Responsibility Rests Upon Educated Men

Dean Miller Gives Sound and Serious Greeting to Educated Men of the Race

I Am taking advantage of the approaching New Year to address to you a few words of serious greeting. You represent the first generation of your race, now grown to the fullness of the stature of manhood, under the influence and power of education. You are the first ripened fruit of philanthropy, and by you alone will wisdom or folly be justified. The hope of the race is focused in you. You are to furnish the headlight to direct the path through the dangers and vicissitudes of the wilderness. For want of vision the people perish; for want of wise direction, they stumble and fall.

There is no body of men in the world today, now in the history of the world, who have or ever have had greater responsibility or more coveted opportunities than devolve upon you. It is indeed a privilege to be a Negro of light and leading in such a time as this. The incidental embarrassments and disadvantages that must be endured for the time being are not to be compared with the far more exceeding weight of privileges and glory which await you if you rise to those high demands. For such a privilege well may you forego the pleasures of civilization for a season.

Your world consists of ten millions of souls, who have wrapped up in them all the needs and necessities, powers and possibilities of human nature; they contain all the forms of civilization, from its roots to its foliage. Yours is the task to develop and vitalize these smothered facilities and potentialities. Your education will prove to be but vanity and vexation of spirit unless it ultimate in this task. You are the salt of the earth, and if the salt lose its savor, wherewith shall it be salted? If the light within the racial word be darkness, how great is that darkness?

The highest call of the civilization of the world to day is to the educated young men of the belated races. The educated young manhood of China, Japan, India, Egypt and Turkey must lift their own people up to the high level of their own high conception. They must partake of the best things in the civilization of Europe and show them unto their own people. Your task is the same as theirs: only more intensified, perhaps, by the difficult and intricate tangle of circumstances and conditions with which you must deal.

You cannot afford to sink into slothful satisfaction and do your little job, draw your little pay, and enjoy your tasteless leisure, and with insane self-deception hide your little head under the shadow of your wings, like the foolish bird, which thereby hopes to escape the wrath to come.

As you look over the field the whole sweep of racial movement seems to retrograde. The race has been disfranchised and Jim-crowed and segregated. Lynching and burning of Negroes amid horrors of indescribable atrocity, has become a fixed American institution. The Christian conscience has become sere, and only Christ in Heaven weeps.

There is no other source of help but God and you. The white race through philanthropy has done much but its vicarious task was practically completed when it developed you. You must do the rest. Our gratitude can never repay the debt we owe. They spoke for us when our tongues were tied; they pleaded for us when we were speechless. But now our facilities are unloosed; we must stand on our own footing. The greatest gratitude that the beneficiary can show to the benefactor is, as soon as possible, to do without his benefaction. True, we are not yet able to cut loose wholly from the beneficent

(Continued on Page 8, Column 1)

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Holds Convention

The Fourth Annual Convention of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity was held December 27th, 28th, and 29th, at the seat of the Epsilon Chapter, Ann Arbor, Michigan. This convention was in many respects the best convention ever held. Besides a large number of delegates and members of active chapters, many alumni members were present.

Beside the regular business, the Convention passed favorably upon the applications for chapters, from the “Loube Klub”, of Kansas University and the “Pi Alpha Tan Club” of the University of Minnesota. These organizations will be known respectively as the “Ma” and “Nu” Chapters. The growth of the general organization has been very remarkable. It has spread from one chapter at Cornell in 1907 to what will soon be 12 active chapters in the best universities of the country, and a very thriving graduate chapter at Louisville, Ky.

The new year finds the Fraternity in a very flourishing condition and the outlook for another year is very bright. The work of the year has been entrusted to the following officers:

President, Charles H. Garvin, Howard.
Vice President, Leon S. Evans, Michigan.
General Secretary, Joseph R. Fugett, Cornell.
Treasurer, Charles Jones, Ohio State.

The delegates and officers of the Convention were the guests of the members of the Epsilon Chapter at their beautiful Chapter House, where they did much to break the daily monotony of the Convention by smokers and a grand banquet.

