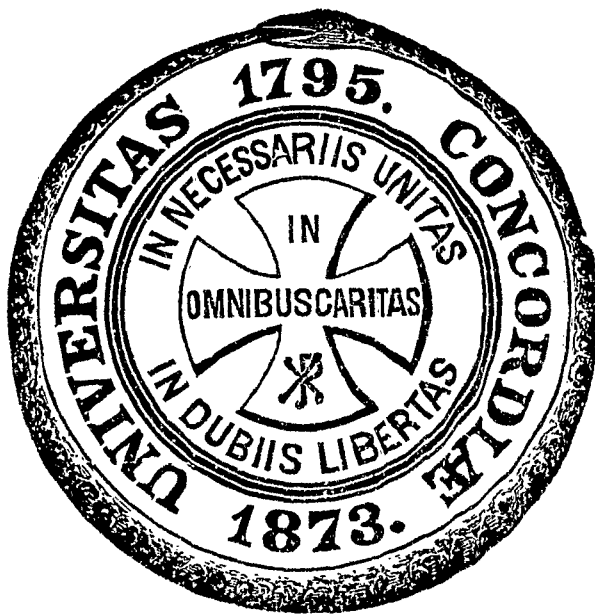


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CONCORDIENSIS

VOLUME XXXII

NUMBER 16



MARCH 6, 1909

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
THE STUDENTS OF UNION UNIVERSITY

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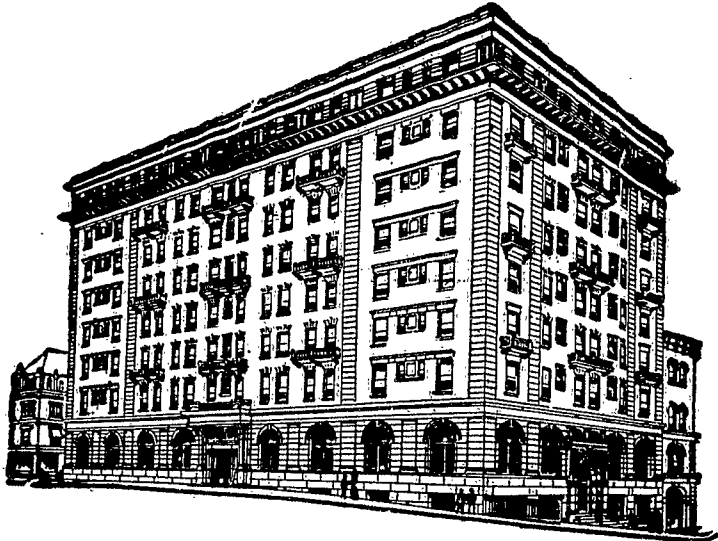
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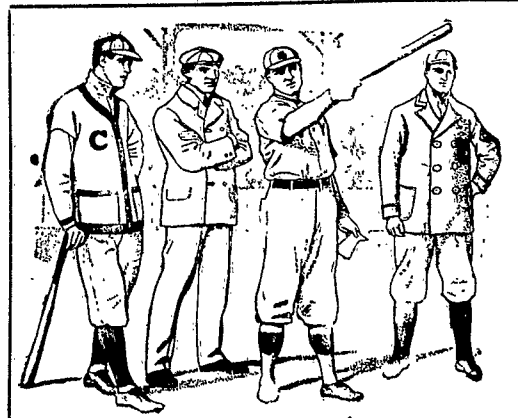
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THE CONCORDIENSIS

VOL. XXXII.

UNION COLLEGE, MARCH 6, 1909

No. 16

CHEMICAL INDIVIDUALS.

Aristotle thought that every body had at least one of the following properties: It should be either cold or hot, and either dry or wet; and from these he obtained his elements. Six combinations are possible, but two of them have to be thrown out, as contradictory.

