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"RICHELIEU"
A CRITICISM BY PROFESSOR G. DAVID HOUSTON

HE presentation of Sir Bulwer Lytton's "Richelieu", by the College Dramatic Club, on last Saturday night, was a notable success. So excellent was the performance that the most censorious critic could find but scant cause for picking flaws and taking exceptions. Each member of the cast acted his part as though ultimate success depended chiefly upon his performance. Principal and minor characters alike interpreted well that difficult French plot, the unfolding of which required knowledge of French manners, French customs, and French idiosyncrasies. Unlike many amateur actors, who frequently overact because of their enthusiastic endeavors to be styled "stars," the Richelieu cast rendered their parts without manifesting any appreciable ambition for stellar fame. Never has the writer witnessed an amateur performance in which there was such ideal harmony between the actors and their parts. At times, to be sure, the enunciation was careless and the pronunciation inaccurate; but even a less charitable critic would not be too severe on such defects, in view of the compensatory high grade of acting. Position, attitude, gestures, and facial expressions were at all times excellent. Only an occasional awkward exit gave rise to any unfavorable criticism of the action.

The strongest expressions that may be employed to describe Mr. Howard's histrionic qualities can hardly pay more than partial deference to his laudable achievement. His part was obviously the most difficult and the most alluring to overacting; but he mastered all difficulties and disregarded any allurement. His interpretation of his part was excellent, and his general deportment on the stage was like that of a professional actor. Never was an utterance more appropriate than that of the student who exclaimed "Louie is some artist!" Mr. Howard proved himself to be an artist—a "mighty actor." Too much cannot be said in commendation of Mr. Howard's excellent work.

Mr. Crampston, as Baradas, played the part of the villain. His part represented the rankest kind of hypocrisy, and called for passionate declamations, wit and irony interspersed, hope and fear. The actor of such a part needs must show an equal degree of earnestness and self-possession.
Mr. Crampton manifested both qualities. He seemed to be a seasoned actor. At times, however, his enunciation was faulty, but his acting was so commendable that what was lost through enunciation was appreciated through action. Mr. Crampton deserves more praise than that allotted space will permit the writer to give him.

Mr. Lane, as De Mauprat, demonstrated more than ordinary ability on the stage. His rôle required skilful acting and clever personating; for it represented a character full of high enthusiasm and quick sensibility—the sport, as it were, of circumstances. Mr. Lane, fortunately, was equal to his task. He interpreted well his part, and was ready at all times with both action and personation.

Miss Harper, as Julie, made her initial appearance in college dramatics. Her undertaking, in such an exacting rôle, speaks volumes for her; but just praise of her trionic ability lies not in the admiration of her heroic undertaking, but rather in her successful accomplishment. Miss Harper interpreted well her part and acted it with graceful ease. Her bearing on the stage was excellent and her performance brilliant. Her promising future in dramatics must be a source of comfort and gratification to the members of the College Dramatic Club.

Mr. Moore, as King, rendered his part in artistic fashion, but naturally enough many in the audience were not sufficiently acquainted with the character of Louis XIII., to appreciate at first a true personation of the king. They did not apparently reflect that a king ruled by favorites would be inevitably a weak and superficial character; but evidently expected the antithesis of such a character. Mr. Moore, consequently, had more prejudice to overcome than any other member of the cast. He responded nobly, and so completely revealed by degrees the true character of the king that he educated and converted those who at first were inadvertently prone to unfavorable criticism.

Mr. Jackson, as François, was given prolonged applause, and deservedly so; for his rôle as page, apparently a minor rôle, did not suggest the dramatic possibilities, which Mr. Jackson seems to have discovered in it. In two scenes, Mr. Jackson rivaled the leading actors for highest honors.

Miss Nelms, as Marion, is to be congratulated: first, for substituting for Miss Robinson, who, on account of illness, could not play the part; and secondly, for displaying such marked talent. Her part, to be sure, was brief; but even a brief part can be well performed. As a matter of fact, a brief part not well performed weakens the effect of the whole play. Impartial criticism, therefore, requires special mention of Miss Nelms' performance, not because she had any heavy part to perform, but because she performed with grace and artistic finish the part assigned to her.

Every member of the cast, in fact, deserves honorable mention, no matter how slight his contribution may have been. Those that had the heavier parts played them well; those that had the lighter parts did likewise. Any one member of the cast could have made the performance a failure; but no one member could have made it a success. The superior grade of acting on the part of all, and not on the part of any one person, was responsible for the success of the undertaking.

No criticism would be complete without a word of congratulation to the director and to the manager. Mr. Guy's efforts have again been fruitful. This year, his task and accomplishment seemed even greater, inasmuch as he had more inexperienced persons to train. The writer uses "inexperienced" advisedly, because there is a vast difference between high school dramatics and college dramatics; so even though some of the cast may have had high school experience in dramatics, they virtually entered a new world in the College Dramatic Club. The heartiest congratulations are due to Mr. Guy for his excellent training of the cast. The very best tribute that any instructor can seek is the successful performance of those he instructs. The cast did more to disperse Mr. Guy's reputation as an artist himself than numerous well-wrought expressions could possibly do.

