

J.M.D. Oct 18

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Dear Papa

Narrowly been at three of Prof Huxley's lectures & find them very interesting. He began his first by saying that when he began lecturing he was of opinion that general principals should first be taught & then details. But that from that time he had gradually swung to the opposite extreme, & now thought best to become first acquainted with details. He accordingly began, by giving us a whole lecture on the Torula, or yeast plant going into it most fully. The second lecture was on Protococcus, & a little about the amoeba. & In the third he took up the pericillium glaucum, or common green mould, & from it traced the development of the yeast fungus. It is ~~shown~~ the following way.

The *Penicillium* germinates according to circumstances into one of three forms, or generally several together.

<p>Green mould favoured by presence of free oxygen</p>	<p>2 Zorula or yeast plant.</p>	<p>3 Bacteria, which form as very small buds on the surface of the conidia, or spores. multiply by fission, drop off, & develop into aggregations, called</p>
		<p>Yields, when not like with rapid motion Spherulitic when long & hair like Mushy when in gelatinous masses.</p>

The only change which he said there remained any doubt about was the development into Bacteria. There was also probably a fourth method of sexual reproduction, which however was not known.

Please tell William that I have received his letter about the prism, but will not get it till I hear of some chance of sending it.

Believe me with best wishes to all.
Your affectionate son
George - M - Dawson