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# Howard University Journal

A WEEKLY PAPER PUBLISHED BY THE STUDENTS OF HOWARD UNIVERSITY, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Volume XI

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1913

Number 5

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## National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Holds Mass Meeting to Protest Against Segregation in the District

Grandson of Wm. Lloyd Garrison Speaks

**T**HE spirit of Hampden, Pym, the American abolitionists, and all men who have stood out against oppression and injustice, was revived in a great mass meeting held October 27th, at the Metropolitan A. M. E. church. Its purpose was to offer protest against the segregation of Negroes employed in the United States Civil Service department of the District of Columbia.

The occasion, so largely attended, gave evidence to the fact that Washington is thoroughly aroused, and that its people fully realize that "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." Among those present were Mr. Oswald Garrison Villard, grandson of the great abolitionist; Justice Wendell Philips Stafford, of the District Court; former Senator H. W. Blair; Rev. John Haynes Holmes; Dr. Stephen M. Newman, of Howard University; Rev. Walter H. Brooks and Hon. A. H. Grimke, president of the local branch of the Association.

The addresses delivered at this meeting will go down as masterly appeals for the perpetuation of right and justice. Those who were present cannot forget the impassioned eloquence of the Rev. John Haynes Holmes, the first of the speakers. In the course of his remarks he brought out the fact that segregation only feeds antipathy between the races, and that if segregation is permitted in the departments of the civil service, it will simply show

that the national government puts its stamp of approval upon a course which is not only morally wrong but which is contrary to the guarantees of the national Constitution. In regard to doing the thing which is expedient, the speaker said, "The ideal thing is the practical thing. The only thing which will work in human society is the thing which is everlastingly right. Segregation will not work because it is eternally and fundamentally wrong."

Reverend Brooks, of the Nineteenth Street Baptist church, emphasized the fact that the protest was not against an imaginary apprehension, but against unkind and unfriendly measures which were being executed most diligently. He expressed his regret that such a course should ever be pursued by the government, but especially did it pain him to know that segregation of this nature should be begun during the fiftieth anniversary of "Manhood Freedom," and under a Christian President.

The principal speaker of the evening, Mr. Oswald Garrison Villard, in his argument opposed the whole principle of segregation. With the spirit of his immortal ancestor, he portrayed the evils which might follow in the wake of such a course. He expressed admiration for President Wilson, but believed that in the matter of segregation, as in some other matters, the President's philosophy was defective. Continuing, Mr. Villard showed the fallacy of the claim of the Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo that agitation in opposition to the proposed course would engender race animosity. On the other hand, he thought it obligatory that he

strive to prevent the setting of a precedent based upon the idea of caste. He recommended peaceful but firm rebellion, on the part of Negroes, calling attention to the harm which might be done if violent measures were resorted to. He believed that the national conscience could yet be moved by an appeal to justice, and that now is the time for the race to exercise effectively their freedom of speech. He closed with these words, "Protest, 9,000,000 can keep this country in a turmoil until their grievances are adjusted."

Justice Wendell Philips Stafford, though in his position as court officer, did not care to make statements which might be misconstrued, pointed out the weakness of arbitrary classifications such as color, ancestry or religion. As to the present situation, he thought that every lover of liberty and fair play should protest. As to the results he said that God still reigns not for four years, 400 years, nor 4000 years but from everlasting to everlasting, and that in His own good time He will execute His judgment and justice unto all who are oppressed.

Ex-Senator Blair, besides confirming what had been said, attributed the present crisis to weaknesses of the national government in its educational system.

The addresses were followed by the reading of resolutions expressing dire regret that the idea of segregation should enter the national capital, and that against the separation of races in the departments of the civil service, the Association for the Advancement of Colored People would

(Continued on Page 5)

**I See By The Papers**

By Pink

An article appeared in a recent *Star* declaring that Denny Waters of 1028 Cearney Street, Brookland, grows corn in his back yard measuring twenty-one and a half feet from the ground to the tassel. Pretty good corn, but it has been beat a mile. I happen to know of a farm in Marlborough County, S. C., the soil of which is so rich (unconsciously poetry) that nothing can be raised with success. One year pumpkins were planted, and the vines grew so fast that they wore the pumpkins out dragging them over the ground. The following year corn was the crop but it was the same, only worse. This corn actually grew so fast that you could see it if you observed closely enough. One day one of the farmer's sons went out and climbed on to one of the stalks and it carried him straight up in-

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to, the air. He yelled lustily for the *parens agricola*, who rushed out with an ax and began cutting on the tree. But he couldn't cut it down—the tree grew so fast that he could not hit it twice in the same place.

