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Theological Notes.

Rev. D. M. Baxter, class ’04, is preaching at Brooksville, Fla. In a recent examination before his conference, he led a class of ten. He had the honor also of preaching before that conference.

Every pastor should set an example for his people, “Like priest like people” is an old saying and a true one in many respects. If he would have his people generous, he must himself be liberal. This does not mean that he must give some large amount; for in many instances he may not be able to do so, but he should give in proportion, “as the Lord has prospered him”. If he would have his people industrious, always ready and willing to put forth their best efforts in behalf of others, he must be an ardent seeker after the welfare of mankind, not simply those of his own flock, but all with whom he may come in contact. The best way to impress the people of the efficacy and necessity of prayer is to be himself a man of prayer. He can not teach lessons of economy, and at the same time indulge in the most extravagant living. He must be foremost in the observance of all rules of propriety and in so doing, he will find many receptive hearts.

The Presbyterian work in West Africa is served by eight ordained, ten medical and seven lay missionaries; in addition there are fourteen married, and seven single ladies, making a total of forty-six. There are fifty-five native helpers; fourteen churches established, with 1,852 communicants. There are 27 schools with 964 pupils, and in the Sunday schools 2,246 scholars were gathered; 785 patients have been treated in the two hospitals and dispensaries.

“Practice is always better than precept, fact than fancy.”

The Princeton Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia, under the pastoral care of the Moderator of the General Assembly, Dr. J. Addison Henry, has just contributed a most timely donation of $6,000 for the Union Theological Seminary at Nanking, China.

The Maynard Prize Debate will be held in the Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel, Friday evening March 11th, at 8 o’clock. The disputants are: C. C. Gill, W. C. P. Baker, E. N. T. Newman, S. B. Ross, W. R. Sproatley, and J. L. Wright.

Don’t go back on your friends if you want to get to the front.

When some people receive a favor, they look as if they expected a trading stamp with it.

Bethel Literary.

Last Tuesday evening, before a large audience, Professor Rosco Bruce, the head of the academic department of Tuskegee Institute, read a very interesting paper on “The criminality of the Philadelphia and St. Louis Negroes.” He gave statistics to show their abnormal criminal record. These statistics, he asserts, are subject to serious qualification, on account of the rigid unjust and partial administration of the law, for the records only show the number of whites and blacks who have been punished, and not the number against whom charges have been made. Mr. Bruce gave us an excellent array of facts and is to be commended for his diligent effort in search of truth. The audience would have been perfectly satisfied had he stopped with the facts, and not attempted to deal with the subtle problem of causation. He would have it that the sole cause of the deplorable condition of the city Negro is due to pauperism, and that in turn to lack of industrial training. Though he concedes there is little or no industrial opportunity for the Negro at present, he nevertheless holds that if industrial training is given and skilled workmen produced in large numbers, the opportunities will necessarily follow, pauperism will vanish and excessive criminality be wiped out—in other words, if the supply be increased the demand will be increased, or, in this case, will be created.

Again, Mr. Bruce would have to follow the example of the Jews, who, when their people were cruelly treated in Russia, bought the public press and thereby aroused public sentiment to such an extent that pressure was brought to bear upon the Russian government and the outrages were checked. If there is any avenue that closed against us it is that to the field of finance. Can we ever hope to become powerful financially? How absurd is the thought of buying our way through, when we reflect upon the fact that one man owns more than all the Negroes of the United States?

Mr. Bruce’s teachings are what we would call a bread philosophy, a scheme for getting victuals. But man cannot live by bread alone. Wealth is not in the things possessed, but in the possessor of things. The object of life is rich and bounteous life, not accumulation of goods. Rankin said: “The true veins of wealth are not in rock, but in flesh. The final outcome and consumption of all wealth is in the producing as many as possible full-breathed, bright-eyed, happy-hearted human creatures.

Miss Williams, a writer and teacher of Chicago, also read an interesting and impressive paper on “Negro Literature.”
A very high-class entertainment was given in the Chapel last Friday by Prince Hermann. His elocution is deserving, and works in magic superb. Great credit is due him for the accomplishment of such wonderful feats under so great disadvantages. Kellar and other magicians of note, being surrounded by elaborate stage settings and conveniences, perform their tricks with every point in their favor. But Hermann is compelled to perform the same tricks upon an open platform almost unassisted, and with little or no convenience, and is on that account the more deserving and worthy of encouragement and support. Let us appreciate his effort with the hope that some day we may be able to see him as the successor of Kellar.

