Howard and Athletics

An excerpt from The Blue Ribbon for December.

Foremost in the ranks of the students' organizations of the University stands the Athletic Association. Controlling, as it does, all branches of athletic sports here, it has justly won this distinction. For, we take it that no other phase of college work exercises such a tremendous force for systematic development as do well-regulated athletics.

But prior to our being glad that we are able today to wield such an influence for good, we must rejoice that we are an Athletic Association. And herein hangs a tale.

The peculiar conditions under which Howard University was founded inhibited athletics from being attendant upon and recognized as a necessary adjunct of literary work, though they formed at that time a rapidly growing feature in the college world. The University, on its literary side, grew apace. Its athletic side was neglected. Intellectual giants, physical pigmies. However, this condition of affairs, so strange to modern education, could not last long. The heterogeneous student body felt the need of muscular and bodily development and would not be denied although the lack of encouragement and aid from the authorities then amounted to positive opposition, the effort persisted.

Through all the intervening time that effort has persisted: each succeeding student body giving new life and new impetus to this, no longer, simple effort, but determination, already undeniably destined to live. Men came who excelled in certain phases of athletic endeavor. There arose the genius

(Continued on second page.)
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Address all communications to The University Journal, Howard University, Washington, D. C.

Students and Alumni of the University are invited to contribute.

Washington, D. C., January 5, 1906.

Three times three for President Fairfield:

This is certainly a happy New Year for Howard.

The Journal takes it that, since it is in a position to learn, and accurately to learn, the happenings at Howard University and especially those which intimately concern the student body, the public at large will give credence to its version of the recent lamentable trouble at the University in preference to the many prejudiced and exaggerated accounts that from time to time the meagerly informed reporters of the Washington dailies have blandly published.

We have published this week the facts uncolored and unadulterated. We hold no one up to censure or ridicule. We had rather be considered at fault than do anything to reflect on that institution of which we are a part.

But we sincerely ask those friends who have supported us this far, to stand with us and to believe that we have won—as the Washington Post so truthfully says—a just contention.

Musical

One of the new organizations of the University, is the Choral Society which is preparing to present Mendelssohn's great oratorio, the "Elijah" under the direction of Miss Lulu V. Childers, who came to us this year from Knoxville, Tennessee, where for the first time this oratorio was presented entirely by negroes and under the direction of a woman.

The oratorio begins with the entrance of Elijah, who comes to pronounce the curse of drought on the northern kingdom of Israel, which, under the rule of the wicked Ahab had forgotten God and gone into idolatry.

Gradually the nation awakens to its condition: vainly are the supplications change to impatience then anger and at last despair; then follow meanings somewhat softened.

A minor prophet appears proclaiming a just God. Again the people cry for release from their sufferings. This time regret for sins mingles in the entreaties.

Then we are carried to a desert where Elijah listens to the chorus of angels. Elijah returns and announces the close of the drought. Then follows a universal thanksgiving to God which concludes the first part of the oratorio.

The second parts begins in exultation, universal joy for the deliverance of God's people. This enthusiasm is short-lived; Jezebel appears to turn the people from Elijah. Forsaken, he receives comfort from heaven. Elijah appears next on Mount

Horch, whence comes an earthquake, followed by a "small still voice," and with it the Lord. Now is Elijah filled with God's divine glory, his face portrays that he has been with Him, his sufferings are over, the end draws near. He is translated to heaven in a chariot drawn by horses of fire.

Elijah gone, the oratorio ends with a mighty chorus which declares God the creator of all things.

We are glad that our Choral Society has undertaken this masterpiece and are confident that, under the leadership of Miss Childers, it will be a grand success; for there is about this oratorio something so soothing, relieving, recreating and elevating that it responds and contains with the impulsive and religious nature of the negro.

Howard and Athletics

(Continued from first page)

the principle of helpful athletics—healthful competition. To promote plans necessary to the consummation of athletic meets and features the students made astonishing monetary sacrifices.

To such determined efforts the authorities finally yielded. The use of our own campus that had been denied us, was granted. From that time to this the history of athletics at Howard is one of steady and rapid progress.

But, though our progress has been great, we are yet far from occupying in athletics the place that Howard should occupy. Even in football, and in our eleven we take particular pride, the thanksgiving game was looked forward to in Washington with anticipation, our geographical situation and the lack of the democratic spirit that obtains in the colleges south of us, more money is required to insure a wholly satisfactory season, than our resources permit.

In baseball, a sport which in no college is self supporting, because of insufficient means, we have as yet been unable to make any glowing successes. The ten day trip.

(Continued on fifth page.)
The Birth of the King

The happy hills of Bethlehem ring Resounding through the earth. Glad tidings which the angels bring Of the Messiah's birth. The shepherds on the mountain side Seraphic sounds now hear; And knowing not what might betide They bow their heads with fear. "Fear not!" the angels to them say, "But rise and with us blend Your song—for unto you this day Our King this news doth send: "Let there be peace upon the earth, Good will to all mankind; Rejoice! and let your earthly mirth With that of heaven combine. "Rejoice! for unto you is given A Saviour, Lord and King, To whom the power of earth and heaven Shall gather worshiping. "Sing on bright angels, sweetly sing Nor let your raptures cease, Till from the clouds the new-born King Shall speak eternal peace.