The delegates from Beta Chapter were: Messrs. Clarence Carlyle and John H. Brown.
The C. U. C. Reception

On Monday night, December 26, the Council of Upper Classmen reached what seemed to be its zenith by way of Reception, in its fourth semi-annual dance which was held in Odd Fellows' Hall.

Everything in the hall seemed to blend in such perfect rhythm and harmony, that there was seemingly no thought of the very inclement weather on the outside, despite which fact the dance was well attended.

The student body, as usual, was very well represented, but sorry to say the members of the Faculty made themselves conspicuous in their usual way. The dance was well attended also by many of our faithful city friends whose presence at these functions seems now almost indispensable. There were besides many out-of-town friends representing Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and other neighboring cities.

Notwithstanding the fact that this was an informal dance, the ladies were well attired, their gowns being rich in delicacy, fineness and hue, blended with wonderful simplicity. The hall was tastefully and artistically decorated with colors and pennants of various colleges which were highly suggestive of the nature of the affair, and tended to throw a more congenial influence over the whole gathering. It was therefore conceded, by all who had attended any of the previous receptions given by the Council, that this "Prom" was, on a whole, the crowning of any effort ever put forth by the council of Upper Classmen. O. J. Cooper

Dr. A. M. Curtis of our Medical Faculty in West Virginia

Dr. A. M. Curtis, a retired president of the National Medical Association, has been to Bluefield, West Virginia, where he was urgently called to operate upon the wife of a prominent physician. While there he performed several other notable operations, all of which were successful, and set a new mark in surgical proficiency for that territory. The operations were performed at the commodious hospital of Dr. N. L. Edwards, which Dr. Curtis (who is competent to judge), says has a beautiful operating room, admirably appointed and equipped with all surgical facilities. Dr. Curtis expresses himself as being greatly pleased with the many evidences of thrift and progressiveness he observed among the Colored people of the "Mountain State," and says he wants to go there again.

Just a Little Personal

"A little nonsense now and then is relished by the best of men."

Big Berry is chasing (Chase) Brannon around some.

There is formed a "bread line" every morning at breakfast.

There are evidences that Carley went to a big fire last month.

Garvin sent to the west (West) a diamond ring for Christmas.

If doing nothing were money some folks would be millionaires.

Miss C. R. B. says in one of her dramatic moods—"Cumberland, my Cumberland."

It was you, you deceitful thing, that caused Dr. Beemon to slash open an unassuming biscuit.

"Hat-pin!" "Aren't you with me-Nick?"

"Nick," "No-I'm-with-Snake." I wonder who was with Snake?

The Dancing Parson says that at the council dance there was a dance given for every department except the Theological department and he feels that the council owes him an apology.

Teacher—"Name the different parts of the brain."

Nutt—"Cherub, cerebrum, cerebellum."

The Classical Club

On Friday afternoon before the holidays, the instructors and students in all the Latin and Greek courses above the Freshman year met and organized the "Classical Club." The following were elected officers of the Club: President, Prof. Geo. M. Lightfoot; Vice-President, Miss J. P. Howard, '12; Secretary, Miss G. P. Green, '12; Treasurer, Mr. C. T. Lansford, '13; Reporter, Mr. S. A. Allen.

The officers were all elected by unanimous vote. Since the club is in its incipience it was thought best to place one of the professors at its head, this however, is subject to change in subsequent years. This is the first attempt to organize such a club in Howard University and the undertaking, judging from the enthusiasm shown in the first meeting, bids fair to be successful.

The purpose of the club is to stimulate interest in the study of the classics by giving its members a wider aspect of the life and thought of the peoples of Greece and Rome.

To this end each meeting will be devoted to reports on current literature in the field of classics and to discussion of some topic connected with the daily life, art and literature of the classics. S. A. A.

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Suffrage in The Republic

At present there is much discussion in the United States concerning several reforms in government, but the great question that transcends all others in this nation today, is whether all the people, without discrimination as to rank or class, or race or color, shall have a free exercise of the ballot.

