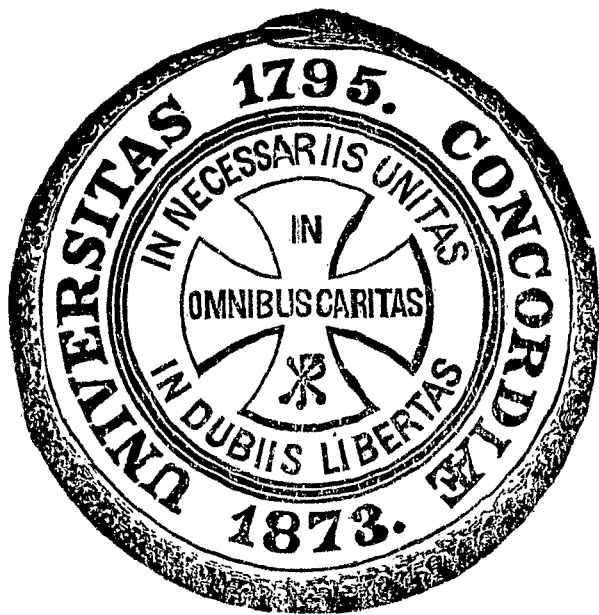


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**CONCORDIENSIS**

VOLUME XXXII

NUMBER 14



FEBRUARY 27, 1909

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY  
THE STUDENTS OF UNION UNIVERSITY

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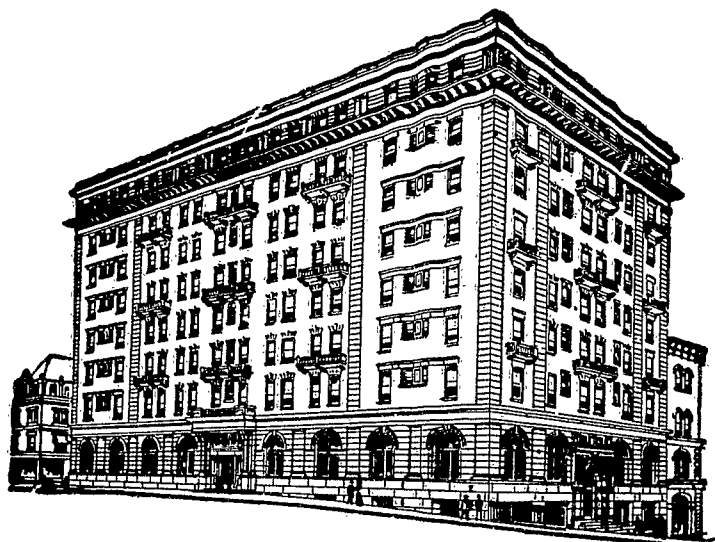
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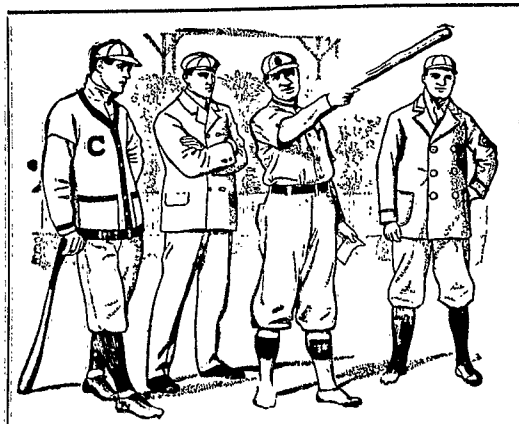
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# THE CONCORDIENSIS

VOL. XXXII.

UNION COLLEGE, FEBRUARY 27, 1909

No. 15

## Book Review.

"The Sphere of Religion: A Consideration of its Nature and its Influence upon the Progress of Civilization." By Frank Sargent Hoffman. Ph. D.