Properties,	Corres. elements,
Cold-wet,	Water,
wet-hot,	air,
dry-hot,	fire,
cold-dry,	earth.
cold-hot,	—
wet-dry,	—

Chemistry, like all science, has developed mostly from practical questions, as dye, metal and chemical manufacturing, and after a time a new scheme was required to better fit experience. So substances were arranged in classes, with a type for each class, thus:

Class,	Type,
Combustibility,	Sulphur,
metallic properties,	mercury,
solubility and taste,	common salt,
none of above properties.	earths.

The latter element alone was retained from Aristotle. The list was more practical, but still somewhat imperfect. In science we grow slowly from the more imperfect to the more perfect. Revolutionary changes are impossible on account of the inertia of the scientific world. An old view is corrected in its worst parts, as much as possible of it being retained. The ancients had assumed that properties could be changed from one piece of matter to another, which is true only to a certain extent. It was logical for them to try to turn lead into gold, because they could turn cinnabar into mercury. It took a long time to learn that the possibilities are distinctly limited in this direction.

Robert Boyle pointed out that it was useless

to assume any philosophical elements. He first defined an element as something with properties of its own, which can combine with other elements to form compounds. The point is that an element was no longer a property of matter, but a kind of matter.

It was assumed that compounds could vary a little, just as dogs, angels and students do. Thus well water, river water and sea water have different tastes, etc. But as elements and compounds come to be better purified, it was found that a pure chemical species or chemical individual is always identical, whatever its source.

At the end of the eighteenth century the rapidity of the development of chemistry increased, and a change of views took place, due to the discovery of oxygen. The phenomena of oxidation and reduction were known during the eighteenth century—as the heating of charcoal and litharge (Pb O) alone and together. The theory of phlogiston was invented to explain the facts. Phlogiston was supposed to be an element, which escaped during combustion, and could be restored, thereby restoring the original properties to the substance. Flame was thought to be the escaping phlogiston. Those substances which left little residue on combustion were considered to be almost pure phlogiston, as charcoal. This generalization was corrected by the measurements made possible by the further development of chemistry, that is, the measurement of weight. How could anything, even phlogiston, escape, when the products of combustion were heavier than the substance burned? As soon as oxygen was discovered, the present theory of combustion was put forward by Lavoisier. An English translation of his book, published in 1806, is in the library. The theory of Lavoisier was superior to the older theory, in that oxygen could be bottled up and experimented with, while phlogiston was hypothetical.

The law of the conservation of weight was clear-

ly expressed by Lavoisier as a result of the use of the balance. This law is far from being self-evident, and Landolt, a German professor of chemistry, has devoted fifteen years to a verification of it. "Self-evident things are such as we do not care to investigate closely." We still use the term "matter," for everyone thinks he knows what matter is.

On the basis of the law of the conservation of weight, we can define an element as any substance which can be changed into another substance only by increasing in weight. This is an experimental definition, free from hypothetical atoms and such a definition is most desirable in these days of electrons and mathematical vortices.

An element must be a chemical individual, but not all homogeneous bodies are chemical individuals, for sea water is a solution. We have then the following cases. First, mixtures, as granite, composed of quartz, mica and feldspar. They can be proven heterogeneous by physical means. Second, solutions, or substances which are homogeneous. The difference between a solution and a chemical individual is that the latter (as water) will boil or freeze down to the last drop at constant temperature, while the former (as sea water) will not. To explain this in scientific terms, we turn to the work of Josiah Willard Gibbs, late professor of mathematical physics at Yale University, and his definition of a phase.

Each part of a mechanical mixture is a phase. A solution, a vapor or a solid may constitute a phase. Only by forming new phases can substances be purified. If, during the formation of a new phase, the properties of the remainder change, then we are dealing with a solution; if not, it is a pure substance or chemical individual.

From this we can get a new definition of an element, as a substance or chemical individual, which never becomes a solution, or a mixture under any conditions of temperature or pressure, or stress of other circumstances. In order to become a solution or a mixture the substance must decompose. At a temperature sufficiently high, water becomes a solution of oxygen and hydrogen, through dissociation. Every mixture and solution

can be separated by mechanical means or by change of phase, into its components.