At the opening of the Negro Academy last Thursday evening President Archibald Grimke, of Boston, read a paper on "The Meaning and Effect of the Disfranchisement Laws in the South." He traced the growth of power of the Southern oligarchy, showed the effect of the change of the three-fifths slave vote to five-fifths freeman vote, and compared the large number of votes polled in the Northern districts to elect a comparatively small number of representatives and the small number polled in Southern districts to elect a comparatively large number. Mr. Grimke holds that the North possesses a boastful advantage over the South and is not likely to do anything towards the reduction of representation in the South until that advantage or power is in some way threatened. The argument that the Fifteenth amendment should be enforced means little or nothing, for in no state is there any violation of the letter of the law. It is surprising to find so many intelligent people who are ignorant of how the Fifteenth Amendment can be violated in spirit and still no effective legal action can be made against the states that violate it. Those revised state constitutions were ingeniously devised to dodge the Constitution. Some of the persons who attempted to discuss the paper did not know the decisions of the Supreme Court in the most prominent cases: others, whose most effective work is of an emotional character, would have us stir up sentiment among the blacks in the South.

C. U. C. Ball.

A very enjoyable affair was the Upper Classmen's ball on Wednesday evening. The hall was beautifully decorated with palms and hunting, no pains being spared in making every condition measure up to the requirements of the refined and distinguished guest whom the Council had the honor of entertaining. The sight of beautiful gowns and cheerful faces, the sound of sweet inspiring strains, and joyous laughter, and fragrance of the beautiful bouquets, were in themselves enough to banish care and sorrow and make the evening effervesce with mirth and gladness. Among the distinguished guests were Mr. and Mrs. Judge Terrell, Mr. and Mrs. Dr. Moore, Mrs. Wormley, Mr. Posey and others unknown to the writer.
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Random Thoughts.

Any man of spirit will rise to the occasion if you tread on his pet corn.

I’ve noticed that the seasons do not agree with each other. Just now there is a decided coolness between autumn and spring.

Most truthful men rarely speak of themselves.

I am certain that the phonograph is of the feminine gender, because it repeats everything it hears.

We are sure to shorten our days if we lengthen our nights.

If pride would only tumble to itself, it wouldn’t go before a fall.

The festive frog has no regrets for the passing of leap year.

Mike’s Run.

Listen dear students and you shall hear
Of a midnight run from a window near
On the twenty-fourth of February nineteen fifteen.
The man who did it is hardly alive,
So much is he filled with shame and fear.

He said to his friend who lives in “The Hall,”
“Be ready to answer a midnight call.”
So true to her promise from a window above
She was ready to listen to the songs of love
That came from her dear sweet Romeo.

They had no signals like Paul Revere
The enemy they thought would not appear.
But at half pass eleven or very nigh
A theatre party was passing by.
And frightened the daring culprits.

So quick to his heels like a frightened deer,
He left the intruders in the rear,
And went at such an awful rate
He hadn’t time to find the gate.

So Paul’s great record, on that night
Was beaten by “Meandering Mike”.

All loyal Howardites should turn out in the Inaugural parade, and give Howard a good representation. The University Band of twenty five pieces will head the line.

A good boarder—The carpenter.

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John L. Sullivan gets $900 a night for lecturing.
President Hadley of Yale lectures for $75 a night. Let us not, however, become hastily pessimistic. Edward Everett’s autograph brings 75 cents in the open market, which is the same price collectors are asked for the autograph of Jack McAuliffe, who was once the middle weight champion of America. In life the pugilist’s glory may over shadow that of the scholar or the statesman, but Death, the great leveler, can be depended upon to elevate the man of brains so that he will finally be in the middle weight class, at least.

A pessimist, to my mind, is a man who may hope, but doesn’t expect it to be realized.
Howard University

Incorporated by Act of Congress March 2, 1867.


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OBJECT.

This University was founded in 1867, "for the education of the youth in liberal arts and sciences." It stands distinctively for the higher education of the colored race but educates men and women of all races from all the continents and from many islands.

DEPARTMENTS.

It has eleven distinct colleges and schools: Theological, Medical, Dental, Pharmaceutical, Legal, Teachers, Collegiate, Commercial, Preparatory, School of Manual Arts, and Summer School, which are conducted by one hundred and twenty-five competent professors and instructors.

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