This book is in some respects a sequel to two of the author's other works, "The Sphere of the State" and "The Sphere of Science." It is a good book to have about. Although it is not written ostensibly in the interest of the Christian religion, yet it draws attention to some of the most important features of that faith while it deals at the same time with religion in the abstract. All people and nations and tongues have a religion of some sort. The only question is, "How can I so improve the religion I already have as to make it of the highest worth?" These last words, quoted from Prof. Hoffman's preface, make it evident at the start that the author, whatever his personal preferences or church affiliations may be, is preaching no sermon, is holding no brief for the Christian or any other single form of doctrine; rather is it his purpose to point to the more important characteristics of those religions of the world which have been most prominent in influencing human thought.

His treatment of the subject is both psychological and historical; the controversial spirit is conspicuous for its absence. This is no small virtue of the book; it lends to the work a genuine appearance of impartiality, and renders possible the introduction of a large assortment of suggestive and illuminating material, of value whether to the specialist or to the more general and indifferent observer of human events.

It is with pleasure that one finds in the table of contents such topics of interest and inquiry as, for example, "Sacred Books and How They Originate." This is the title of Chapter III. Here in small compass is a collection of subjects of con-

siderable significance to all of us. Scarcely one of the sub-headings in this chapter can be lightly set aside as being without relation to the demands of a liberal education. Everybody should seek to know something about the effect upon human progress of such writings as the Christian Scriptures, the Bible of the Jews, the Avesta of Zoroaster, the Koran of Mohammed, the Iliad and the Theogony of the Greeks, and even, perhaps of Mrs. Eddy's "Science and Health;" and although in my humble judgment we could get on perfectly well with a more succinct account than Professor Hoffman has given us of the subject last mentioned (to which the professor has devoted 19 pages as against 20 assigned to the Christian Scriptures), yet as our author seems actually to hold Mrs. Eddy in some esteem, perhaps he could not say less than he does about that most extraordinary and very questionable character.

Nevertheless, as one glances over Professor Hoffman's well-written and generally convincing pages on such interest-compelling topics as "Religion the Key to History," "What Religion Has to Do with Education," "The Church and the Right to Property," "Human Immortality and its Relation to Religion," "The Present-Day Conception of God," etc., etc., one cannot but wish that in the chapter on Mrs. Eddy our Professor of Philosophy had exhibited a somewhat truer sense of proportion and a less credulous spirit. True, Mrs. Eddy comes in for some very apt criticism at the close of Professor Hoffman's remarks on this subject; yet it is plain to see that the author has been willing to do more than simple justice to Mrs. Eddy's teachings, as well as to those of her contemporary and sympathizer, the theosophist, Madame Blavatsky; to a somewhat strained appreciation of the latter's life and writings (including those of her successor, Mrs. Besant). Professor Hoffman devotes no less than 22 pages.

These pages speak to us in far too great detail



for the size of the volume, of the origin of Madame Blavatsky's "Isis Unveiled," of that lady's attachment to occultism and the theosophy of the East, of her belief in the fakirs of India, and in the Eleusinian Mysteries of the Greeks. All this is very interesting in itself, but it is hard to believe that these matters have had any such proportionate influence upon the advance of civilization as Professor Hoffman appears to believe. Had our author devoted a portion of the space which he has given to Mrs. Eddy of Boston and to her Russian contemporary, who established her headquarters in New York—had he given the major portion of this space to a more minute comparison of the teachings of Jesus with those of persons of such world-wide fame and influence as Gautama, Confucius, Zoroaster and Mahomet, not to speak of Swedenborg, Saint Martin and Jacob Boehme; and of these again with the doctrines often implied if not always clearly expressed by the poets—by Browning, Swinburne, Tennyson, Aldrich, Whitman and others, all of whom, as Professor Hoffman believes, have a theosophical trend, he would even more effectually have assisted the uninformed reader to appreciate the length and breadth and scope of religion in its bearing on human life and on the "progress of civilization."

Yet, after all, what I have just said is merely the view of a tiro, as I must confess myself to be in such matters—for the work is not a history of religions; that, I think, is clear. It is merely a statement (accompanied by much illustrative material) of the province of religion in general in its psychological relation to human activities and to the development of the human race. That the book takes more account of the Christian than of other religions is, I think, evident. It does this in spite of its impartiality, and in spite also of the author's manifest endeavor to refrain from striking any unwelcome note of denominational preference, such as might offend the over-sensitive ear of some earnest Protestant or Roman Catholic believer.