—A. F. Matthews, Med. '07.

Holiday Time in Miner Hall

The monotony of Miner Hall life was broken during the holidays by trips to points of interest in and around Washington, theatre parties, shopping expeditions, attendance at services of song and the great Du Bois lecture.

Within the Hall itself there was greater freedom, the rules being partially suspended. On each day the young ladies were permitted to receive their friends; while exchange calls were made between the two dormitories.

On Saturday evening, December 30, there was an old fashioned masque with a variety of music. The scene was one of mirth and merriment—and the candy! Well, it was sweet just because the classes made it.

On New Year's night, Miss Jacobs, Matron, and Mrs. Messer, assisted by the young ladies, received from seven to ten. The parlors were filled continuously and ten o'clock came all too soon for the merry-makers.

This reception closed the festive season. The morrow's coming meant a return to hard work until Easter's brief respite.

Prizes for College Men

Invited to Prepare Competitive Essays on Present-Day Problems

College men have been invited to enter a competitive essay writing contest on problems of present-day interest. The contest is to be of the same character as that held last year, which resulted in important contributions to economic literature, and the new series is expected to attract even wider attention.

The committee which has chosen the subjects and will pass on the essays consists of Prof. J. Laughlin, University of Chicago, chairman; Prof. J. B. Clark, Columbia University; Prof. Henry C. Adams, University of Michigan; Horace White, New York City, and Carroll D. Wright, Clark College.

Four prizes amounting to $2,250 will be given to the successful writers.

The subjects announced by Prof. Laughlin are as follows:

1. To what extent and by what administrative methods should the United States control railway rates in the public interest?
2. A just and practicable method of taxing railway property.
3. Will the present policy of the labor unions dealing with monopoly men and the "class stricken" labor interests of the working class?
4. Should ship subsidies be offered by the government to the United States?
5. An examination into the economic causes of large fortunes in this country.
6. The influence of credit on the level of prices.
7. The cattle industry in its relation to the ranchman, feeder, packer, and consumer.
8. Should the government seek to control or regulate the use of mines of coal, iron, or other raw materials, whose supply may become the subject of monopoly?
9. What provision can be made for workingmen to avoid the economic insecurity said to accompany the modern wage system?

The essays are to be delivered to Prof. Laughlin before June 1. The competitors will be divided into two classes. Class A is exclusively for all persons who have received the bachelor's degree from an American college in 1894 or thereafter. The prizes in this class will be $1,000 and $500.

Class B is for undergraduates. The prizes will be $500 and $250. Any member of this class may compete in Class A. The most valuable of the essays will probably be issued in some permanent form.

THE ALUMNI

Mrs. Carroll, nee Dinger, College '02, wife of the Rev. Dr. Carroll of New York City, spent the holidays at her former home, Baltimore.

Mr. D. O. W. Holmes, College '01, visited his Alma Mater during the holidays.

'05 L. Mr. R. G. J. Brown has begun a successful professional career in Baltimore. He is in the office with W. Ashley Hawkins, a prominent member of the Maryland bar.

'05 M. Mr. J. W. S. Beckett is located in Pittsburg. Mr. Beckett reports a lucrative practice.

'05 D. Mr. F. A. Badger passed through the city this week on route from New York to Los Angeles, where he will begin the practice of Dentistry.

'02 M. Mr. R. A. Jones is very successfully engaged in the practice of his profession in Charleston, W. Va. Dr. Jones will always be remembered as the captain of victorious Howard eleven of '95 and as a leader of athletic spirit while at college.

Rev. Clifford Jeter, Theo. '05, is on a visit to the city. It is said that he will soon join the "naval army of martyrs." We wish him and his bride elect a happy month.
He Laughs Best Who Laughs Last

"It's a shame! A perfect shame," exclaimed a crowd of girls. "Why does Miss Armstrong permit a newcomer? To think, that we, representing the oldest and most select families of ——, who, for years prided ourselves on the exclusiveness of our school, are to be humiliated thus, in our last year. A nameless nobody from nowhere is coming! We must eat together, meet in the same assemblies, and, — no! it shall not be; she shall not join our Delta Kappa, or L. T. D., nor be invited to our teas. We shall make her feel that she had no right to come, that we do not want her; she cannot be one of us.

That evening these girls, elegantly gowned, assembled to meet her, whom Miss Armstrong said had recently lost her mother, her last relative, and was being sent by a guardian, hoping that association with girls of her own age might make her loss less keen.

Miss Armstrong entered, accompanied by a slender girl, in black, who advanced timidly.

"Girls, this is Miss Wells," and she presented her to each. No face bore a kindly welcome. She felt wretchedly alone. Pleading fatigue she retired early, but not to sleep.

That night was spent in sobbing and sighing for what she had found not. The morrow came; she hoped for a change.

Alas days lengthened into months still that unrelaxing coldness. Daily she grew weaker, her life seemed slowly ebbing. Her physician ordered a southern trip.