This is another experimental definition and I would like to emphasize the fact that such a definition is best, for every enlargement of our experimental possibilities results in the discovery of new elements. For example, electrolysis resulted in the discovery of sodium and potassium. Before that time sodium hydroxid and potassium hydroxid were regarded as elements. The "Chemical Philosophy" by Sir Humphry Davy, published in 1812, in which he recounts his discovery of the above mentioned alkalies, is in the library. The use of the spectroscope resulted in the discovery of rubidium and caesium in some German mineral water. This work was carried out partly by Bunsen, with whose "burner" some of us are acquainted. So from the point of view of the experimentalist, there is no actual boundary between elements and compounds, for whether a substance be an element or a compound to us, depends upon the efficiency of our apparatus. The law of the conservation (unchangeability) of elements should be derived from experiment, and not from the atomic hypothesis.

Sir William Ramsay of England has discovered the possibility that helium is formed from radium bromid. Such exceptions need closer study to bring the quantitative side under some new law. We have here an entirely new set of facts. The enormous amount of energy developed is quite incomparable with the most concentrated form of energy hitherto known, that is a mixture of oxygen and hydrogen, for the amount of heat developed by the transmutation of one miligram of radium is 5,000,000 times greater than that from one miligram of detonating gas, a truly different order of energy relations.

A. S. EASTMAN.

TRACK MEET POSTPONED.

At the request of Co. F, the track meet scheduled for March 6 has been postponed to a later date.

CARROLL D. WRIGHT.

In the death of Carroll D. Wright, President of Clark College, our country loses its foremost statistician and one of its greatest leaders in civic, industrial and educational affairs.

Dr. Wright was born in 1840. He never attended college, but had finished his preliminary studies and had begun the study of law when the Civil War began. He enlisted with the Fourteenth New Hampshire Volunteers in 1862 and became colonel of his regiment in 1864. At the close of the war he resumed the study of law and commenced practice in Boston in 1867. He specialized in patent law and soon had a lucrative practice. His activity in social and industrial affairs commenced with his election to the Massachusetts State Senate in 1871. His efficiency as a legislator caused him to be appointed head of the Massachusetts Labor Bureau, which position he held for twelve years. Later he was appointed the first Federal Commissioner of Labor and held that post also for twelve years. The statistical work of these bureaus was managed with such skill that Dr. Wright was placed in charge of the Federal Census of Massachusetts in 1880 and of the State Census five years later, and in 1890 he was made director of the Federal Census.

While carrying on these various governmental functions, Dr. Wright was also winning distinction as an educator and author. From 1891 to 1901 he was university lecturer in Harvard and from 1895 to 1904 Honorary Professor of Social Economics in the Catholic University of America. In 1900 he accepted the chair of Statistics and Social Economics in George Washington University and in 1902 became President of Clark College.

Dr. Wright has left a large amount of statistical work and several noteworthy books and magazine articles on social and industrial questions. Among these may be mentioned "The Factory System as an Element in Civilization," "Marriage and Divorce," "Historical Sketch of the Knights of Labor," and "Industrial Evolution of the United States."

Dr. Wright was a man of deep religious convictions, but was broad-minded and entirely free from dogmatism. A Unitarian, and at one time Presi-

dent of the American Unitarian Association, he worked with his fellow men of all shades of religious belief, for the betterment of social conditions and the elevation of his brother man.

THE PRESS CLUB.

With characteristic energy, the Press Club is preparing for a vigorous spring campaign. An agreement has been secured with Leslie's Weekly whereby that paper is to publish photographs of Union's athletic teams, games, track contests and members of the various teams. This alone will be the means of keeping the name of Old Union well before the public eye. The club is also preparing to send its bulletins and college news items over a much larger territory than heretofore. Boston, Northern and Eastern New England are to be more thoroughly covered, and also the South, especially Virginia, Georgia and the Carolinas. It will be remembered that the South once contributed a large number of Union's students. Let us hope that the Press Club propaganda will be the means of regaining some of the prestige of the college in that section.

