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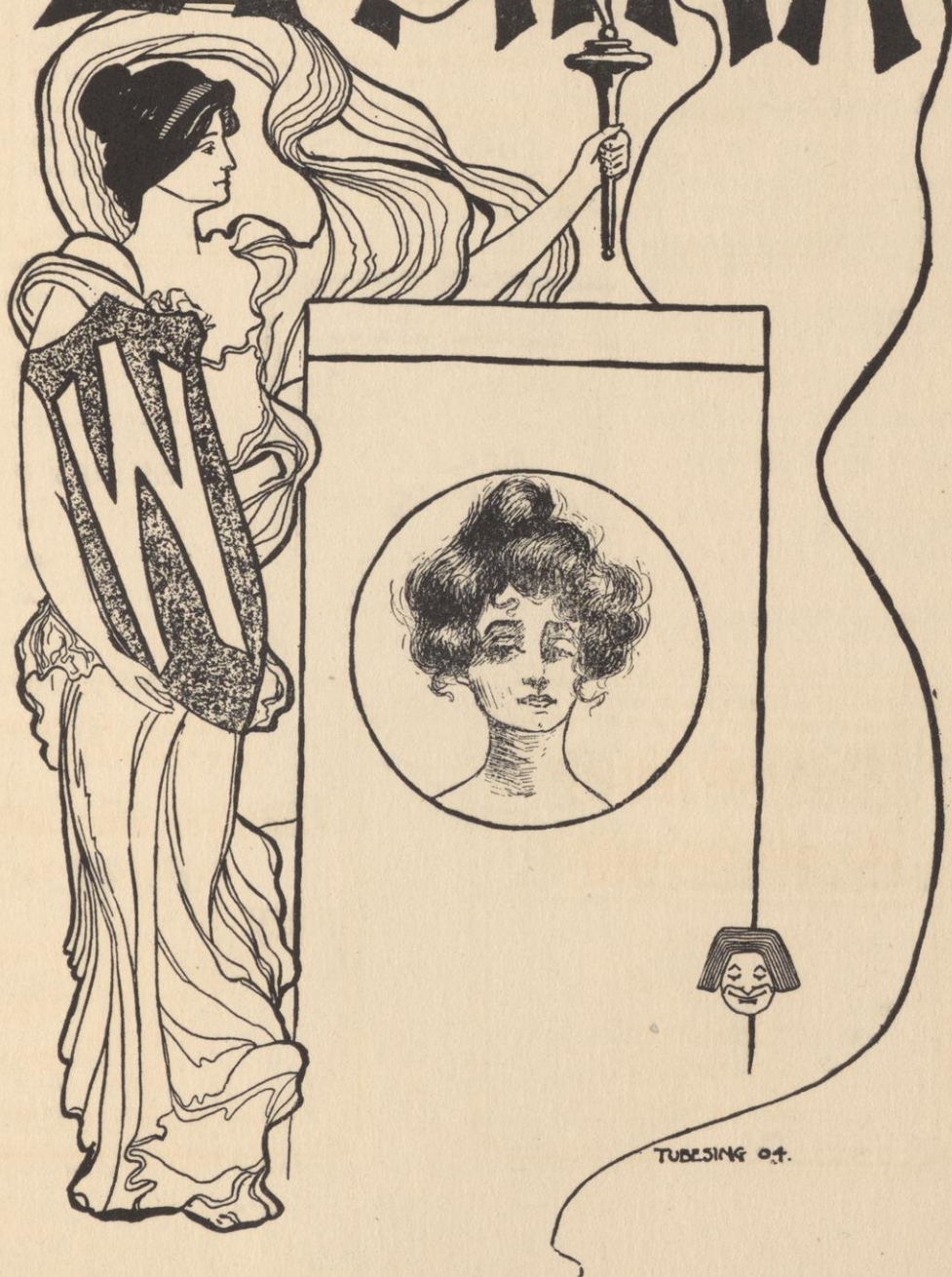
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Volume 4, Number 3

