

The Vidette - Reporter.

A Tri-weekly Newspaper Published by Students of the State University of Iowa

VOL. 31.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1898.

NO. 27.

BACONIAN.

AN INTERESTING PAPER BY DR. L. W. ANDREWS.

The paper of the evening was given by Dr. L. W. Andrews, upon the subject, "The Non-Chemical Elements."

If we accept the theory of world building we must consider the globe as formed from a gaseous mass which become liquid and finally solid, surrounded by a gaseous envelope. The first matter precipitated would be liquid. After this precipitation has gone on for some time, we will have a liquid sphere. Among liquid and solid elements, those having the highest specific gravities tend toward the center of the earth, and those having the lowest specific gravities tend skyward.

If we examine non-sedimentary deposit we find they have practically the same composition.

Common salt would naturally be concentrated in the ocean. If it were all extracted we could build all the mountain ranges of the world with that substance.

There is another change in the distribution of the elements in the formation of a solid world from a gaseous mass. The heavier elements will be concentrated at the center, the lighter elements in the atmosphere. Nitrogen forming four-fifths of the atmosphere, is one of the rarest elements in the earth's crust.

A chemical element possesses the following properties: (1) It is a form of matter which may associate itself with other forms in definite proportions, forming compounds. (2) It is a form of matter which cannot be divided into heterogeneous parts, mutually inconvertible. The form of attraction producing a combination of two elements is a directive force; i. e., it is a force proceeding from an element along definite lines. The number of lines of attraction is one of the fundamental properties of an element. H. K and Na radiate their chemical form in a single direction only, others in 2, 4, 6 and 8 directions, and we find that the greater the number of lines, the less the intensity of the force of attraction in any one direction. The number of lines is the valency. The valency of an element stands in a definite relation to the atom's weight of the element.

Not all the elements have the same facility in exerting chemical force which they possess. Nitrogen is pre-eminently indifferent. This indolence has, however, been greatly exaggerated. If its indolence were complete it would not be a chemical element.

Nitrogen will serve as a supporter of combustion for certain substances. Li. and Mg. will unite with nitrogen by aid of heat. Nitrogen was passed through a tube containing some Mg. Some of the nitrogen was absorbed and some was not. The unabsorbed nitrogen contained another gas which gave it its high specific gravity.

Lord Raley thus consumed the O and W of the air. An inverted 5 litre flask was filled with equal parts of air and O. Two platinum elec-

trodes were run into the flask and a solution of soda lye was kept spraying into it. As the air was consumed by the electric spark, new air was forced in. Finally a point was reached where the gas formed would no longer combine with Li. or Mg. When a spark was passed through the gas a violet color was imparted to it. It also possessed a characteristic spectrum. This must be looked upon as a new element, and is called argon because of its indifference. Raley has been unable to get it to combine with any other element. It represents an element which applies to the first half of the definition of an element, but does not apply to the second part of the definition.

Soon after this discovery, Professor Ramsay, who was associated with Lord Raley, examined the gas given off on heating certain rare elements. He found that the gas given off was not N, since it would not combine with Li. or Mg. When examined in the spectroscope it gave a yellow line near the radium line. The line given by this new element corresponds to a line given by a certain substance in the sun. He called this new element helium. This closely resembles argon in its indifference. It is, however, much lighter than argon.

Professor Ramsay experimented with liquified air. When several quarts of liquified air were allowed to evaporate the last portion consists of a gas having a specific gravity of 40. This gas was devoid of all chemical properties, and Ramsay gave to it the name krypton.

Lord Raley and Professor Ramsay next submitted some argon to distillation. When cooled to 232° below zero Cent. some crystals were formed, which, upon evaporation, gave a gas of the same specific gravity as argon. This gas, called Mitargon, differs from Argon in the fact that it can be crystallized.

When argon was submitted to great cold for some time, another gas called neon was obtained. This gas has a characteristic spectrum of its own and possesses no chemical properties. As krypton and metargon were evaporated a still heavier gas was found, called xenon.

If you compress a gas, part of the energy exerted will be expended in moving the molecules closer together, and the other part will cause rotation of the atoms within the molecules. If the molecule consists of but one atom, all the energy of compression will be used in bringing the molecules closer together. A given musical note will produce longer sound waves in a gas which has its molecules consisting of one atom than in any other medium.