Especially instructive among its chapters are those on "Human Immortality and its Relation to

Religion," "The Present-Day Conception of God," and that chapter which says, "Religion exists because man exists," and again, "We must not forget that religion is a great permanent reality." This is the chapter entitled, "What Is Religion?" It is the first and finest in the book, and may be read with enjoyment and profit by us all, but especially as it seems to me, by those who are prepared to place the Old and New Testaments in the van of religious treatises, and to think of Jesus as the greatest of religious teachers.

The book is a real contribution to the psychology of religion, and should prove to be especially enlightening and valuable to many of us who have little opportunity for the perusal of larger works on the subjects of which it treats.

SIDNEY G. ASHMORE

#### DR. CADY'S LECTURE.

At the last of Dr. Cady's lectures, the country about Palestine and Hebron was described. He gave an excellent description of the country and said that by going from the top to the bottom of the highest mountain in Palestine one could pass through a district where all forms of vegetable life can be found from the northern fir to the tropical palm.

Dr. Cady also described his visit to the ancient city of Joffa. Owing to the dangerous rocks even in pleasant weather, the ships are compelled to cast anchor half a mile from the city and the passengers are taken to land in small boats, while in stormy weather a landing of any kind is impossible.

While in this city Dr. Cady and his party obtained permission from the Sultan of Turkey to enter the burial place of many of the ancient Hebrews. Before entering the tombs the party were obliged to remove their shoes as the place was held very sacred to the people of the country. Dr. Cady considered himself very fortunate in being able to investigate the tombs as but few parties besides his own have ever been granted the privilege.

**REV. DR. WILLIAM IRVIN.**

The Rev. Dr. William Irvin, for nearly twenty years pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church of Troy, died suddenly in Berlin, Germany, on February 22. He was a native of New York city, where he was born 76 years ago. After graduating from Rutgers College, he prepared for the ministry at the Princeton Theological Seminary, and upon concluding his studies in this institution he accepted a pastorate at Rondout, N. Y., and in 1867 he was installed as pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church of Troy, which position he held until 1887 when he resigned to become secretary of Home Missions in the United States. In recent years he spent considerable time in travel.

Dr. Irvin was a man of scholarly attainments and a writer of ability. He was a permanent trustee of Union University to which position he was elected in 1877. He was also a trustee of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Princeton Theological Seminary.

Dr. Irvin is survived by his second wife, formerly Miss Julia Swan of Oyster Bay, a daughter, Miss Julia Swan, who is studying music abroad, two sons, Richard and Thomas Irvin, and two daughter, Fannie and Clara Irvin.

**WILLIAM APPLETON POTTER.**

1864.—William Appleton Potter, younger brother of the late Henry C. Potter, died in Rome, Italy, Friday, February 19. He was born at Schenectady 65 years ago, graduated from Union College in the class of '64 and later went to the Beaux Arts in Paris. Mr. Potter was lecturer on art at Union in 1878 and he has also been supervising architect of the United States. He designed the St. Agnes Chapel in Ninety-first Street, New York city, the Universalist Church in Central Park West, the original building of the Teachers' College, and the main building of the Union Theological Seminary on Park Avenue. He was also the architect of the library and chapel of Princeton University, of the Nott Memorial Library at Union College, and of the beautiful First Reformed Church in Schenectady.

**PRESIDENT RICHMOND****To Assume Active Duties of Office in March**

It has been officially announced by Dean Rip-ton that President-elect Richmond of the college will assume active duties in March, presumably at the beginning of the spring term. Owing to the extensive repairs that are being made, the president's residence will not be ready for occupancy at that time. Until the alterations are completed Dr. Richmond will reside in Albany and visit the college daily.