Honorable Joseph Manning of Alabama is without doubt a fearless advocate and champion of the rights of both races alike and such a man deserves the approval and ardent support of every man who loves liberty and who would see the shackles unfettered that bind a race in political servitude.

This gentleman holds that the ballot is the citizen's scepter of authority. No saying was ever loaded with more truth. The War of the Revolution and the Civil War were fought and settled upon the principal that all men have a right of self government, which presupposes the right of suffrage. In this republic, the ballot, is not only the one means by which the people protect themselves from oppressive laws, but the only means by which they can protect their property and finally command the fullest respect of their fellow-men. When we are denied this imperial right of citizenship we become as powerless as slaves.

It seems that in the legislation of to-day the question of human rights is made subordinate to all other questions. The carnal and sensual spirit of the age has become so violent in its cause that it tends to overwhelm everyone before it. The apparent apathy on the part of many intelligent negroes as to their political rights is an important fact. On this issue the negro can not afford to remain silent for one moment. Quiescence brings acquiescence and by acquiescence we give consent to a frightful system of human injustice that has for its open and avowed purpose, our political and social debasement.

Every Negro boy and girl in our schools and colleges should be taught and impressed as to the duties they owe the government. They should know that patriotism is one of the first and fundamental requisites of good citizenship, and that good government depends upon our being good citizens.

But they should be taught more than that. They should know that the government owes protection to all the citizens alike, and that this is the first duty of the government. They should be taught the power of the ballot in a republic, and that the right to vote in this nation, is a right of all guaranteed by the constitution, and not the privilege of a class or race.

S. T. K.

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 khu
Friday, January 5, 1912

EDITORIALS

† Keep those good resolutions.

‡ Now, with the arrival of the new year is the time for all to stand together, do the best work and contribute real spirit to the growth of the greater Howard.

§ What progress did you make in 1911? Did you achieve more, are you nobler in thought and character, did you cultivate the higher things, and is the environment better for some contribution of word or thought or deed made by you?

¶ It is to be hoped that the coming year will bring about still better facilities for the students, professors, and visitors in the respective buildings. Good drinking facilities would be welcomed; as also would direct telephone connections in the Science Hall and especially in Clark Hall—where a fellow has to leave the dormitory every time he desires to phone and thus has his trend of study greatly interfered with. All of this could be easily remedied. A resolution to afford all facilities feasible should be made and kept to the utmost.

¶ Elsewhere in The Journal will be found an article relative to the recent convention of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, the only intercollegiate Negro Greek Letter Fraternity in existence. It will be gratifying indeed to the rank and file of the University to learn that Howard was honored with the presidency of the fraternity at its recent convention. When we consider the fact that it was through the votes of such institutions as Cornell, Yale, Michigan, Toronto, Syracuse, etc., that a Howard man was given the honor, we cannot help but appreciate the confidence placed in men of this institution. The one who has been honored with this office has so conducted himself relative to his Alma Mater and Fraternity that either body is not reluctant in the least to entrust to his care any position calling for a true energetic collegian of the present day. Yearly Howard is sending out such men and the world in one form or another has been made to realize this fact. The best wishes of all go with President Garvin for a most successful administration of the fraternal phase of University life.

¶ The first and most important of life’s lessons is that of living rightly in the true meaning of the term. It is a lesson that is assigned to each one of us, regardless of race, sex or creed, and yet it is one that is hard to learn. The difficulty lies not so much in the obstacles which may confront us as in our own disposition to apply ourselves to its thorough mastery. We are quick enough to admit the necessity of familiarizing ourselves with every detail of the field in which we are interested, if we desire to stand at its head; but the idea of reducing the problem of living correctly to a science seldom enters our minds. It seems only natural for us to think that so long as we live in a manner not calculated to arouse criticism (called “The Dead Level of Respectability”, by Dean Miller) we are fulfilling our mission on earth, and as a rule, we are quite content to let it go at that. We think nothing of taking long courses in this, that, or the other department of human endeavor for which we believe ourselves best fitted, and we train our minds to grasp its details and master its intricacies so that when we are ready to enter upon the actual performance, we may become masters. No one in this day of higher culture would think for a moment of setting himself up as an exponent of any particular profession or business without thorough preparation and a wide familiarity with its demands. The man who expects to succeed in any field, whatever its character, must leave no weak spots in the armor of his equipment, else competition or greater knowledge will soon make their successful assaults.