Madison, Wis., October 27, 1902

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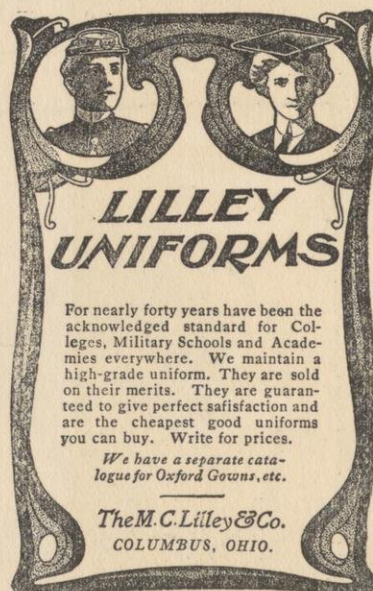
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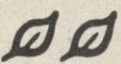


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The Sphinx

Naramore

Bucking.

The Deuce!
 This stuff is war!
 And war,—to make use
 Of a hackneyed quotation—
 “Is Hell!”
 To prove that acceleration
 Equals—what? Sausages or
 Sulphuric acid?
 Well!
 All I can say is,
 “Cuss the whole biz?”
 What is acceleration, anyhow?
 Now,
 $X \text{ over } y = \pi$. Wish I had some!
 Equals π into S.
 (S stands for stomach I guess.)
 And,
 $P + H = x_2y \text{ Ez—easy! Understand?}$
 P Q
 How clear!
 Oh, dear!
 Also—Rats!
 I'll try the Dutch; that's
 Better.
 Donnerwetter!
 Himmel! Blitzen!
 I declare,
 I've learned the rudiments!
 I can swear
 In French, Latin, Greek and Prussian,
 And some in Russian.
 Ach! such a diddings!
 Das ist zu schwer,
 Ich kann nicht mehr,
Das übersetzen.
 What'll I try
 Next?
 Gosh I'm dry.
 I
 Have bucked so long!
 I'll
 Just step out a while,
 And get a beer,
 And then
 Come back again
 And finish up—s'long!
 * * * * *
 “Oh we've all gone wrong.”
 What? three?
 Wow!
 Well, it's too late to buck now,
 I'll cut to-morrow!
 “Morpheus, into thy arms I creep, and
 sleep!”



THE SPHINX.

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ARTHUR B. BRALEY, '04, Managing Editor.

HARRY GARDNER, '04, Managing Artist.

HERBERT F. JOHN, '03, Business Editor.

Future appointments to the staff will be made on a basis of contributions received.

Always remember that this is only pretence, so that you are not to believe a word of it, even if it is true.—Kingsley

THE SPHINX had supposed that last year's senior class bequeathed to the University clubs and societies enough to meet all requirements for several years to come. But it seems that the spirit of organization has survived and is making itself manifest even at this early date. This time it is a new literary society for women. Do not misunderstand THE SPHINX, and think that she is opposed to literary societies in general or to this one in particular. On the contrary she believes in them most heartily and rejoices to know that more students are to avail themselves of their benefits. If this last be added to the list we will have eight so-called literary societies, with an aggregate of nearly four hundred members. These members work hard and consistently. They voluntarily give up an entire evening and several hours of each week to their society. Yet all of these societies are for debating alone. Not only are they debating societies, but they confine their attention almost entirely to the realm of politics. One will rarely, if ever find any other than a political question passed for discussion. These things being so, THE SPHINX wonders whether so much energy should be spent in one direction. Whether it is the highest development of intellectual power to "on either side dispute, confuse, change hands and still confuse."

It is a deplorable fact that we do not have a single purely literary society. While there are nearly four hundred students willing to make sacrifices to train themselves in debate, there are not ten who love literature enough for its own sake to meet together and read the best writers. Is this also the result of this much-talked-of commercial spirit? Are we becoming so engrossed in those matters of immediate and practical interest that there is no longer time for things literary? It may be said that sufficient opportunity is offered in the class-room for such study. But that is as true of those subjects taken up by the debating societies. Benefit is derived from debating because it is voluntary, and the fact that it is voluntary shows the great interest taken in it. Complete neglect-outside the class-room only shows more clearly the lack of interest taken in literature. It has been well said that students lack intellectual curiosity, and one is forced to admit the truth of the criticism when he realizes the almost complete absence of voluntary discussion of literary subjects.

