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*Julius Plücker's "Freude an der Gestalt"*

In his 1956 *History of Analytic Geometry* (New York: Scripta Mathematica), Carl Boyer observed that the acclaimed nineteenth century analytic geometer, Julius Plücker (1801–1868), had first pursued pure geometry. Boyer referred to Plücker's 1826 article "Théorèmes et problèmes, sur les contacts des sections coniques" published by Joseph-Diaz Gergonne (1771–1859) in his journal, the *Annales de mathématiques pures et appliquées*. Boyer hypothesized that Plücker was driven to analytic geometry following a plagiarism accusation by Jean-Victor Poncelet (1788–1867). However, as Boyer well knew, Gergonne had taken great editorial liberties with Plücker's manuscript. So much so that Plücker later described the published version as altered beyond recognition. The original article only appeared in 1904 within the *Mathematische Annalen*. Our paper will reveal the curious history of Plücker's article, and employ the narrative to discuss the importance of visual form in the transmission of geometrical research during the early nineteenth century.