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Once again the year has vanished
To the realm of bygones banished,
Where the past year sleeps in glory—
Not forgotten—gone before—
And the New Year comes to greet us,
And to tell the old, old, story
Of the years that are no more.

In the wings of Time swift flying,
Lies the Old Year, sighing, dying,
Borne to join the host that slumbers
On that distant unknown shore—
Borne to join the countless legion
That have joined that mystic region,
And counted with the numbers
In that land of Nevermore.

Once again the bells are ringing,
Tidings of the New Year bring—
Borne to join the host that slumbers
On that distant unknown shore—
Borne to join the countless legion,
That have joined that mystic region,
And counted with the numbers
In that land of Nevermore.

Let us hope for bright skies
To the realm of bygones banished,
Where the past year sleeps in glory—
Not forgotten—gone before—
And the New Year comes to greet us,
And to tell the old, old, story
Of the years that are no more.

A Moral Axiom

I hate a cat. The very sight
Of the feline form evokes my wrath;
When everone goes across my path,
I shiver with instinctive fright.

And yet there is one little kit
I treat with tender kindness
The fondled pet of my darling Bess:
For I love her and she loves it.

In earth beneath, as Heaven above,
It satisfies the reasoning,
That those who love the self-same thing
Must also one another love.

Then if our Father loveth all mankind,
of every clime and hue,
Who loveth Him must love them too;
It cannot otherwise befall.

KELLY MILLER IN THE INDEPENDENT

The Tuskegee Negro Conference

On Wednesday and Thursday, January 17 and 18, 1912, the twenty-first annual session of the Tuskegee Negro Conference will convene at Tuskegee Institute.

Wednesday, the first day will be devoted to a mass meeting of the Negro people. Thursday, the second day, the annual Workers' Conference will be held. In the call for this conference the statement is made that its purpose is "less to teach than to inspire." The first day will be taken up for the most part with informal reports and personal experiences of representative men among the farmer and laboring classes from all over the South.

The purpose of these reports is to afford a broad view of actual conditions and of what the people themselves, either as individuals or through their churches and schools, are doing to improve. The second day will be devoted to a conference of the teachers and others who are engaged in some definite form of work to improve the masses of the colored people.

The purpose of the Workers' Conference is to bring the work of the school, the churches and other institutions into closer touch with the principal and every-day life of the people. The principal topic for discussion at the Workers' Conference will be: 'How may we Encourage the Practice of Saving among Negroes?' This subject will be divided into five sub-topics, affording opportunity for a full, free and helpful discussion.

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The Messiah

The rendition of Handel's Oratorio, The Messiah, by the Howard Choral Society was an unprecedented artistic success. When this difficult and intricate composition is considered from a technical standpoint, it can be understood why most choral societies feel pardonable pride in the achievement of its production. Indeed, it is doubtful if any other musical composition adapted to the work of the choral societies approaches "The Messiah" from the standpoint of intricacy and difficulty. It is produced by most organizations only after most strenuous exertions after a period of a year's duration. However, the actual time spent in preparing "The Messiah" by the Howard Choral Society was just seven weeks and when the results are considered, the feat is nothing short of the miraculous.

The oratorio was given on the evenings of December 20th and 21st, in the Rankin Memorial Chapel and had very small, but enthusiastically appreciative hearings. The sizes of the audiences on both nights can be attributed to the fact that the juxtaposition of the Christmas holidays caused the mind of a pickle public to be focused on the frivolous rather than the artistic.

Despite the fact that the inspiration of a large audience was conspicuous by its absence, the work of the soloists and the chorus was beyond the expectations of the most optimistic friends of the enterprise. The work of the chorus, however, was the distinguishing feature of the production and the phenomenal performance was due to Miss Lulu Vere Childers, who by her direction, by her untiring effort and by her strong personality inspired the members of the organization on to a most extraordinary achievement.