Dr. Richmond, however, will not be formally inducted into office until June. The exact date has not as yet been agreed upon but in all probability it will occur either on the Monday or Tuesday of commencement week. The committee in charge of the induction ceremonies, of which Dr. Alexander is the chairman, is at present busy preparing plans for the event which will undoubtedly be on a scale commensurate with the importance of the occasion.

A most unique and original display of college and fraternity banners and emblems was exhibited last week by Mr. Joseph Nusbaum at his store, 336 State Street, in honor of the visiting Alpha Delta Phi delegates. His display window was appropriately decorated with the Alpha Delta Phi banners and pennants. Prominent in the display were two pillows of more than usual beauty, one being an Alpha Delta Phi and the other a Union design. A large sign, "Welcome Alpha Delta Phi," was also an attractive feature. This splendid display called forth much favorable comment from the visiting Alpha Delta, and Mr. Nusbaum is to be complimented on his originality and more especially for his interest in college affairs.

**A PUN.**

The college chaps are very slow,  
They seem to take their ease;  
For even when they graduate  
They do it by degrees.

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On March 1, the first instalment of the money subscribed by the student body for the erection of a new gymnasium will fall due. All subscriptions are to be paid to Prof. Howard Opdyke, who has kindly consented to act as treasurer of the fund and to whose active interest and participation in the gymnasium movement much of its success has been due.

It is hoped that the obligations which the students so generously incurred to aid in securing a new gymnasium will be met with the same spirit of loyalty which characterized the recent inception of this movement, and that all subscriptions when due will be paid with exactitude and promptness.

The movement to form a dramatic club which has been recently promulgated, deserves the hearty co-operation and support of every member of the student body. Every energetic and progressive college possesses a club of this nature where a student may exercise or develop his dramatic ability. Although a dramatic club is not a necessary pre-requisite to college activity, yet it is a dominant factor in developing culture and refinement, in emphasizing the mental rather than the physical nature of the student. Until recently Union possessed such a club and it is to be deplored that lack of interest brought about its dissolution.

It is interesting to note that according to the official records of the Board of Trustees a dramatic club was formed by the students of the college as early as 1801. "On September 29, 1801," writes Dr. Raymond in his interesting history of Union University, "the students peti-



tioned the Trustees to be permitted to present a tragedy and a comedy in College Hall. As the petition was granted we may assume that the tragedy and comedy were given and that the students of Union began thus early to offer the public entertainments which have become, in later years, such a distinctive feature of college life."

Thus, over a century ago when the number of students was less than at present, the college possessed an active dramatic club. This is of special significance as indicating the early devotion of students to the dramatic arts, a devotion which we hope will be revived and perpetuated.

---

Prof. Ashmore has contributed to this issue of the "Concordy" an interesting criticism on Prof. Book Hoffman's interesting book, "The Review Sphere of Religion." The criticism is thorough and comprehensive in its scope. The reviewer does not hesitate to point out what he considers the defects of the book or to praise its noteworthy features.

We heartily commend this article to the attention of our readers.

---

Last Sunday afternoon there was no vesper service owing to vacation on the next day. Tuesday evening Dr. Hale addressed the weekly prayer meeting and proved most interesting to all those present. Dean Ripton led the usual Bible study class after the meeting and as usual the discussion was full of valuable information and help. Friday night, the 26th, there was begun a series of studies in a book called "The Unfinished Task," by J. L. Barton. This class will meet every Friday evening at 7 o'clock and, being led by Dr. Hall, will prove of great interest to all.

#### TRACK EVENTS.

##### Rankin '09, Establishes New College Record.

The Garnet's relay team consisting of S. D. Hendricks '10, H. T. Chase '12, E. McDermott '12 and E. G. McCormick '12, were defeated in a decisive manner by the Hamilton relay team at the Troy Marathon meet held last Monday. The time of the race was 3 min. 40 sec.

Riley '12 made a good showing gaining second place in one of the heats of the 150 yard dash Marsh '12, with a handicap of 12 inches, took third place in the pole vault. Travis '11 secured fourth place in the one mile handicap. Case '12 in high jump made 5 feet 7 inches, but failed to obtain place.