A new committee has been added to the Press Club list. One whose purpose it shall be to conduct a personal campaign in Albany to turn sub-freshmen toward Union. At a meeting of the committee a plan of procedure was outlined.

The club is getting out a circular letter to be sent to a large number of newspapers not receiving the club's bulletin, with a view to obtaining a promise from them to print Union news. The bulletins are sent out weekly to about seventy-five newspapers.

THE PHILOMATHEAN SOCIETY.

At the regular weekly meeting of the Philomathean Society Wednesday, A. Mann, '12, chairman of the Freshman Debate Committee, reported that the Schenectady High School had deemed it expedient to reject the society's proposition for a joint debate.

An interesting discussion was held on the subject: Resolved, That the U. S. government should own and control the coal mines of the country.

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The poor condition of the walks around the Campus causes a great deal of annoyance at this time of year. The cinders are frozen, thus keeping the water on the walks and making a very disagreeable place to walk upon without giving any thought to the risks of taking cold encountered. This is a matter of importance and should be thoroughly considered by those in authority. We are allowed so many absences per term, but it hardly seems fair that a man should be compelled to wade through mud and water to those classes when he has a cold. Of course it may be brought forward that the men should wear rubbers, but that will not help make our college walks anything but mudholes and fit wallowing places for animals, although during the Spring and Fall days these same walks are quite attractive and add to the beauty of the Campus. As a solution of this problem we would suggest the use of movable board walks which are raised some distance above the cinder walks to keep the water away from the pedestrians' feet. It seems that with our increasing spirit for the better, our health should not be put in the background nor the comfort of the students neglected for any mercenary reasons. In all our studies we have been advised to look out for our health, yet here we are every day breaking those rules, and are really compelled to because of rules in the college government and the poor condition of the paths on our Campus.

THE CONCORDIENSIS

COLLEGE MEETING.

On Monday noon at college meeting Buster Brown told of the Syracuse, New York University and Second Signal Corp basketball games. He said during the last half of the Syracuse game our team outscored Syracuse. In the N. Y. U. game we were up against a better team, in fact N. Y. U. has a clear string of victories in basketball this season. In the Second Signal Corp game a slippery court added to our defeat.

Manager Clark of the basketball team is endeavoring to secure a game with the Massachusetts Aggies for the evening of March 6th. The track meet scheduled for that evening will probably not be held. On Saturday evening, March 13th, Union will line up against Hobart at the Armory, and Manager Clark requested the fellows to all turn out.

Captain Rankin of the track team, speaking of the Armory meet at Troy, said that the Union team did its best, although heavily handicapped.

Manager Potter of the tennis team gave an outline the possible tennis schedule for the coming season. Such colleges as Amherst, Williams, Cornell, Michigan, Syracuse and Hamilton appear in the list, while Rutgers, New York University and Trinity have expressed their desire to become included in the above list. The greatest need of the tennis team is money and Manager Potter believes that with this difficulty removed Union will be successfully able to play several larger colleges at tennis. In continuing, he said that this part of athletics permitted the smaller colleges to compete more satisfactory with the larger colleges.

Striebert made a motion that a tax of fifty cents be levied on every student and collected through the college office to defray the expenses of the tennis team. Motion carried.

Brunnette spoke in relation to the compact between the faculty and the Terrace Council. For certain privileges granted, the student body was expected to refrain from unwarranted "demolishment" of college property. This agreement has

been broken by some of the students because what they consider excessive work has been given them by one of the professors. The student body as a whole does not agree with the actions of the students who "set up" Mr. Callan's room, and accordingly the motion was made and carried that an apology be sent to the faculty. In the meantime the Terrace Council will investigate matters and if necessary confer with the faculty.

President Lewis of the student body read the following resolutions presented by the Musical Board as to a Dramatic Club, as presented by J. B. Chapman, '09.