She left, gladly. That night, the girls, somewhat sorry for their actions, excused themselves, saying that circumstances demanded it.

A few months later, while scanning the society columns, they read of the engagement of Miss Wells to Prince Eilrich von Halberstadt. Their eyes opened wide with astonishment and there was universal regret that the newcomer had not been treated differently.

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PERSONALS

Miss Lucy D. Slowe, of the Sophomore class, College of Arts and Sciences, has returned after a delightful vacation at her home in Baltimore.

Miss Lela C. Baving spent a most delightful Yuletide in the city of Brotherly Love.

Misses Woolfolk and Graves were guests of Prof. and Mrs. L. B. Moore.

Misses Jones and Cooper were with their sisters in the city.

Misses Bugg, Vassar, West, Coleman, Houston and Stewart were at their homes in the Old Dominion during the holidays.

Misses Payne and Harris passed their vacation in New York City.

Misses Carr and Byrd went to their homes in Maryland; Miss Byrd not to return during present school year.

Miss Branch, of the Medical School, visited at Camden, New Jersey.

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Howard and Athletics
(Continued from second page.)
however, which the nine will make through West Virginia, together with other home games, in addition to thoroughly advertising our Alma Mater along the route to travel, will surely have a tendency to give base ball a mighty impetus.

A quarter mile track that is now being made on the campus brings joy to those men who had football too strenuous and baseball too easy.

Other branches of athletics, save basket ball, as yet wholly beyond our means.

Notwithstanding our limited resources however, we strive to make those athletics in which we do indulge opportunities for great development, and results show that our efforts are rewarded highly.

Our eleven, unendeared for ten years, have produced thoughtful, rugged, manly men. With their many adversities and reverses our base ball men have taken on new determination and vigor. In short, our athletic endeavors and achievements, we are proud. Measured in the light of our opportunities we have done great things.

Let no one claim that we are unendared in athletics because we are not physically capable of competing with the large New England Schools for it is money that we lack, not athletics.

Societies

Athletic Association

The Athletic Association is preparing to award football $10's—an event that comes as a long desired innovation. The committee whose duty it was to suggest the means of awarding this symbol of honor has carefully studied the manner of dispensation in the other colleges, giving due attention to our peculiar situation, the fact that we have so few match games, etc. It is with a certain degree of confidence therefore that this committee reports, thinking as it does that its solution of the problem is worthy and just.

Members of the Association are asked to remember that the election of the manager of the football team for the season of 1906 will occur at the third regular meeting of January.

Alpha Phi

The Alpha Phi met in regular session on Friday, Dec. 22, 1905.

After preliminaries, a report from the Committee on Intercollegiate Debate was heard. This report was adopted after a short debate upon its merits and the circumstances under which it was presented. It provided that the subject of the debate to be held on March 9th, between Union University and Howard University be, Resolved, That the industrial combinations known as trusts are detrimental to the interests of the wage-earning class. Howard defends the affirmative side of this question and Union the negative.

The report provides further that there be three judges, one selected by Union, one by Howard and the third by a neutral party. Each speaker will be allowed eighteen minutes. To represent Howard in this debate speakers of known forensic ability have been selected. Their names appeared in our last issue.

The H. A. Brown Prize Debate Committee reported that Messrs. Geary and Sanford had retired from the list of disputants. In their places Messrs. Oxley and Cowan were recommended. Recommendation was approved. This debate will occur during the latter part of March or early in April.

Several changes in the personnel of the committees were made by the president. The name of Mr. J. H. Roberts was substituted for that of Mr. Ocean Taylor in the H. A. Brown Debate Committee. As the members of the Committee on Intercollegiate Debate will be occupied in other work, a new committee was appointed as follows: Ocean Taylor, J. H. Duld, Ralph White, J. A. McMurtry, H. I. Scott, O. Morrison and B. H. Junior.

At the meeting tonight, officers will be elected for the term just begun.

Elijah Chorus

Miss Childers, the directoress of the Elijah Chorus, announces that the rehearsals, which have been suspended for the holidays, will be resumed this evening at 3 o'clock. As the time for the rendition of the oratorio approaches the interest and enthusiasm of the singers, which has always been lively and glowing, grows keener and more ardent.

Communications

The journal invites communications, but will not hold itself responsible for the sentiments therein.

Editor The Journal:

Several days ago I had occasion to visit the library of the Law School for the purpose of looking up a matter in which I was interested and I was greatly surprised to see such an array of authority apparently on every conceivable subject of law. Surprised gave way to aiiiration when I learned from the librarian that there was no card index (or index of any sort for that matter) to such a magnificent library.

The value of an index to an extensive library is conceded universally, and is too well appreciated to need a champion. I cannot but think, then, that the lack of a card index is due to some oversight on part of those in charge, not to any ignorance. Without such a system the purposes of a library are, to a small degree, thwarted. For after one has gone through all the shelves looking for a book, even if his search is rewarded, there is scarcely time or inclination to read.

As to the remedy, one would not expect the librarian to take time from his extensive law practice to compile such a catalogue, but the institution might well afford to employ an expert to do the work at a fair compensation. It would be as "bread cast upon the waters.

Alumnus.
Howard University.

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