The choruses in "The Messiah" are characterized by extreme technical difficulties. Every chorus has a fugue of close harmonies, intricacy and complexity which absolutely defy the rendition of the composition by any musical organization other than one whose personnel consists almost entirely of artists. This is especially true of the "Hallelujah Chorus", "Let Him Deliver Him" and the "Amen Chorus"; the extreme difficulty of which has caused many well-meaning choral societies to give up in despair. The Howard University Choral Society, however, rendered each and every chorus with remarkable skill and ease. The difficult passages were sung with a familiarity that was astounding.

The attack was perfect, the enunciation of the words was without any impediment; the deliberate shading brought out clearly the very idea the composer intended. In the chorus "Let Him Deliver Him" which because of its extreme difficulty is usually omitted from most renderings, the chorus showed the result of the most strenuous effort which will produce. Expression was given to this masterpiece to the extent that the imagination was forcibly aroused and a vivid picture of the crucifixion was instantly brought up. However, from a critical standpoint the very best thing the Chorus rendered was the chorus, "Worthy Is The Lamb That Was Slain." In this chorus the cadences rose and fell with a beauty and precision that stirred the emotions and filled the cradled soul with the enviable. As long as music is a feature at Howard University, the remarkable works of its choral society in the rendition of "The Messiah" must be remembered along with the great achievement of the institution.

Mrs. Martha B. Anderson, of Chicago, Ill., essayed to sing the soprano solos. It was decidedly unfortunate that Mrs. Anderson should have been attacked with a severe cold which became so serious that it was thought the oratorio would have to be heard without the services of the soprano soloist. Considering her physical and vocal disability, Mrs. Anderson rendered splendid service and must be highly commended for her fortitude and courage to sing with a voice in such a condition, that any other artist affected in a like manner would have drawn the line on any exertion whatever. In all of her solos she was plainly evident that she was singing over a severe cold; nevertheless those who are accustomed to judging voices realized that she is the possessor of a voice which when in good condition is of incomparable sweetness. In spite of her ailment she sang "Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter of Zion" with such uncommon art and beauty that it stands out clearly as a feature of the production. We congratulate Mrs. Anderson for her sterling work and it is to be hoped that her unjust critics will be forever silenced when she is heard here in the near future in perfect physical condition.

Miss Lulu V. Childers proved herself to be a veritable genius in directing the chorus and singing the creditable solos. There is no need to comment upon Miss Childers as a choral director since her reputation along these lines is national and it is well known that the success of the chorus is due directly to her efficiency and personality. However, the solo work of Miss Childers was beyond remarkable. The strenuous work of directing a chorus in no way interfered with her performance and her solos were a distinct treat to all who heard them.

In all of her efforts Miss Childers showed complete mastery of the art of vocalization, but if ever she sang it was when she gave that superb rendition of "He Was De-

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The work of Miss Maude E. Young at the piano deserves the highest commendation. With the same precision and skill which have characterized all her work in Howard University, she followed the chorus and soloists in faultless manner. The handicap of not having an orchestra or pipe organ was more than overcome by the work of this premier accompanist, who throughout the entire production gave an exhibition of art and technique which was hard to duplicate. Much of the inspiration given the soloists and the chorus is due directly to the work of Miss Young, who will always be remembered when The Messiah is mentioned.

Those who heard The Messiah have been uplifted and those who abstained from it can rest assured that they have missed an opportunity which comes this way but once. The audiences both nights, as has been stated, were elated and enthusiastic. The Russian Ambassador to the United States, who was present on Thursday night, was so moved by the production that he personally congratulated Miss Childers the next morning over the phone. A lady very prominent in musical and social circles in this city, in sending written congratulations, said to the director, "The success of your oratorio should not be measured by the number of listeners, but by the height of rapture to which the listening souls were wafted and by that standard it was an overwhelming success. The University will have to make strenuous efforts to discharge its obligation to you for your unselfish sacrifice.''