Laugh and the world laughs with you—but not if you laugh at your own jokes.

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LAST YEAR the English department, believing that the large number of themes extant among upper class-men was not conducive to freshmen originality, conceived the brilliant idea of preserving them within the confines of the department. This plan has been improved upon by a certain professor who discovered that legal briefs were sometimes disposed of for gain without even being copied. One day he noticed the manner in which railway tickets were cancelled, and now all papers are returned with an artistic open work design around the edge and the center, looking like Simple Simon's sieve. It is a great day when real business methods are adopted in educational institutions. It only remains to carry the reform a little further and require a non-transferable ticket with each blue book.

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They say it will be three months before coal bins can be filled. How popular "In the Good Old Summer Time" will be about January 1st.

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THE GREAT POWER of the press was proven conclusively by the mass-meeting held before the Beloit-Wisconsin game. Our "Great Daily" discovered that having a mass-meeting without consulting the foot-ball team was after all very much like their oft repeated attempts to play Hamlet with Hamlet left out. It is rumored that about 7:30 p. m. the mentor of the *Scardinal* was discovered wandering about the upper campus with a lantern looking for a mass-meeting. Very few freshmen discovered what a real Badger mass-meeting really means.

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The world is full of opportunities and of these is the opportunity that everyone has of subscribing to THE SPHINX. To receive contributions the office is open every afternoon, but by special arrangement office hours for receiving subscriptions are from 9:00 a. m. to 9:00 a. m. Did it ever occur to you that every college publication has at least twenty who read to one who pay? THE SPHINX appears at regular intervals and now and then you may discover a joke somewhere among her pages. But this being funny is a mighty serious business. You can send several rays of sunshine into her otherwise dreary life by occasionally turning in a little coin to brighten things up.

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New student to Mr. Crathorne, whom he takes to be a freshman—"Say, I've got to take work under that Crathorne. What sort of a fellow is he?"

Mr. Crathorne—"Eh? Er-r, I'm Crathorne."

Very freshman to Prof. Dowling, after being in his class a week—"Will you please tell me your name? I haven't found out who you are yet?"

When it began to rain, Friday evening, the fake shows took the people in literally—all the rest of the week they took them in figuratively.

Prof. X.—What is your opinion on this point, Mr. Freshly?

Mr. F.—Well, the author says—

Prof. X.—I don't want the author, I want you.

Mr. F. (subsiding)—Well, I guess you've got me, this time.



No Wonder.

“You look sort of peaked, old man.”
 “I should smile. I dreamed, last night,
 that I played single handed against the New
 York Zoo, and I tackled the elephant.”

Sonnets of a Freshman.

III.

You should have seen me in my class today;
 I told that Prof. a lot of things, I guess.
 It's rare he finds so good a man, unless
 A Senior or a Junior comes his way.
 And after class I heard a Sophomore say:
 “So bright! and he so young,” and one
 said, “Yes,
 A youth of promise and of good address,
 Which all our class should hear the lad display.”
 And then they came to me and shook my
 hand,
 And said they'd like to see some more of
 me
 And asked if I'd address a meeting grand
 Upon the Main Hall steps at 7:03.
 And so tonight the Sophomore class shall
 cheer
 At eloquence whose like is not heard here.

IV.

You cannot keep a good man out of sight,
 The folks down here are learning what I
 am.

When at the Gym I spoke last night, the
 jam
 Was fearful—people even had to fight
 To hear my speech, which gave them such
 delight,
 That they insisted I should also speak
 At Chadbourne hall—the Kappa House
 (that's Greek).
 And elsewhere, too. I spoke ten times that
 night,
 And everywhere they cheered and yelled
 for me,
 And laughed or wept responsive to my
 voice,
 Until at length some rowdy jealously
 Laid hold of me and shouted, “Take your
 choice
 Of singing songs to us or getting wet.”
 I could not sing—my clothes are dripping
 yet.

“Don't you know that it looks suspicious
 to come back from a ride with the buggy
 top up? People will think you're engaged.”
 “Sst! That's what I want them to think,
 but I haven't had the nerve to propose yet.”

