated. Secondly, a list of the professors and instructors in geology, paleontology and mineralogy in the colleges and high schools of the world, alphabetically arranged by towns. It is to be noted that the American high schools do not rank as 'high schools' of European grade. Hence American high-school teachers are not here named. Thirdly, a list of geological, paleontological and mineralogical societies, with a brief account of their publications and membership. Fourth, the addresses of geologists, etc., of Germany, Holland, Australia, Switzerland and Hungary. Fifth, the public and private geological, mineral and paleontological collections of the countries just named. Sixth, the subdivisions of the greater geological formations in Europe. Seventh, a tabular view of the massive rocks, after Zirkel. Eighth, the characteristics of common minerals, giving their system of crystallization, specific gravity, hardness, chemical composition, streak color and the crystallographic position of their leaf cleavage. Ninth, a comparative table of the