**Fair Exchange No Robbery**

"You take the ranch and I'll take your wife", ran the note which a man left to his brother when he departed, incidently taking the brother's spouse. At first sight it appears bad form on the part of the departed brother not to mention the proposed trip before leaving, in such delicate matters one has to suspend the proprieties intended for circumstances of less exigence. Doubtless the husband would have been pleased to "see them off" with a cheerful good bye. The account says futher that the couple left in an automobile, and now every time the deserted man hears an auto horn he is frightened half to death, afraid the brother might bring her back. Anyhow he has the ranch left and that's something. Many a man loses his wife and has nothing to comfort him but a yaller dog and a corn-cob pipe.

**The System of Proxy**

A story of murder by proxy in France, was reported last week in a city paper. A lady had a grievance against a former intimate, and being somewhat averse to the modern cruel methods of assassination, employed a relative to do it for her and then gave herself up to the police. The merit of such a system proves that we are advancing. We have not time always to do our own killing, and some of us are too chicken-hearted any way to pull it off respectably. From now on such perplexing matters will be readily solved. And if one needs a shave or a bath, and has not the time to execute the same, he can get a friend to take it for him. Likewise, when exams are on he need not worry because he can secure the services of some

friend who will take it in his stead. When the family physician prescribes a rather obnoxious alleviative, you need not take it; give it to a Sophomore and get immediate results. Best of all, when the five minutes have expired and you are on the exterior aster portion of the Dining Hall door, don't worry; just go to a window and get your room-mate or sweetheart to eat your dinner for you.

**Made to Order Rituals**

A young socialist couple the other day decided to dictate their own marriage pact. It has always seemed unfair to "hitch" folks up according to other's ideas. Why not agree to wed on your own terms? Following this precedent we shall now fix things according to the nature of the case, and make such treaties that will eliminate divorce courts, lawyers'

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fees, etc. Clauses in the documents will read thus: "Null and void if John stays out more than two nights a week", or, "This contract may be revoked when ever Mary insists on making her own biscuits." Marriage contracts, "ready to wear", will be kept in all the up-to-date 10-cent stores, and will be chosen to suit the propensities of the lover and the beloved, just as one now selects post cards which express his sentiments. Oh! happy day when the woman can omit the "obey" clause and fix the amount of pin money, and when the man can limit the expenditure upon fall hats and sealskins. And some pessimists attempt to prove that the world is retrograding.

**The Aftermath**

The excellent and orderly way in which the class "rush" was conducted on October 20, should have approval of all without regard to results or dissatisfaction. The fact that the affair was successfully handled by the

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Upperclassmen is creditable. Organized class "rushes" at Howard are now past the novelty stage, and each successive one will help the body of Upperclassmen to make the next one what it ought to be.

Criticism is, of course, to be offered to the entire Committee for some details which will be more carefully worked out in future years, but no amount of cavilling can change the result, and those who persist in declaiming against certain "unfair" features, will be looked upon as hard losers.

Certainly, everyone was satisfied who came to see a clean, manly contest. The Freshmen are to be complimented particularly for their thorough organization and spectacular methods of punishment. Now that the episode is history and everybody again on friendly terms, let the Freshmen adopt the following sentiment:

**A Prayer**

(Made by an Indian, who recognizes the existence of a supreme being.)

Oh! Powers that Be: Make me sufficient to my occasions

Teach me to know and observe the rules of the game.

Give me to mind my own business at all times,

And to lose no good opportunity of holding my tongue.

Help me not to cry for the moon, or over spilt milk,

Grant me neither to proffer nor to welcome cheap praise;

To distinguish sharply between sentiment and sentimentality,

Cleaving to the one and despising the other

When it is appointed me to suffer, Let me, so far as may be humanely possible,

Take example from the well-bred beast, And go away quietly to bear my suffering alone.

Give me to be always a good comrade; And to view the passing show with an eye constantly growing keener,

And a charity broadening and deepening day by day.