“Why do you always take your girl rid-
 ing in company with another couple?”
 “Well, you see, if we've nothing else to
 talk about we can talk about the other
 couple.”

There was a young man from Cologne,
 Who said, “How my mustache has grogne;
 To protect it I mean
 I shall use Paris green”—
 And now they are carving the stogne.

Flirtation is the Beloit game of Life's
 football season.

A college is like a flour-mill—the grind-
 ers get nothing out of it.

On the Other Side.

"Hickey, John," called the clerk, and John, grinning as of old, stepped to the bar.

"John Hickey," said St. Peter sternly, jingling his keys, "what was your mortal occupation?"

"Chinnin' the football squad."

"No, no, I mean, what did you *do*?"

"De freshmen mostly."

St. Peter frowned. "Answer me straight now," he said, "or hell will be richer by one tough roast—what was your job?"

"I wuz janitor of the 'Varsity Gym."

"What University?"

"Dere ain't but one—Wisconsin!"

St. Peter bowed and asked, "who are the freshmen?"

"De freshmen are de guys wot buys con- vocation tickets, and can't open dere lock- er's—dey's de nuisance of de joint."

"And—er—how did you treat these freshmen?"

"Scared 'em stiff first an' den swore when dey wanted anythin'."

"And what were your other duties?"

"Chasin' de kids outdoors, lockin' de swimmers in de tank, shuttin' off all de hot water when de showers was full, sellin' all de plunder I found, hangin' onto my job and bein' *It* in de Gym."

St. Peter stood up. "John Hickey," he said, "you have run your gymnasium in the most approved and scientific fashion, and that you may have congenial occupation on this side, I appoint you High Pitchforker on the Vitriol beds! Next."

They scalped me and salted my brain
Such foolishness gives me a pain
Then they filled me with ink
Which was careless, I think,
For my thoughts got a dark bluish stain.

Prof. Meyer—What was the Lex Fru-
meria?

Sophomore (glibly)—It was a sort of ox
wagon.

Advice from the English Department.



Don't take a lengthy subject—



or a weighty subject—



but take a little light subject and treat it well, of course.

From a Hall Junior.

I.

When at night I'm gently snoring,
And my mind is free from boring,
There comes a cry that rends the midnight
air;
'Tis the yell of "nineteen-five"
With that thrilling "sakes alive!"
Mingled with the groans of freshmen in
despair.

II.

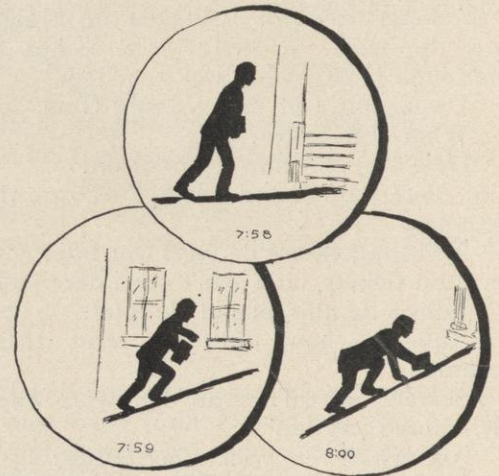
Then I hear a grand oration,
Followed by a declamation,
And a jig that's executed with great skill.
To a concert then I listen,
When all the time I'm wishin'
That causes of the noises I might kill.

III.

Now you know I've no objection
To a concert of perfection,
Though given 'steen-eleven times a week;
But a half a dozen nightly
And some more when day dawns
brightly,
Make me think that other quarters I must
seek.

IV.

But then, I must not worry,
Or get in such a flurry,
For I think that I shall have to bear it all;
And I'd stand a lot more racket,
Ere I'd take my trunk and pack it
To say good-bye to dear old Chadbourne
Hall.



Making an Eight o'clock.. We've all
felt that way.

Stranger—I hear there was a carnival in
Madison last week.

Student—False report; it was a sort of a
tournament to practice up the cops!

Overheard Saturday Morning.

First Cop—How many students did you
arrest!

Second Cop—Twenty-two.

