

heap of mass statistics by concerted and systematic attack.

I hope, furthermore, that most of us would accept the related proposition that the search for integrative processes is quite as promising as the search for mental elements, thresholds, reflexes, instincts, complexes or any invariant artifact whatsoever, whether introspective or behavioristic.

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### JOHN MAXSON STILLMAN, 1852-1923

JOHN MAXSON STILLMAN, professor of chemistry and vice-president emeritus of Stanford University, was born in New York City on April 14, 1852, the son of Dr. Jacob Davis Babcock Stillman and Caroline Maxson (Stillman). He was graduated from the University of California in 1874, and received the degree of Ph.D. from his Alma Mater in 1885. A student in chemistry in Strassburg and Würzburg, in 1875 and 1876, he returned to this country as instructor in chemistry at the University of California, where he remained until 1882. He then went to Boston as chemist of the Boston and American Sugar Refining Companies until 1891 on the foundation of Leland Stanford Junior University, in which institution he served as professor of chemistry for twenty-six years, becoming vice-president in 1913, and retiring under the age limit as emeritus in 1917. He was the author of numerous articles on chemical matters, covering especially the organization of certain vegetable compounds, the ammonia compounds of inorganic chlorides, the molecular lowering of the freezing point in diphenylamin and naphthylamin, the precipitation of calcium and magnesium in the purification of water, the poisonous elements in whisky. Most of these impressed him as little worse than ethyl alcohol itself. In his later years he made a specialty of the history of chemistry, an important piece of research being on the life and work of Paracelsus (1921). Lately he completed a volume on the early chemists and alchemists, soon to be published. He was a member of the American Chemical Society, of the American Institute of Chemistry, of the Deutsche Chemische Gesellschaft, and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He died at Stanford University, December 14, 1923.

Such is the condensed academic record of one of the most scholarly of chemists, most devoted of teachers and most lovable of men. As an intimate associate for half a lifetime, I can speak feelingly of his strength and virtue, and of the indebtedness to him of the new university through all its early growing pains.

At the opening of Stanford University on October

1, 1891, Dr. Stillman was one of the fifteen teachers chosen at the modest but ambitious outset, one of the three senior members in a remarkable group, who remained with it for a generation. Without invidious comparison, I may note these members of this first faculty who have stood steadily in the first rank in respect to scholarly attainments, productive work, educational wisdom and friendly helpfulness. These were the late John Caspar Branner, professor of geology, first vice-president and second president; John Maxson Stillman, professor of chemistry, the next vice-president; and Charles David Marx, professor of civil engineering, vice-president after Dr. Stillman's retirement as Emeritus, in 1917. All three were unusually capable in each of the respects I have enumerated, but Dr. Stillman's especial virtue lay in the line of wisdom. No better faculty man ever helped a university and the need of sound judgment and wise administration was never greater than in the six lean years ("the long fight") which followed the death of the founder (1893 to 1899), when the entire prospective endowment was tied up by wanton litigation. There is an Albanian proverb, "Open a cask of sugar and flies will come all the way from Bagdad." The most insistent of these litigants was the United States Government itself, which claimed the entire endowment in view of the indebtedness of the Central Pacific Railway, not then due and which was paid in full with interest as soon as its bonds had matured. The government was three times non-suited in Federal Courts—at last in the Supreme Court, the university meanwhile living from hand to mouth under conditions of supreme difficulty.

It may interest the thousands of Dr. Stillman's friends and students to know that of all the professors at Stanford he was the only one in any degree selected by the founder himself. Governor Stanford said to me that his old friend, Dr. J. D. B. Stillman, has left a son who had been a teacher in the University of California and was then a professional chemist, living at Brookline, Massachusetts. With this hint, I visited Boston to see Dr. Stillman, and being thoroughly pleased, I offered him the chair of chemistry. This he as promptly accepted, declining to consider an advance in salary for his company, on the ground, as he said, that "it would only tend to confuse his mind." We thus secured (as I have elsewhere stated) "one of the wisest teachers I have ever known and one of the most thoroughly beloved. His dear wife (Emma Rudolph Stillman), I may add has ably seconded him in every relation, and few other Stanford homes have contributed as much as theirs to the social well-being of the community." (Days of a Man, I, 398).

DAVID STARR JORDAN