Help me to win—if win I may—But, and this, Oh! Powers, especially,

If I may not win, make me a good loser.—Author Unknown.

—"Roman"

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"The world is a looking glass and gives back to every man the reflection of his own face. Frown at it, and it will in turn look sourly upon you; laugh at it and with it, and it is a jolly kind companion; and so let all young persons take their choice."

"If people only made prudent marriages, what a stop to population there would be."

"Who was the blundering idiot who said that 'fine words butter no parsnips?' Half the parsnips of society are served and rendered palatable with no other sauce.

A skillful artist will make a few simple and pleasing phrases go farther than ever so much substantial benefit-stock in the hands of a mere bungler. Nay, we know that substantial benefits often sickens many stomachs; whereas, most will digest any

(Continued on page 8)

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Students and Alumni of the University are invited to contribute. Address all communications to

Howard University Journal,  
Howard University,  
Washington, D. C.

Friday, October, 31 1913

### Correction

Mr. Edgar A. Love is at the Boston School of Theology, Boston University, Mass., instead of Drew Theological Seminary as appeared in last week's JOURNAL.

The name of Mr. D. H. Hart, who was a member of the committee appointed to send the letter to Commissioner Claxton, was unintentionally omitted in the publication of the letter.

## Rev. Francis J. Grimke on Fifty Years of Freedom

ON Sunday, October twenty-sixth, the Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church celebrated fifty years of freedom with very appropriate and excellent exercises. At the morning services, Rev. Francis J. Grimke gave a masterly address upon Fifty Years of Freedom; and in the evening Hon. A. H. Grimke addressed the Y. P. S. C. E. The following are extracts from Rev. Francis J. Grimke's address:

At the end of these fifty years of freedom, in spite of the remarkable progress that we have made along all lines, we find race prejudice increasing instead of diminishing. The remarkable record of progress that we have made has had no appreciable influence, so far as appears on the surface, in lessening the feeling of hostility to us. Race prejudice is stronger, is more bitter, more aggressive to-day than ever before. The enemies of the race are more united and more determined than ever to throw themselves across the pathway of our progress and to compel us by sheer brute force, whatever our attainments may be, into a position of permanent inferiority. Not content with what has already been done to humiliate us, it is now demanding segregation. It is now insisting upon restricting the rights of the colored people to live in certain prescribed sections of communities only. And it has become so emboldened, so insolently aggressive that it is demanding segregation among the employees of the General Government itself. And its demand is being acceded to. Segregation, as a matter of fact, has already begun in some of the Departments of the Government. A bill recently introduced into Congress makes it a criminal offense to mix the races—to have white and colored clerks working together in the same room.

For nearly a half century white and colored clerks have worked side by side, and nothing was thought of it; but now through this insane desire to humiliate a race, to impress it more and more with its inferiority, it is now proposed to make it a crime, not under laws enacted by Negro-hating Southern legislatures, but by the National Government itself, which is supposed to represent all the people and to represent equality of rights for all the people. That prejudice is increasing; that more and more the effort is being made, and in ever widening areas, to hedge us about with limitations, with restrictions which are not imposed upon other elements of the population is manifest to any one whose eyes are open to what is going on in the country, not in one section only but in all sections.

\* \* \* \* \*

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and see the same rebel spirit that sought to destroy the Union set upon the colored man and rob him of his rights—the very rights that came to him as the result of the blood shed by their fathers, I have never been able to understand. The sons of the rebels are still true to the principles for which their fathers fought and died. It is only in the North and West, among the descendants of the men who fought and died for the Union, that we find the principles for which their fathers stood, forgotten or cowardly surrendered. For these men to allow the colored man to be robbed of his rights by the descendants of those who fought to destroy the Union and perpetuate slavery is to dishonor the memory of their fathers; is virtually to say, that they were wrong, and that the rebels were right. Such an attitude is an affront to every loyal white man who fell during the war or fought for the Union and the cause of freedom. It is amazing that the descendants of these brave men should be so little concerned about matters for which their fathers were willing to lay down their lives. Shame on such descendants!