Resolved,

(1) That both the musical and dramatic interests would best be served by separate organizations.

(3) That we suggest the appointing of a committee consisting of faculty and students appointed by their respective bodies to consider further the feasibility of such an association, and if found feasible to draw up the necessary rules for organization, and furthermore that we personally hold ourselves ready to give any information and aid in our power.

Adopted at a meeting of the Musical Board February 17, 1909.

President Lewis also reminded the fellows that every one who agreed to make a payment for the gymnasium fund on March 1st should be prepared to make the same.

Potter, '09, speaking on the gymnasium fund, said that every man who had any spirit at all should pay at the time agreed, as Prof. Opdyke has advanced money from his own pocket to defray certain expenses.

Chapman, '09, spoke about college Dramatic Clubs in general. He said he understood that on a whole they were self-supporting. Motion was made and carried that report of Musical Clubs be accepted.

Motion made and carried that a Dramatic Board be elected from the student body, to consist of one senior, two juniors and one sophomore.

Minutes read and accepted.

Adjourned.

BASKETBALL.**N. Y. U., 42; Union, 17.**

On Friday night, February 26, the basketball team played N. Y. U. at New York and were defeated by a score of 42-17. N. Y. U. has a very strong team this year, and has an excellent record. Smith, for Union, played a fine game against N. Y. U.

Following is the line-up:

N. Y. U.	Union.
Wachenfelds	Coward
Left Forward.	
Smith	Starbuck, Clowe
Right Forward.	
Broadhead	Smith
Center.	
Gidansky	Brown (capt.)
Right Guard.	
Bowe	Fairbairn
Left Guard.	

Second Signal Corps, 56; Union, 29.

The night after the N. Y. U. game the team played the Second Signal Corps of Brooklyn on their court. The court was such that the team could not hold the floor and were beaten 56-29. Starbuck and Charest did good work in this game.

Following is the line-up:

Second Signal Corps.	Union.
Griffith	Clowe
Left Forward.	
Van Sife	Starbuck
Right Forward.	
Cypiot	Smith
Center.	
Colton	Brown (capt.)
Right Guard.	
Bigelow	Charest
Left Guard.	

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE.

	Oppts.	Union.
Jan. 15, Hamilton at Clinton.....	47	28
Jan. 16, Cornell at Ithaca	45	14
Jan. 23, Rochester at Schenectady ..	26	16
Feb. 12, Hobart at Geneva	16	14
Feb. 13, Rochester at Rochester....	21	16

Feb. 17, Hamilton at Schenectady..	20	29
Feb. 22, Syracuse at Syracuse	30	20
Feb. 26, N. Y. U. at New York	42	17
Feb. 27, 2nd Sig. Corps, at Brooklyn.	56	29
March 12, Hobart at Schenectady..	—	—

DR. CADY'S LECTURE.

Dr. Cady delivered another of his series of lectures on archaeological discoveries east of the Jordan on Friday afternoon. He was not able to show as many slides as usual, because of the difficulty encountered in securing pictures of recent discoveries. The men that are now carrying on the explorations in Palestine are zealously guarding their discoveries and will allow no photographs to be taken by strangers.

Dr. Cady carefully described the hill of Gezer, which was always considered by the Hebrews as the most important stronghold in Palestine. Even King David with all his army was unable to conquer it.

An interesting description of Bethlehem, the birthplace of Christ, was also given. Dr. Cady declared that it is the cleanest and most hospitable town in all Palestine. He showed several pictures of the interior of the Church of the Nativity, and said that every year at Christmas time thousands of people come here to pray and kiss the silver star set in the pavement within the church where it is believed that Christ was born.

Man is like a sausage;

Very smooth upon the skin,

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How much hog there is within.

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AROUND THE HILL.

Dr. Richmond, Dean Ripton, and Meade, '09, attended the annual reunion and banquet of the Washington Alumni Association in that city last Tuesday. There were quite a few of our famous graduates present. Among them was Dr. Alexander.