Chester Rankin '09 did the best work of the evening for the Garnet team by throwing the twelve pound shot forty-three feet two inches. This throw beat his own previous record of forty-two feet 11 inches and establishes a new college record for this event. Cosgrove of Cornell won the event with a throw of fifty-three feet three and one-half inches.

The other college events resulted as follows:

In a two mile relay race Cornell defeated Columbia by a narrow margin. The race was run in eight minutes and one second making a new two mile record for Cornell on the indoor track.

Williams defeated Amherst by a lead of two yards in a mile relay. The time was 3:41 4-5.

Wesleyan, in a mile relay, was defeated by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology by a wide margin. Time 3:28 2-5.

Williams College secured first and second place in the 300 yard handicap, Cornell secured the first two places in the forty yard dash.

---

#### A LATIN VERSION.

Cano carmen sixpence,  
A corbis plena rye,  
Multos aves atras  
Percoctos in a pie.  
Ubi pie apertus  
Tum canit avium grex  
Eratne hoc a fonum dish  
Ponere anti rex.

## BASKETBALL.

## Hamilton, 20; Union, 29.

On Wednesday night, February 17, the Garnet and Blue again met in contest on the basketball court of the Armory. This time it ended in a victory for Union and it was a well deserved victory, for the team worked hard.

The first half was not characterized by any very good playing on the part of either team. The scores kept very even until the last few minutes of play and the half ended with Hamilton in the lead, 12 to 8. The pass work of both teams was not very excellent, though perhaps that of Union a little better in the beginning but this did not continue through the entire half. The Hamilton five clearly had the advantage in their ability to throw baskets, but this did not materially increase their score because the playing was mostly in Union's court. They had a chance, time after time, for the basket but failed in many of them. The half, and in fact the entire game, was very clean, but few fouls being called on either side. The scoring was started by Clowe, and then a moment later Getman made Hamilton's first basket. Coward scored on a foul, and then Roenke after a fine dribble down the court scored a basket. Coward again scored on a foul Brown added another basket and then Getman scored on a foul. The scoring alternated in this manner most of the half, Hamilton being a few points ahead most of the time and still being ahead at the end of the half.

As soon as the second half started it was evident that there was to be more basketball than in the first half. Both teams were working for a victory. From the start, when "Buster" made a basket, Union set the pace and gradually drew away from Hamilton. After "Buster's" basket, Hamilton scored twice, and then the Garnet team kept scoring until the score equalled and finally increased over that of Hamilton. At every basket by the home team, the hall resounded with cheers, and everyone became enthusiastic over the playing of both teams. There was much better playing in this half than in the first. Union was more sure with passing, more accurate in basket

throwing, and easily obtained and kept the lead the remainder of the time. In this half as well as the first the playing was mostly in Union's territory, although when Hamilton gained the ball it was quickly taken to their court. They made their playing toward the basket all the time, while Union attempted more pass-work, at times perhaps being too slow in playing for the basket. Nevertheless, the team played well and added another victory to the list.

Following is the score with line-up:

Hamilton.	Union.
Roenké .....	Coward
	Right forward.
Allen .....	Clowe
	Left forward.
Sherwin .....	Micks
	Center.
Conklin .....	Brown (Capt.)
	Right guard
Getman .....	Fairbairn
	Left guard.

Referee—Carlos Dorticos.

Field baskets—Clowe, 2; Getman, 1; Coward, 3; Roenke, 4; Brown, 4; Sherwin, 2; Allen, 2; Fairbairn, 1; Micks, 2.

Basket from fouls—Getman, 2; Coward, 5.

## Syracuse, 30; Union, 20.

Last Monday night the Garnet team lost to Syracuse. The game was played in the new gym at Syracuse and was witnessed by a very large crowd.

The entire game was rough and many fouls were called during the play. In shooting fouls, Coward was not as sure as the week be-

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fore and made good only about half of his attempts. Besides being rough the game was very poor, very little good playing being done by either team.