In each of these non-chemical elements we have a molecule containing a single atom. The molecules of the non-chemical elements tend neither to unite among themselves to form compounds nor to unite with true chemical elements. The non-chemical elements form the connecting links in the periodic curve of the true chemical elements.

The sophomores at Princeton have agreed to submit to the faculty's prohibition of hazing.

Grand Concert Program.

Following is the program for the Pasquali Grand Operatic Concert, at the Opera House to-night:

1. Piano—"Polonaise" in A flat.... Chopin
Signor DeMacchi.
2. "Song of Hybrias the Cretan".... Elliott
(Translated from the original Greek.)
Mr. Gamble.
3. Song—"My Heart at Thy Sweet Voice"..... Saint-Saens
"From "Samson and Delilah."
Miss Crawford.
4. Lombardi—"La mai letizia". Verdi
Signor DePasquali.
5. Song—"Villanelle". E. Dell'Acqua
Mme. DePasquali.
6. Rigoletto—"Quartette".... Verdi
Mme. DePasquali, Miss Crawford
Sig. DePasquali, Mr. Gamble.
7. Piano—
(a) "Pages Affectueuses".... V. M. Vanzo
(b) "Scherzo"..... Del Ponte
Signor DeMacchi.

PART II.

To conclude with a complete performance of the Garden Scene from Gounod's

FAUST.

Dramatis Personæ.

Marguerite.....
..... Signora Bernice DePasquali
Martha..... Miss Margaret Crawford
Faust..... Signor Mangioni DePasquali
Mephistopheles... Mr. Ernest Gamble

PERSONNEL.

Mme. Bernice DePasquali.....
..... The Great American Cantatrice
Miss Margaret Crawford.... Contralto
Late of Seidl Orchestra.
Signor M. DePasquali..... Tenor
From the Royal Theatre of Italy,
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Mr. Ernest Gamble..... Basso
From the Covent Garden, London,
and N. Y. Metropolitan
Opera House.
Signor Clementio DeMacchi... Pianist
From La Scala, Milan, and Mme.
Nordica Grand Opera Co.
(N. B.—Curtain rises at 8:30.)

The Meteoric Shower.

The shower of middle November meteors—technically known as Leonids—for the year 1899, is prophesied as a maximum of brilliancy, a condition that is extended in a somewhat less degree to the years preceding and following that date. As, however, next year the shower will take place under the glare of a nearly full moon, it was predicted that the showers seen on the early mornings of Nov. 14th and Nov. 15th of this year would probably be superior to it, as both nights are moonless. Preparations were therefore made at many stations to carry on proper observations of the display.

At Iowa City, the sky was cloudy from Saturday evening until Monday afternoon, and it was at first feared that this would prevent observations from being taken. But at about 3 o'clock the clouds broke and left the sky unusually perfect for observational purposes—a condition that was still further improved by the facts that there was for the most part very

little wind, and that the thermometer kept an almost constant temperature (26°).

The party for observation, under the charge of Instructor Easton, which met at the Science building at midnight, comprised Messrs. R. B. Phillips, A. J. Scales, Homer Hughes, F. C. McCutchen, and McKenzie. Later Messrs. Fellingham, Hayler, Sanders and Anthony, joined the party. To all of these Mr. Easton desires to express his appreciation and gratitude. Watch was held on the roof of this building as being the best available station with a clear horizon, and soon the party was established in position and work began. The men worked in relays, part staying in the building to keep warm while "off duty." It is perhaps unnecessary to say that they did not maintain a dignified silence, and it may be questioned whether the Science building has ever before been the scene of such conviviality as on this occasion.

The sky was divided up into sections, and to each section a student was assigned, with directions to keep careful watch not only for meteors in general, but also for any special form, color or path. Record was made every ten minutes of general results, and all peculiarities at once reported on observation.