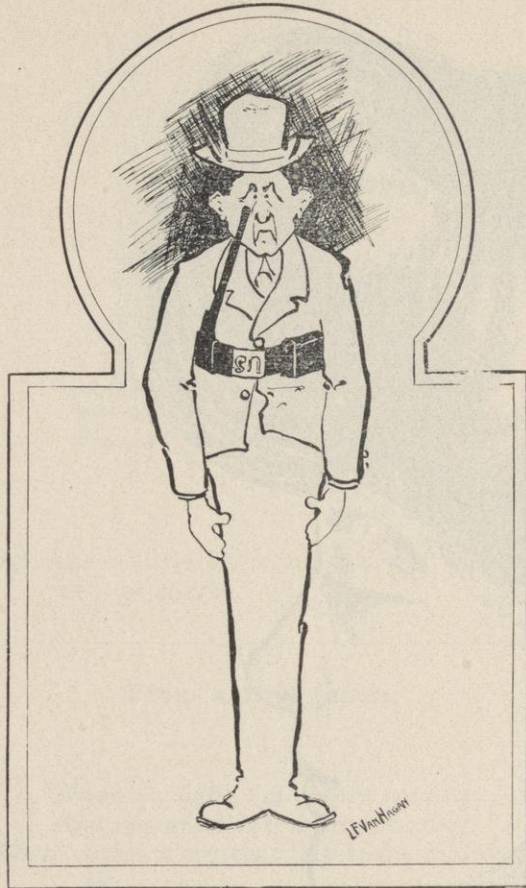
First Cop—I beat you one.

Father threw the baby down
Underneath the trolley car;
Mamma, with a little frown,
Said, "How careless, dear, you are."

Mamma got quite angry then,
'Cause the trolley had to stop
While the motorman and pa
Wiped up baby with a mop.



THE SPHINX GIRL.



"I wonder what's wrong."

Ye Ballad av Sir Hickey.

Ye Knight, Sir Hickey, sate ahient
 Ye door within his Gymn,
 When came a Freshman student
 In eager search for himn;
 He tarried nott to look around
 Butt pass't adown ye halls,
 And as he fares himn in his quest,
 For Hickey loudly calls
 Like unto thiss:

"Ho! Hickey, where the devil art?"
 And cursed his lucke likewise;
 Sir Hickey peecked ahient ye door,
 Moste melancholy eyes.
 "Come rouse thee, Hickey (here he
 swears),
 I have'nt half the daye
 To find my footballe toggerie;"
 Does Hickey answer? Naye,
 He sleeps I wiss.

Sir Freshman heareth King call out,
 "Come hurry upp in there,"
 And as he commeth runninge
 Sees Sir Hickey in ye chaire.
 "Nowe out upon thee for a knave,"
 (And here he shakes himn goode.)
 Sir Hickey rises, yawns—
 And sweareth rowndly as he should;
 He standeth nott for thiss.

The Night Before He Came Back.

Ruth sat in the hammock with three pillows on one side of her and a heavy, bright red cape on the other. Henry sat in the porch chair which squeaked, as now and then he rocked uneasily back and forth. Henry wanted to sit in the hammock with Ruth and hoped to be able to do so when she should feel the need of her cape. Ruth wanted to sit alone in the hammock, and it was for that reason that she had the pillows and the cape on either side of her.

This was the end of summer. To-morrow Henry was going back to the University where the men called him Hank, and where the girls called him a woman-hater. He was glad to go back, but he was sorry to leave Ruth, who called him Henry, and never thought of such a thing as his

being a woman-hater. Indeed, she had good reason to think otherwise.

They had been together almost constantly all summer. If he could get into the hammock who knew what might happen? To be sure he had often sat there with Ruth on other occasions, and nothing had happened. She was not the sort of girl with whom one dared have things happen. But to-night was the end of summer. He was going away in the morning.

"You had better put your cape on," he said, "it's getting cold."

"I'm perfectly warm," she answered, settling more comfortably against the cushions and smoothing the red cape with an affectionate hand. She had had many good times in that cape, and she knew that it was very becoming. For these two reasons it was very dear to her. Usually she was ready

at the slightest excuse to put it on. But she, too, realized that it was the end of the summer, and that Henry was going away in the morning. While the cape was in the hammock Henry could not be, so she did not put it on.

