

12-23-1904

HU Journal, Volume 2 Issue 8

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Recommended Citation

"HU Journal, Volume 2 Issue 8" (1904). *Volume 02*. 8.
http://dh.howard.edu/huj_v2/8

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The University Journal

NO EXCELLENCE WITHOUT LABOR.

VOL. 2.

WASHINGTON, D. C., DECEMBER 23, 1904.

No. 8.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS to all! In the joys and festivities of nation, may we never forget the great gift of Christ to the world. We can only show our gratitude in a reasonable appropriation of the principles of Christ in our lives. Christmas comes but once a year, but the gift of Christ is ever with us.

Christmas Day.

It is coming, it is coming,
Be the weather dark or fair.
See the joy in all the faces
Feel the blessings in the air.
Let the old and young be merry,
Spread the tidings far and near,
Let us banish care and sorrow
For it comes but once a year.
Get the dinner table ready,
Let us have a joyous feast.
Scour the country for the turkeys
From the westward to the east.
Some of course must have their chicken;
Let them have some 'possum too,
Sweet potatoes and hot biscuits
With the butter oozing through.
Pumpkin pies and apple dumplings,
Eat and drink and merry be,
But of all the meats and dainties
Save the turkey bone for me.
On this day each one must surely
Have his favorite kind of meat,
And prepare a sumptuous dinner
That the gods would like to eat.
So with joyful songs of laughter,
Let us pass the time away,
Thankful for this nice vacation
And a merry Xmas day.

WADE.

Theological Department.

"Could the young but realize how soon they will become mere bundles of habits," says Prof. William James, of Harvard, in his text-book on psychology, "they would give more heed to their conduct while in the plastic state. Every smallest stroke of virtue or vice leaves its scars. The drunken Rip Van Winkle, in Jefferson's play excuses himself from every fresh

derelection by saying, 'I won't count this time?' Well, he may not count it, and a kind heaven may not count it, but it is being counted, none the less. Down among the nerve cells and fibers the molecules are counting, registering and storing it up, to be used against him when the next temptation comes.

"Nothing we ever do is, in strict scientific literalness, wiped out. Of course this has its good side as well as its bad one. As we become permanent drunkards by so many separate drinks, so we become saints in the moral, and authorities and experts in the practical and scientific spheres by so many separate acts and hours of work."

The program of the Theological Literary Society at its last meeting was the installation of officers. The president, I. S. Holness, delivered his inaugural address, which received high compliments from both faculty and students.

Rev. Wm. Craven, class '04; now pastor of the Free Will Baptist church in Charlestown, W. Va., was present and made some very pointed remarks as to one's qualifications for success in the Christian ministry. He laid particular stress upon the cultivation of the heart which goes to make a man what he is at best. Rev. Craven has a large and influential congregation of over two hundred eighty-five members. Many have been added to the church roll during his pastorate. He had a pleasant trip to his home in Illinois, and also to the Fair at St Louis. On July 31, 1904, Rev. Craven was married to Miss Josephine Seibert, of Charlestown, W. Va. We neglected to say that his congregation at Sheperdtown is included in the two hundred eighty-five members.

A very interesting program was rendered at the meeting of the Livingston Missionary Society which was held on Friday evening, Dec. 16th. Select reading by Mr. Walters on "The Study of Missions" showed the intellectual as well as the spiritual benefit to be derived therefrom. Paper by Mr. H. A. Pettus on the "Needs of Home Missions," called attention to the great work which must be done for the unfortunate outcasts in the slums of our large cities. "What One Man Can do," reading and comments by Mr. Jas. Wright. Remarks were made by Dean Clark and Prof. Ewell.

"I wish I had your chances," said a poor man to a rich friend. "Why! I picked them up after you passed them by," answered the friend.

The election of Shoemaker Douglas as Governor of Massachusetts seems to verify the prophecy that the last shall be first.

The University Journal.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE JOURNAL PUBLISHING COMPANY.

TERMS—50 Cents per. year, - Single Copy, 5 Cents.

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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., DECEMBER 23, 1904.

It seems to have been as easy for Mrs. Chadwick to get into a cloud of debt as it is difficult for her creditors to see the silver lining.

Our navy is strong enough to protect us against anything except Congress.

Mr. Ryeacre—Yes, there certainly is lots in the papers these days about the electoral college.

Son Silas—Gosh, I never heard of that college before. What is the strength of the football team?

Hashum—Going to give your employes a turkey apiece this Christmas?