The name of Miss Luah Vere Childers, the originator, the producer, the director and the soloist, must remain inseparably linked with the University and the production of "The Messiah" which not only reflects credit upon those who gave it and upon Howard University, but it marks a distinct epoch in the development of music in the Negro race.

There is, however, one unfortunate phase of the affair and that is the very poor support given the venture by the student body and the faculty. For the student body there may be some slight mitigating circumstances incidental to the expense of attending the oratorio. But for the faculty there is not the least vestige of an excuse. It is true that there were some members of the faculty present, but the presence of a few is not sufficient. Every man and woman teaching in Howard University should have been present. In fact they were morally obligated to support a fellow member and to be present in such numbers as to make the venture by the student body possible. Item. It is to be sincerely regretted that some of the professors and instructors did not take this view of the matter and absent themselves from an event which is natural suppose they would deem it a rare privilege to attend. Even if they had no interest in music they would have been well for them to have attended to set an example for the student body if for nothing else. Let us hope that the next musical venture of the University will receive the support not only of the student body but of the entire faculty as well.

Mr. William Gilbert with his characteristic energy and efficiency managed the production in admirable fashion. By his unselfish devotion to his task, he snatched success from that seemed inevitable failure and too much praise cannot be accorded him for his splendid performance.

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Responsibility Rests Upon Educated Men

(Continued from Page 1, Column 2)

We still need some ear rings, finger rings and other furnishings from the Egyptians. But the great outstanding fact remains. The task of race statesmanship and reclamation is not primarily the white man's burden but yours. Upon you will depend the success or failure.

As far as righteous insistence upon inalienable human rights will permit, live at peace and helpful cooperation with all men, North and South, East and West. But never under any inducements of cowardice or prudence or thrift, should you deviate from the straight line of righteousness, which alone points out the way.

Moral energy and race loyalty should be brought to bear upon your task whether you be engaged in the production of wealth or in the more condict pursuits which administer to the higher needs of man.

The white race is fast losing faith in the Negro as an efficient and acceptable factor in the equation of our civilization. Curtailment of political, civil, and general privilege and opportunity is but the outward expression of this apostacy. As the white man's faith in you decreases, your faith in yourselves must increase. Every Negro in America should be taught daily, with his face turned toward the light, to utter his prayer: "Lord, I believe; help Thou my unbelief."

Through courage, expressed in the active as well as in the passive voice, courage to do and courage to endure, you must so assert and exert your manhood, that you will not only believe in yourselves, but the rest of the world will be compelled to believe in you. Then and not till then, all will be well.

Such is the mark and high calling to which you are called. May you rise to the level of it.

Kelly Miller

Howard Liberia's President

Says In Inaugural That Republic's Integrity Will Remain Intact

Monrovia, Liberia, January 1. President Daniel Howard was inaugurated today as Chief Executive of the Republic of Liberia, succeeding President Barcay, who for eight years had occupied the office.

A procession headed by the members of the Legislature, led by the speakers of the Senate and the House of Representatives, escorted President Howard to the Chamber of Representatives. Here the new President, after taking his oath, read his inaugural address, in which he set forth his ideas on reform and announced several schemes for the development of the country.

He made special reference to the present political situation of Liberia and its relations to the great powers, and said that the uncertainty of the past had given way to the positive assurance that Liberia's integrity would remain intact.

The President expressed satisfaction that the protective negotiations in connection with the finances of the country had been brought to a conclusion through the sympathetic interest of the United States, Great Britain and other prominent powers. All outstanding difficulties with regard to the boundaries of the country had been settled satisfactorily and Liberia now looked forward to a period of prosperity.

The ceremony was made the occasion of a great festival. Citizens came from all parts in great numbers to greet their new President and Monrovia was full of life and color. Many natives of various tribes came from the interior, their primitive garb contrasting strangely with that of the women of the city, who were dressed in Arabian costumes of varicolored silks.

The militia was mobilized in full force in the city, but except for lining the route of the Presidential procession their services were not called into requisition.

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