It would be a stretch of the imagination to say that the display was dazzling, for while the number was moderately large, brilliant meteors were few. Nine hundred and thirteen were counted in all from 12:26, when the watch began, until 5:45, when sunrise put a stop to further work. The best period was between 2 and 4 o'clock, when 407 were counted, and on one occasion (3:40 to 3:50) 46 in ten minutes. About 45 of special importance were recorded—that is, about one twentieth of the total number. Only about half of these were important on account of brightness, and, allowing for others not marked as extraordinary, this would give on the average only six or seven bright meteors an hour—too small a number to attract the attention the casual observer. Some of these, however, were very brilliant—pure white and leaving a distinct trail, and there is a record of one of a red color, with a red trail. Also one yellow meteor was seen and one blue one, with many small red ones.

Despite the cold, augmented about 3:30 by a southwest wind, enthusiasm was maintained to the end, and not till St. Mary's clock chimed 5:45, did the party regretfully cease observations.

Baconian.

Professor Macbride will lecture tomorrow evening on the subject "What is an Animal?" The session for voluntary reports has been postponed until Dec. 2nd.

Senior Pins.

The class pins will not be ready to deliver until after Thanksgiving. The pins will then be delivered by the committee in person as soon as received from the factory.

COMMITTEE.

The Vidette - Reporter

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A Fitting Tribute.

In this issue we publish a suggestion made by the Engineering Society that the four classes appoint committees to consider the advisability of naming the new Collegiate Building "Schaeffer Hall." Surely no more fitting recognition would be possible. Every student for the past decade realizes the great work done by our late President in building up the University and in furthering her interests. He had worked long and hard to attain this appropriation, and it was his misfortune not to see and enjoy the benefits of his labors, but it is now an opportune time for us to show our appreciation of his work and name the new building after him

Philomathian.

The Philomathian society carried out the following program Friday evening:

Declamation..... L. Henson
"Existance of Satyrs."

Debate—"Resolved, that under existing conditions, the abolition by all civilized nations, of the armies, other than those required for domestic police, is feasible."

Affirmative—Jay Smith, T. E. Sartin.

Negative—C.W. Soesbe, F. S. Bailey.
Speech..... H. A. Angus
"The Air and Its Contents."

Story..... J. T. Edson
"Autobiography of a Rat, told in 1900."

As a whole the program was not up to the standard, although each of the speakers showed preparation. The delivery might have been improved upon. The best number was the story by Mr. Edson. It certainly deserves praise. The two new members, Mr. Jay Smith and Mr. Martin, acquitted themselves credably and showed that they were valuable acquisitions to the society.

Dental Department.

L. C. Albright was initiated into Xi Psi Phi fraternity recently.

Freeman Tullis, who went home on account of sickness, has returned to school.

Dexter, '00, and Willey, '99, went to Sioux City last week.

Mr. Brown, formerly of Ann Arbor dental school, was in town last week, visiting old friends. Mr. Brown is not in school this year, but is traveling for a jewelry house.

Ralph Hecht, '01, was initiated into the Xi Psi Phi fraternity last Friday night.

The boys in the 50th Iowa, who are students in the Dental department, left for Des Moines, Sunday, there to be mustered out.

Hannofn, '99, has been initiated into the Xi Psi Phi.

Hecht, '01, is manager of the Freshman Mandolin Club.

Several of our students attended the Grinnell-S. U. I. game last Saturday.

Dr. Chase has given the Juniors something new in therapeutics. He selects four students each week to prepare papers on different dental diseases. These papers are read and criticised before the class. The latest treatments are discussed and much good is derived therefrom.

The Eastern Iowa Dental Association met here Wednesday in the Dental building. Many leading dentists were present, and the meeting was a great success. Several papers were read, and many new methods of treatment of disease were brought forth.

Notice.

There will be an important meeting of the VIDETTE-REPORTER Board at Close Hall, Saturday, at 11 o'clock. Let every member be present.
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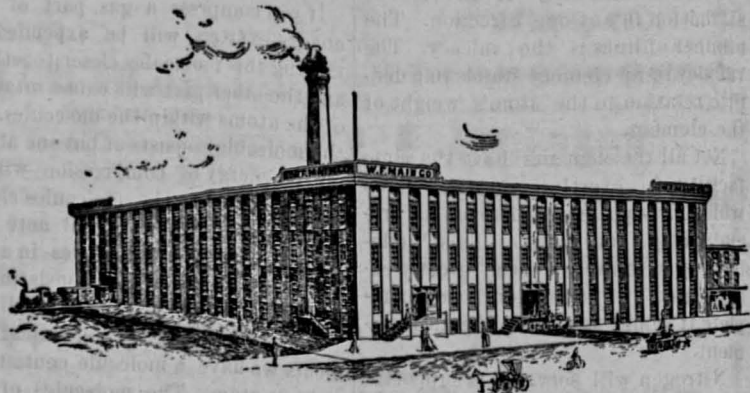
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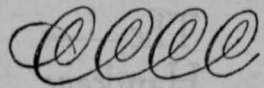
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FACT AND RUMOR.