Prof. McKean delivered his lecture on Browning, the Optimist, at Silliman Hall last Monday before the Women's Club.

Dr. Landreth was one of the Commission of Engineers at Watertown recently who were investigating the value of the water-power in the Black River with regard to the Barge Canal. In speaking of the members of the party the Watertown paper says of Dr. Landreth: "At the time of the typhoid fever epidemic here a few years ago he was connected with the State Department of Health as consulting engineer in addition to his college duties and was sent to examine the conditions here to ascertain the cause of the epidemic. Although here but a short time, Professor Landreth made a number of suggestions which more than anything else aided in bringing about the checking of the epidemic."

CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

Last Sunday afternoon, the last day of February, Dr. Ellery addressed the Vesper Service, which was quite well attended. He spoke of the world that Jesus Christ overcame when he was on earth and also cited the cases of men of our own day who have overcome. His subject was "College Men Who Have Overcome," and all who attended were greatly helped.

At the Tuesday evening prayer meeting Edward Irish, '10, took as his subject "Character Building." He read the lesson from Paul's letter to the Ephesians and gave some very helpful hints.

Dr. Hale will conduct the class in Mission Study Friday evening at 7 o'clock, to which all are cordially invited.

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Although a comparatively new sport at Union, tennis has proved itself worthy of serious consideration as a college activity. Last year's team made a most creditable showing and with their record as an incentive, the management has endeavored to arrange a first-class schedule for the coming season. The result is a schedule worthy of the cordial support of every Union man. In addition to the two local games, matches are being arranged with Amherst, Williams, Cornell and probably in the near future a match with either Syracuse or Rochester will be booked. Beside these, Rutgers and Hobart have made known their desire of arranging matches and there is also every prospect that the University of Michigan will be included in the schedule.

When one considers the calibre of the colleges represented, it will be seen that an excellent schedule is practically assured.

An active Esperanto Club has been organized at the University of Chicago.

FRENCH CONVERSATION IN THE 17TH
CENTURY.

BY F. W. SMITH.

(Continued from last week.)

Cleonice.—You are so accustomed to flatter them that you flatter even your lady friends without thinking of what you are doing, but, Artelinde, know that I do not wish to supplant you in that way, so while you are putting your mind at rest, I declare that I never will make use of your secret. That is why you need not fear to tell me your reasons, if you have any, which can make me see the great pleasure there is in being forever obeyed by a hundred persons whom you do not in the least esteem and whom you can not love. For it surpasses belief that you are able at the same instant to love blonde men, dark men, tall, short, graceful, wearisome, awkward, together with agreeable and intelligent men, it not being even possible that so many persons can be together in your heart.

Artelinde (smiling).—You are right. But I can assure you they do not crowd one another in my heart, for I do not permit them to enter it.

Cleonice.—But why, then, if you do not love them at all, do you act as though you did?

Artelinde.—In order to have the pleasure of being loved, for really, Cleonice, of what good is beauty if it is not to make the conquest of hearts and establish an empire, where without either scepter, throne or crown one has everywhere subjects and slaves?

Cleonice.—But slaves who serve only to reign, and, moreover, slaves whose fetters you take pains to forge. For my part, if I were to give them any, I should take pleasure in giving them such heavy and harsh ones that I could not doubt the fidelity of those who should wear them.

Artelinde.—If I wished one day to recompense them, I would employ such fetters as you suggest, but wishing only to amuse myself with these lovers, it is not right that I should so humble them.

Cleonice.—However, Artelinde, you do a hundred very dangerous things.

Artelinde.—And what do I do that is so wrong?