Finally, however, it grew so cool that she had to give in. Henry helped her put on the cape, thinking that now he could change his seat. But he was mistaken, for when he had finished Ruth said, "just put that big pillow on the other side of me."

"I thought I'd put myself there."

"I would rather have the pillow, please," she said decidedly.

Henry, perforce, again sat down in his rocking chair, and squeaked it disconsolately to and fro.

"Why don't you say something," inquired Ruth, after a pause.

Now Henry had been at the University long enough to have made up his mind that conversation is the girl's duty, so he replied, "Why don't you?"

"Henry," said Ruth, "I have talked with you (or, shall I say, at you?) so much this summer that now I have nothing to— Oh, see the moon! Isn't it beautiful?"

"We might talk about the man in the moon," suggested Henry.

"Or the woman."

"Yes. She is more interesting. She reminds me of you."

"Are you glad to go back?" asked Ruth, by way of changing the subject.

"Yes, I am."

"You have never said much about the girls there."

"My thoughts," he replied, "are too deep for utterance."

"Oh!"

Again there was silence until Ruth broke it by saying, "It's too bad you said that. We might have had something to talk about the whole evening."

"There is only one thing I care to talk about, and that is y—"

"I don't want to talk about that at all."

"Oh, very well."

Another silence ensued which Ruth broke with, "Won't you tell me about the girls at Wisconsin?"

"They aren't any more foolish than any other girls," was the answer.

So, because Henry wanted so much to talk about that one thing and because Ruth tried very hard to keep him from it and because they were both very young and very silly, they became involved in a heated quarrel, which started with the girls at Wisconsin and ended by Ruth's saying hotly, "Well, you had better go," and rising with such a flourish of her whole body as to knock one end of the hammock off the hook.

Henry stooped to replace it but, on second thought, he removed the other end from the hook and rolled the hammock up saying, "You won't want this again."

"Thank you," said Ruth stiffly as she received the bundle in her arms. Then she added, "Goodbye. I hope you will have a pleasant year."

Her manner did not sooth his ire and he answered in her own tone of voice, "Thank you. Goodbye."

Then she turned and went into the house. But just as the last corner of her red cape was about to disappear his anger suddenly left him.

"Oh Ruth!" he cried holding out his arms.

She came back slowly and stood looking at him a second. Then he felt something warm and yielding against his heart. But the door had shut softly as Ruth fled into the house and Henry was embracing the hammock.



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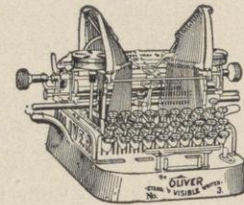
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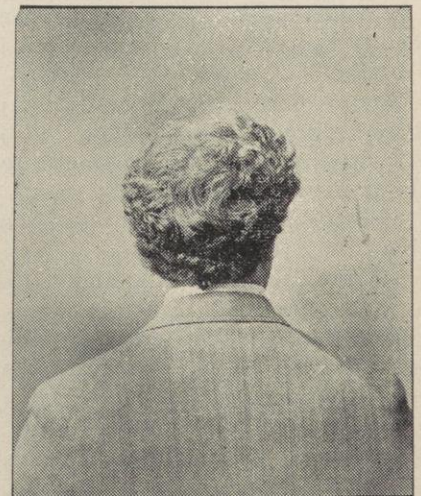
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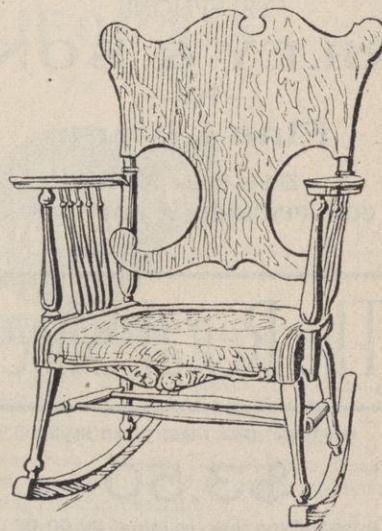


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