Knapp, sargeant of Co. A, is a new
recruit in the battery.

The Phi Psis will give a dress party
at their hall Friday night.

Polygon was entertained at the
home of Miss Page last evening.

J. W. Morris, '94, has been elected
county attorney of Guthrie county.

Misses Dow and Hess, and Mr. Eber-
bart, all of '02, were initiated into Ivy
Lane last night.

The Junior and Senior Laws have a
game of foot ball this evening at the
Athletic Park.

E. K. Hobby is steadily recovering
from his severe illness, but is as yet
unable to leave his bed.

Miss Harrison who recently entered
the Junior Law class, is president of
the Missouri State Equal Suffrage As-
sociation.

Carlson, L. '98, candidate for re-
corder in Bon Homme Co., Dakota, on
the Populist ticket, was defeated at
the recent election.

Owing to the conflicting dates at
the opera house the preliminary de-
bate will be on Tuesday, Nov. 29, in-
stead of the 30th, as announced.

The ladies of the Medical depart-
ment will receive the ladies of the
other professional departments at
Close Hall, Saturday, from 4 to 5.

A large number of our exchanges
have copied the notice, dropped in one
of our news-boxes, calling the atten-
tion of the instructors to the fact that
the first bell is to dismiss classes. Evi-
dently other scholls are troubled the
same as S. U. I.

LATEST STYLE HATS AND FURNISHING GOODS AT BLOOM & MAYERS.

Remember the Concert begins at 8:30.

H. H. Wheeler, L. '00, received a fracture of his thumb while playing foot ball Tuesday afternoon.

A box has been placed in the Central building to receive contributions to the Humorous Department of the Hawkeye.

The Senior Engineering students are appearing in something new in the way of caps—a tripod and transit in old gold color resting upon the red cap.

The members of the physics class passed a petition in class, yesterday, to have the final examination on the first part of the work, which they fear will come on Friday, postponed until Monday.

H. F. Getchell, a former student of S. U. I., and now a member of "The Girl I Left Behind Me" Co., which played at the opera house last night, was given an informal reception by the Betas, yesterday afternoon, at their chapter house.

The first meeting of the "Constituent Assembly" was held last Saturday. The question discussed was a proposed preamble to the Constitution. The Bill of Rights is the subject for discussion next Saturday evening. Open to the public, and meets in the Political Science room.

M. E. Geiser, L. '96, who is located at New Hampton, Chickasaw county, Iowa, was elected to the office of county attorney, at that place, being the only Democrat in that county who had opposition. This speaks well for Mr. Geiser's ability as an attorney, and his standing in the community. He was a charter member of the Hammond Law Senate.

Schaeffer Hall.

At its business meeting, Saturday evening the Engineering Society unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"Resolved, that the President be instructed to appoint four committees, each consisting of three to be named from each class, the purpose of said committees being to cause to have laid before their respective classes the advisability of requesting the Regents to name the new Collegiate building "Schaeffer Hall," in honor of Dr. Charles Ashmead Schaeffer, our late, much beloved President.

A Fruitful Meeting.

The services at Close Hall last Sunday afternoon were unusually good. The meeting was the inauguration of the daily prayer meetings being held during this, the "Week of Prayer" for colleges. Mr. Hawk led, and gave one of the finest addresses ever heard at Close Hall. He spoke of the Christian's duty, of the splendid opportunities for work here in the University, and exhorted all to use their best energies in helping up those who were falling into dangerous paths. He closed the address by asking those present who were willing to begin the days of the following week in a watch of prayer with God, to rise, and the response was by the greater number of those present, all of whom seemed to be inspired to nobler work from the words they had just listened to.

The music, as well as the speaking, was soul stirring, and Mr. Fellingham's words of direction in regard to the prayer meetings of the week, put all on the proper track for this work.

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