Cleonice.—You receive and write letters and thus you deceive. You want to be observed and you look at others. You make appointments which you do not fail to keep, and although I well know it all ends in saying three or four words in secret and in making a great mystery of a trifle, after all it is an appointment; it is a secret; it is a mystery, and consequently it is wrong, one is not deceptive about an innocent matter. More than that, you receive and make little gifts, you allow your portrait to be stolen and you give it away, and as for ribbons, you have given some of every shade from white to black. You tell little secrets to one, you jest with a second about other people, and although you make fun of them all, I find, however, that you have reason to fear that in the end all those people will not indulge in like pleasantries about you. For bye and bye, if a fancy should take all your lovers to tell one another what you have done for them, where would you be on account of it?

Artelinde.—I should not be so bad off as you think, since after all, there is not a man who can ever boast that I have ever granted him the slightest favor that can rightly be called wrong. As for all that you have just said, I do not consider it in that light, and I see no more wrong in that than in adorning myself and curling my hair, since one adorns oneself only to be loved, and also since I do all that you accuse me of only to keep certain fickle hearts that beauty alone will not keep.

Cleonice.—But what do you wish to gain by it?

Artelinde.—I do it because I wish to trouble all the galanterie of other people, to make women jealous, to be loved by all who see me, to bestow fear and hope when I please, to have a hundred amusements from which to choose, to have verses made in my praise, that people may speak only of my conquests, that I be followed everywhere, that nothing escape my power, and besides all that, I wish never to exercise my heart any more than it is necessary in order to hear some sweet sentiment breathed out concerning me, and lastly, I wish to love galanterie and not to love a galant.

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Cleonice.—That is slightly dangerous, for may it not happen that at last some one will be found who will embarrass your heart a little in spite of you?

Artelinde.—You who are cold and austere are more exposed to that vexatious event than I am, I who am so accustomed to tears and sighs that my heart is not moved by them. But you imperious women, who you have been left alone for some time and you have become haughty and cruel, if some lover comes who obstinately binds himself to serve you, and at last compels you to hear his suit, two or three tears will soften your hearts, or better said, a spark will set them on fire, and thus finally you will love him at least as much as he loves you, and perhaps a little more.

Cleonice.—Your temperament is so different from those haughty ones of whom you speak, that it is indeed difficult for you to know what they are capable of doing. Do you not think that youth cannot always last and that old age and galanterie have an antipathy so decided that nothing is more opposite? What will you do bye and bye when your galants have all left you?

Artelinde.—Let us not be so far-sighted. As for me I consider myself so well off in not thinking of so many things, that I do not wish to be of your opinion, nor to become too prudent for fear of being unhappy. It suffices for me in the season of roses to look into my mirror, to see if what little beauty I have will last until the first violets, and when I am sure it will, I put my mind at rest.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Columbia is to have an Alumni Association in Paris, there being at present between forty and sixty graduates in the French capital. Like organizations are soon to be formed in Georgia, Montana and Oregon.

At the banquet and annual meeting of the Hamilton College Alumni of Brooklyn, February 5, there were present a large number of young men who are now students in the Brooklyn Polytechnic or in the Brooklyn High Schools. They had been gathered in by the teachers in Brooklyn who are graduates of Hamilton College, with the purpose of impressing upon them the desirability of a college education in general, and the wisdom of matriculating at Hamilton, in particular. This is an effective method of advertising a college.

The following Union graduates are studying at Columbia University: Law, 1909, Ernest Judson Ellenwood, Ph. B., 1905. Political Science, Philosophy and Pure Science, Frank Ira Losee, Ph. B., 1905.

Hamilton College will be the recipient of about \$50,000 in the form of a bequest made by the Burgess estate of New York city. Out of an endowment of \$200,000 for educational purposes, it is expected that about \$150,000 will be divided evenly between Hamilton, Columbia and Barnard College.

Peabody Museum at Yale has received a new collection of relics of prehistoric Indians, consisting of about 500 articles collected by Prof. Hill during a recent tour through the Black Hills of Wyoming.