At the end of the first half the score stood 18 to 7 in favor of Syracuse. But in the last half Union did a little better work and gained somewhat, the score for the last half being 13-12 in favor of Union. The total score of the game was 30-20 in favor of Syracuse.

Line-up was as follows:

Panks (Capt.)	.....	Coward, Starbuck
		Right forward.
Lee	.....	Clowe
		Left forward.
Killpatrick	.....	Micks
		Center.
Fisher	.....	Brown (Capt.)
		Left guard.
Darby	.....	Fairbairn, Coward
		Right guard.

#### A FRESHMAN'S AMBITION.

##### He Wanted to Be a Real College "Stude."

One day last fall an unsophisticated little freshman who thought that the road to popularity lay in clothes, entered one of the city's tailoring shops that is greatly patronized by the college fellows, and picked out the material for a suit of clothes. The freshman, with swelling heart, ordered it made up "after the style of the college fellows." Notice was soon sent that the suit was completed and the freshman hastened to take possession of his property. But alas for the tailor, when the "freshie" beheld a suit made in the college style he was disgusted and left orders for the tailor to fix them over so that the trousers wouldn't be so "baggy." The tailor made the alterations and heaved a sigh of relief as the freshman decided that he was finally suited.

The "freshie" then asked the tailor if he would crease his felt hat "in college style." The tailor protested that he knew nothing about a felt hat as he always wore a derby. However, he yielded to his customer's entreaties and made the desired creases. The tailor had told the truth

—the popular store

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when stating that he knew nothing about felt hats and the freshman's hat was creased in the style of many years ago. The unsophisticated one then inquired as to the proper method of folding his clothes. He received the desired information and turned to leave the store. With his hand on the door he looked around and said, "Well, say, how would you fold a coat if you should want to lay it down for five or six minutes?"

#### AN EVENING WITH DR. HALE.

Last Friday night Dr. Hale entertained a number of students and members of the faculty at his home. They came by his invitation to hear and meet Mr. George T. Berry, treasurer of the McAll Mission in France.

Mr. Berry is now traveling in this country in the interest of missions. He spoke in a very interesting manner about the great work being done in France. He said that the two objections to his work most frequently met with are, first, that France is rich enough to take care of herself, and

second, that it is looked upon as an insult to offer a new religion to a person who already has some form of the Christian faith. He went on to show that these arguments are gradually losing their weight because, although France is rich, her indifference makes her wealth largely unavailable for the work of the church.

Dr. Berry made the statement that a large majority of the people of France are absolutely apathetic on the point of religion.

Besides a number of the undergraduates Dean Ripton, Dr. Ashmore and Dr. Hoffman were present. Dr. Stevenson of the First Presbyterian Church was also a guest. A delightful and interesting evening was enjoyed by everybody.

During the evening Dr. Hale announced that a class will be formed next week for the study of foreign missions, using "The Unfinished Task" as a text, and that all who are interested in this work are invited to join the class which is to meet in Silliman Hall on Friday evenings at 7 o'clock.

#### GLEE CLUB TRIP.

Last Tuesday afternoon, February 23, the College Musical Clubs left Schenectady at 4:32 p. m. on a special car for Hudson. The fellows had dinner at the hotel and then rendered a concert in the D. A. R. Hall under the auspices of the Sigma Phi Society of that place.

The following program was rendered:

1. "The Village Choir" ..... Lynes  
Glee Club.
2. "Our Director" ..... Bigelow  
Mandolin Club.
3. "Ho, Jolly Jenkin" ..... Schneck  
Quartet: J. W. Faust '09, Corbin '09, Woodward '11, Miller '11.
4. "Lenora" ..... Nathan  
Solo—Ferguson '10.
5. "The Darkies' Patrol" ..... Lansing  
Banjo solo—McCullough '11.
6. "Ecstasy Waltz" ..... Waldmeister
7. "Toreador's Love Song" ..... Conchois  
Solo—J. W. Faust '09.