At the end of these fifty years, in spite of the indifference of the many we still have left however a remnant of men and women with the spirit of the old abolitionists—a remnant of men and women who stand squarely, uncompromisingly for principles of liberty, of equality, of fraternity for all; and who, in one way or another, have shown their sympathy with us in the efforts we are making to develop ourselves and to maintain our rights. The number is small; but small as it is we are thankful for their sympathy and support—thankful to know

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that we are not left in our weakness to fight our battles alone. It encourages us to know that in the city of Boston there is an A. E. Pillsbury; in the city of New York an Oswald Garrison Villard; in the city of Philadelphia a John Elmer Milholland; in the city of Washington a Wendell Philips Stafford; in the city of Chicago a Jane Addams. There are others equally worthy of mention who are known to be our friends, our sympathizers, our well wishers.

\* \* \* \* \*

It is also well for us as we face the future, not to be deceived, not to be misguided by the assumption upon which some of our race leaders have been proceeding. It has been assumed by some that the reason why we are treated as we are is because we are poor, because we are ignorant, because we are degraded, in a word because of our condition; and, that if we will only improve ourselves—will only work hard and better our condition—will get more knowledge, more money, more character, it will be all right in the end. Those who act upon this assumption think that the wise thing for us to do therefore is to lose sight entirely of the manner in which we are treated, to take no account of it, to make no ado about it, to bear it patiently and give ourselves up entirely to the work of improving ourselves. This is what they counsel; this is the way, they say, this race problem is to be solved.

Looked at in the abstract this seems to be very plausible. The assumption that if we improve ourselves; if we show ourselves worthy of being treated properly that we would be, is what would naturally be expected. Unfortunately, however, the facts are all against it. Things have not panned out as might have been expected under this theory of race adjustment. The race problem, as we understand it, may mean one of two things. It may mean the problem of the race's development, which would in-

clude all the agencies to be employed in securing this result; or it may mean the problem of getting the white man to behave himself, getting him to treat the colored man properly, as a man, as a brother, as a citizen having common and equal rights with himself. That the race's development may go on without at all affecting favorably the white man's attitude toward it, is clearly evident from what is going on about us, and from the experience of the last forty or fifty years. During these years the colored people have steadily improved along all lines; and yet the same feeling of antipathy, of hostility to them exists. There is no indication of a desire to treat them any better. The progress that they have made has counted for nothing in their favor; has not lessened, in the least, the opposition to them.

\* \* \* \* \*

**National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Holds Mass Meeting to Protest Against Segregation in the District**

(Continued from page 1)

ever stand opposed. Copies of the resolutions will be sent to President Wilson and Secretary McAdoo.

The Howard University branch of the N. A. A. C. P. was in full attendance at this meeting, taking active part in the movement. The University choir offered its services rendering S. Coleridge Taylor's "By the Waters of Babylon".

**Special Notice**

The College Branch of the N. A. A. C. P. will hold a meeting in Library Hall on Tuesday evening, November fourth. The students of all departments are requested to attend.

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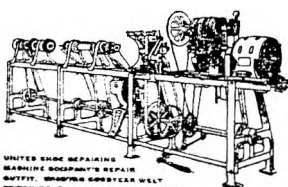
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with superior minds; for through their writings, great men talk to us, give us their precious thoughts, and pour out their souls into ours. Intelligent reading is the voice of the distant and the dead. It makes us the heirs of the spiritual life of past ages.

J. H. W.

### Social Science Club

#### Professor Locke Speaks

The members and visitors of the Social Science Club were favored with an address by Professor Locke, on Wednesday night, October 15th, based upon facts taken from the report of the Emancipation Celebration Committee of New Jersey, of which committee Professor Locke was a member. In the main, he said:

1. We should cultivate the faculty of giving intelligent information about ourselves;

2. In systematic investigations we must know first what we want to prove with the figures we are seeking;

3. We must not identify social conditions with economic conditions;

4. We must have additional propaganda besides good economic conditions to defeat prejudice;

Some of the findings of the New Jersey Committee are that:

1. Our professional classes are more hesitant in giving satisfactory information than the artisan or middle classes;

2. A business class in arising as an intermediate step between the laboring and professional classes, which keeps us from becoming over-professionalized.

3. The most of the labor of our artisan classes, is unskilled.

4. We are moving to the city; monopolizing certain positions.

5. We are making the most progress where limitations of liberty are found, because where public sentiment has changed for the worst, a co-operative community has sprung up among our people.