Cornell University Medical College

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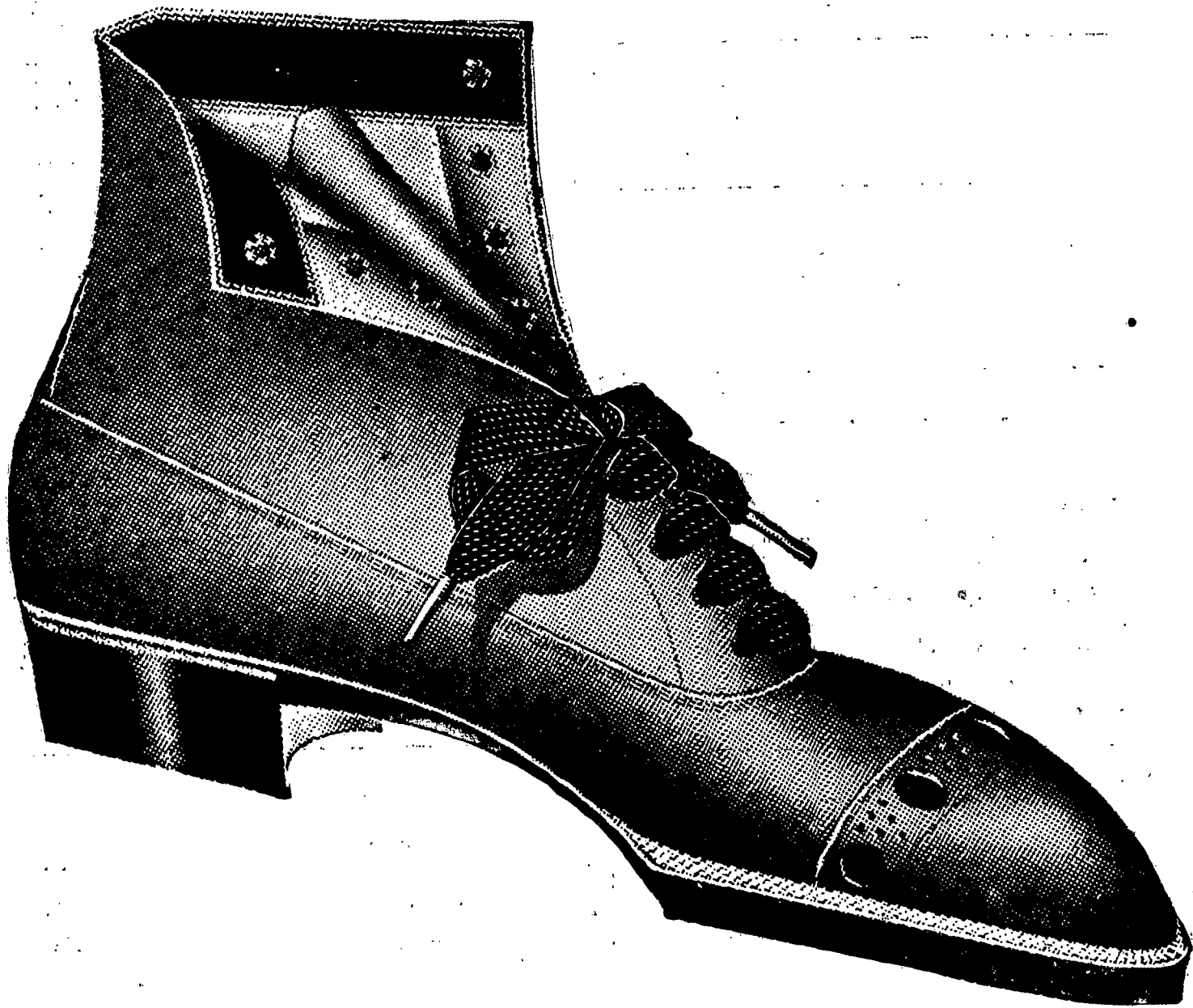
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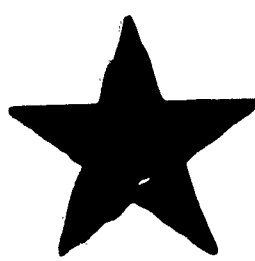
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