Gotrox—Nope; times are too hard. Going to give 'em each a twenty-dollar bill instead.

The Public School Kindergarten in the Howard University Practice School.

Dr. Gordon, the President of Howard University, suggested to the Board of Education of the District the advisability of placing a kindergarten at the University. To emphasize the suggestion, he offered a large room in the practice school of Teachers' College for its headquarters. The School Board accepted the offer, and one of the four new public school kindergartens is housed here. Its session began September 19, 1904, under most favorable conditions. Miss Grace P. Campbell, formerly of Magruder School, is in charge, with Miss Cora Williams as her assistant. The school has an enrollment of forty-six pupils, with an average attendance of thirty five. The ages of the children range from four to six years. The daily session is from nine o'clock until noon.

The placing of this kindergarten in the Teachers'

College Practice School is significant. The far-sighted policy which made it possible is in accord with the modern idea of conserving power in educational work, as well as in finance and trade. The young men and women who are in training here, for the profession of teaching, have the opportunity of observing the methods of a thoroughly good kindergarten, while to the special department of kindergarten training, it is the laboratory for the students. With the idea of mutual helpfulness, which caused the establishment of this kindergarten, will insure for the newcomer a hearty welcome from all departments of the University. H. C. F.

Manners.

It is painful to enlarge upon the lack of reverence, attention, and respect, and the prevalence of whispering, sarcastic remarks, and occasional boisterousness so often found in our public lectures, entertainments and even divine services, but a word must be said to those who belong to the class with "obstructed will"—"Video meliora proboque; deteriora sequor"—who undoubtedly stand in need of some external stimulus to excite some effort or original force to be added to their ideal impulse. No more wholesome advice can be had than that given by one of our contributors, Miss J. L. A. F.

Everyone should strive to make up in some way for the irreverence that has marred his youth. A fine character is impossible without great ideals, with awe for what is majestic, respect for human achievements, reverence for all good, human or divine. The great German, Goethe, in his greatest passage in all his novels, teaches that there are three reverences to be learned: First, reverence for what is above us, for God, and all those who show his power and truth. Second, reverence for those on a level with us, as each human soul is a particle of Divinity. Third, and greatest of all, reverence for all below us, especially those in poverty, suffering, and humiliation. This last lesson, Goethe points out to us as made clear by the Founder of Christianity.

Cultivate reverence for all that is good, true, and beautiful, for the human soul in its greatness. You may believe at first that no one is more wise than you, nor better. Smother that belief for a while and defer to others. Study the best that is in the people around you. Think more of them and less of yourself. Try to make them comfortable and happy in all little ways. At heart cherish high and unselfish ideals. If the mass of our school girls would do this for a while, the manners of our people would improve, for it is always, in civilized lands, the women who set the standard of manners. It seems to me that many of our young men misunderstand the meaning of college spirit. If college spirit means bad manners, then don't have college spirit. Don't insist upon being noisy and boisterous at indoor gatherings and quiet as mice during the games on the campus. Reverse it.

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To the Commercial Students.

Howard University lately created a Commercial Department, for the purpose of giving to the youth who desire it, a commercial training. After a careful review of the conditions of the commercial schools of this and other countries, it was deemed not only advisable, but necessary that we have in the greatest university of its kind in this country a course which would meet the demands and needs of our country, and the colored race.

There are many students who are entering upon the commercial course, and few of them realize the practical value of such training, and may not for that reason devote themselves assiduously as they should to the pursuit of knowledge along commercial lines.

To those who may fail to appreciate the value of the course before them, I would advise that they pursue with all the energy they have what is put before them, for more and more, it is evident that the man or woman who is a stenographer, typewriter, bookkeeper, or statistician is an indispensable factor in the commercial relations of the world.

The man or the woman who is proficient in these subjects, should not feel upon coming from the school, that he has sufficient knowledge with which to go through life, for there are some things which theory cannot give you. But as you proceed upon your course of study; as you review the history of the commercial countries of the past, it will be observed that each country trained its youth along the lines of its chief activity. And now that America stands first among the commercial powers of to-day, Howard University has shown the ever present wisdom by creating for colored youth a Commercial Department. The University has exhibited equal wisdom by selecting as the head of the Commercial Department the foremost commercial educator of color in the country. I commend the Commercial Department upon the excellent showing it has made, for the field that lies before it is broad and full of promising possibilities.

The students should pursue with strenuousness all that is put before them, for once the training is theirs, they have an asset which is of the highest value. The present is full of opportunity, and the future of promise, and to him who does his duty in the present will come success.

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