8. "Tehama" ..... Haines  
Mandolin Club.
9. "The Cat With the Baritone Voice" .... Scott  
Glee Club.
10. "Song to Old Union" ..... Ludlow '56  
Glee Club.

The clubs did exceedingly well and greatly pleased the audience, who called for encore after encore.

#### FRENCH CONVERSATION IN THE 17TH CENTURY.

BY F. W. SMITH.

(Continued from last week.)

Herminius.—However, it is a journey that many people would like to make, and which well deserves that the route which conducts to such an amiable place, be known, and if the fair Clelie will do me the favor to teach me the way, I shall be greatly obliged to her.

Clelie—Perhaps you fancy it is but a little promenade from Early Friendship to Love. Before I admit you to the country of Love I wish to give you the map of it, the existence of which Aronce does not believe.

Aronce—If there really is a map, give one to me as well as to Herminius.

Mlle. Scudery then sat down and drew the map of love, that has since become so famous.

By a study of this map anyone may see that by starting at the city of New Friendship and sailing down the broad river of Inclination he will arrive in time at the city of Love from Inclination. If, on the other hand, the traveler elects to go overland he may set out from New Friendship, pass through the towns of Complaisance, Submission, Slight Attentions, Assiduity, Eagerness, Important Services, Sensibility, Tenderness, Obedience, Constant Friendship and arrive safe and sound at the city of Love from Gratitude. It is possible, also, to reach the city of Love from Esteem by proceeding slowly through the villages Great Intelligence, Charming Verses, Love Notes, Sincerity, Magnanimity, Honesty, Generosity, Exactitude, Respect and Extreme Kindness. It is evident,



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though, that if the traveler wanders from the beaten highway he runs the risk of getting into the regions of Indiscretion, Perfidy and Slander and may come to the shores of the rough sea of Hostility. By going in still another direction the unwary explorer may find himself passing through the unpleasant villages of Negligence, Coolness, Light Mindedness and Forgetfulness until he comes to the shallow lake of Indifference. Away to the far north are visible the Unknown Lands, surrounded by a dangerous sea full of rocks and shoals.

Mlle. Scudery has given some typical conversations in "Le Gr and Cyrus," her twelve thousand nine hundred page novel.

The following is a selection from a conversation upon coquetry, found in Volume I, page 796:

Cleonice.—Indeed you cannot make me believe that this throng of lovers who obey and follow you continually to church and in the street, on promenades and to houses where you go can hopelessly follow you. Neither can you make me believe that they can all hope if you do not favor their doing so. For, to speak sincerely, I see such homely persons among your adorers that I do not think they could ever flatter themselves enough to conceive of hope, if you did not flatter them yourself, and cause hope to be born in them.

Arteline.—(Smiling)—I confess frankly, that I do all you say and I avow that one of my greatest pleasures is to deceive those persons' minds by trifles, which gives them reason to believe that they are favored.

Cleonice.—But can you call those things trifles which make those persons believe they are much esteemed by you; that they will one day possess your affection entirely and perhaps your person as well?

Arteline.—Alas, Cleonice, you go too far! All I do for my adorers favors them and cannot give them such a thought.

Cleonice.—Believe me, I am less deceived than you, for since lovers have been found who have hoped in the midst of severities and tortures which they have been compelled to endure through extreme cruelty, how do you expect that people whom you heap with favors may not have every possible hope?

Arteline.—No, no, do not be deceived in the least by that. I distribute my favors too much in order to heap them upon any one person, and if I were not afraid that you would rob me of my secret and grow tired of keeping it, I would reveal the depth of my heart to you, in order to justify my self in your opinion. But, my dear Cleonice, I fear that if I reveal to you all that I think, I shall destroy my own empire. For if you should be envious enough to add a little address to the charms of your beauty, I should be absolutely lost, since all my lovers would inevitably be your.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

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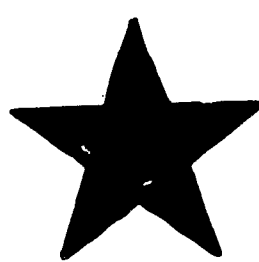
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