—“Roman”

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**Working With The Pigskin**

As the day approaches for the playing of the first game of football for the year, it is natural for us all to be anxious to know the condition of our team that we may make our "usual prognostications" as to the results of the games. Those in close touch with our squad and its work feel confident that with the strong line and backfield which is developing, Howard will maintain her same envied position.

There are none more anxious to bring honors to Howard than Coach Marshall. He carries the teams through the same grueling practice, as in former years. The fellows are putting technique into their work so that those of them who have never known the game before are beginning to realize that football can be played with almost mathematical preciseness.

It is obvious that with the con-

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stant changes in tactics, as well as in the regulations governing the game, victories will be won by the team which regards the game in the light of science, rather than the team which looks upon football as a physical exercise, the outcome of which is controlled solely by chance.

Our men who are playing the game, fully realize what up-to-date football is. It has been our good fortune to have enough good material to make two fairly proportioned elevens. What we have called the "Scrub Team", or second team, is perhaps stronger than any we have had. In clashing with these, the main squad is given the same kind of determined opposition that Shaw, Hampton, and Lincoln's team will offer.

Another feature is that the old men are being shifted more than usual. It is evident that with players able to operate effectively in different positions, the team will be more secure at a critical moment, in an actual conflict. Then, too, changes are often for the better; for one who has "starred" as an end, may do even better as a quarter-back.

Manager Taylor, and Captain McClelland should be highly commended for the ardent support which they are giving Coach Marshall in his effort to get the men in form. The three have one purpose in mind, and that is to make Howard remain supreme upon the gridiron. The student body will be expected to become interested. Within two weeks we will have our first game upon Howard campus. Shaw will come on November eighth determined to score on our team. We want an aggregate of real Howard spirit. The yell master and his support should be as busy as the team.

MAKE the folks at home Howardites, by sending them weekly a copy of the JOURNAL.

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(Continued from page 3)

amount of fine words, and be always eager for more of the same food."

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champagne? It is sheer love of their species, and an unadulterated wish to see young people happy and dancing? Pshaw! they want to marry their daughters."

**Howard's Appreciation of the Mass Meeting**

**A**PPROACHED on Tuesday by "ROMAN", several of our professors gave the following off-hand comment upon the mass meeting held at the Metropolitan A. M. E. Church on Monday night, to protest against race segregation in the District of Columbia.

"It ought to be of great good in arousing the colored man to a sense of his duty with regard to his citizenship."—Sec'y Cook.

"In tone, enthusiasm, purpose, and in deep and genuine interest in the vital issues involved, I regard it as the most notable meeting held in the interest of our race during the last quarter of a century."—Professor Lightfoot.

"The meeting was the dawn of a new day."—Professor Tunnell.

"What a mighty bulwark could be erected, through similar meetings in all large cities. North, South, East and West, against the rising sea of opposition."—Professor Wesley.

"The meeting was the most orderly, eloquent and passionate outburst of righteous indignation that has rent the air of Washington, since the days of the earlier abolitionists."—Professor Houston.

"The most convincing proof in the last two decades that the Negro cause and the Negro people have within them still, the physical and moral resources that have won every historic crusade for righteousness and justice."—Professor Locke.

"It was the crystallization of a passionate and deep-rooted indignation, caused by unfair, unmanly and continued discrimination. May many such thunder-

ous protests be made, so that the conscience of those who oppress us may be thoroughly awakened."—Professor Thomas.

"The meeting should give a new inspiration to us all to keep the faith in the great struggle for our freedom."—Professor Gregory.

**University Notices**

SUNDAY

Prayer Meeting, Spaulding Hall, 7 a. m.  
Bible Classes, Main Building, 9 a. m.  
Y. M. C. A., Library Hall, 3 p. m.  
Vespers, Rankin Chapel, 4:30 p. m.  
Y. W. C. A., Miner Hall, 6 p. m.

TUESDAY

Prayer Meeting, Library Hall, 6:30 p. m.

FRIDAY

Pestalozzi-Froebel, Library Hall, 3 p. m.  
Alpha Phi, Library Hall, 8:00 p. m.  
Eureka Society, Main Building, 8:00 p. m.  
Moot Court, Law School, 8:30 p. m.

SATURDAY

Kappa Sigma Debating Club, Library Hall, 8:15 p. m.  
Blackstone Club, Law School, 8:30 p. m.

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