Mr. Tavernier, who managed the play, must not be overlooked, when credit is being given for the success of the memorable night. The writer knows only too well the discouragements that threatened to overwhelm the manager; but Mr. Tavernier laughed to scorn every menacing obstacle, and worked patiently and persistently for the success, which he has a right to enjoy. He was ably assisted by Mr. Stratton and the rest of the staff, who worked harmoniously with their manager, with only one object in view—the successful presentation of Sir Bulwer Lytton's "Richelieu".

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Sophomores

The recently elected officers of the Sophomore class, of the College of Arts and Sciences, were installed by Dean Miller.

Officers: President, W. H. Cunningham; Vice President, O. L. Johnson; Secretary, Louise Thompson; Assistant Secretary, Vivian Cook; Treasurer, L. S. Bagley; Critic, L. S. Curtis; Journalist, J. H. Brooks; Chaplain, J. McIntosh. The meeting closed after a brief address of encouragement by the president.

Campus Briefs

Dean Kelly Miller is away from school on a short trip.

Mr. C. V. Henley, to the delight of all, has returned to school.

Our beloved Associate Editor, I. G. Bailey, who was called to his home in Arkansas, lost his father.

On last Monday, the Varsity Basketball Team won over the Monticellos in New York City by a score of 38 to 12.

Dean L. B. Moore has just returned from Richmond, Virginia, where he attended the Society of College Teachers of Education which met in conjunction with the National Educational Association. The Dean, also, gave an address, on the evening of February 23, at the First Street Baptist Church of Richmond.

Dr. E. L. Parks represented the University at the Convention of the American Association of College Registrars held February 24th and 25th at Richmond, Virginia.

"The Strolling Players"

In Chapel on Monday afternoon, "The Strolling Players" presented an occasion which was greatly enjoyed by all who attended. Much praise is due those who supervised and took part. As to the uniqueness of the affair, the features and personal of the following program will indicate.

STROLLING PLAYERS
RANKIN MEMORIAL CHAPEL
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, AT 2 P.M.

Part I

1. Overture
2. Vocal Solo, Selected
3. Monologue
4. Piano Number, Selected
5. Monologue, Dream of the Tropics
6. Vocal Solo
7. Mandolin Fantasy

Part II

1. Overture
2. Vocal Solo
3. Piano Solo, Selected
4. Tableaux in Honor of Famous Colored Men
5. Overture
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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, February 27, 1914

EDITORIAL
* Chapel was really praise-worthy on last Tuesday. Keep it up co-eds.
* It will pay the students of the University to consider the fifteen fellowships and scholarships announced for 1914–15, by the University of California.
* Indisputably, the Deutsche Verein is one of the most valuable clubs of the University; but it seems to have been asleep during the first half of the school year. Now that it has woken and resumed its good work it brings joy to many of the students.

* In the presentation of Richelieu on last Saturday evening, the members of the Dramatic Club reflected distinct credit upon themselves as well as upon the University. From the standpoint of amateurs, the members, not only, easily achieved success, becoming amateurs of the first rank, but also, but repeatedly stepped into the realms of professionalism. Representative of Howard, the members exhibited artistic temperament and accomplishment which bespoke a high standard for the institution and culture of its students.

* It may be of interest to note that at a recent Sunday service in Weightman Hall of the University of Pennsylvania, all of the music used was taken from the works of the Negro composers, S. Coleridge Taylor, H. T. Burleigh, and R. N. Dett. The last named composer, though unknown to many of the laity, is familiar to many musicians on account of his charming melody and exquisite harmony of his works. He is a native of New York State, and a graduate of Oberlin Conservatory of Music. At present, he is director of music at Hampton Institute.

A Card of Thanks

Dermott, Ark.,
Feb. 19, 1914

The Faculty and Fellow Students:
I wish to use the columns of the University Journal to thank you for the interest taken in my father during his recent illness. Most of you were strangers to him, nevertheless he appreciated very much your sympathy for him. My mother and sisters join me in expressing most sincere gratitude for every kindness shown us in the hour of trial.

I hope to be in school with you again as soon as possible.

Respectfully yours,
I. G. Bailey

To the Memory of Mr. Dandridge From the Sophomore Class
The ivy with its mystic chime,
And verdants tendrils long
Unite to mourn thy grace, to time
As gentle as a song.
Thy useful life sojourned 'mid dust
For a season short but sweet,
Now heav'n has giv'n a nobler trust,
For service more complete.

—Lottie Gatewood '16

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Resolutions

Whereas it has been the will of the All Wise Providence to remove from among us one Moses E. Dandridge; and

Whereas the said Moses E. Dandridge, a member of the Freshman Class of the College of Arts and Sciences of Howard University, won the admiration and trust of his classmates during his short life; therefore be it

Resolved, that by his death we, the members of the Freshman Class of the College of Arts and Sciences of Howard University, have lost a valuable and esteemed classmate; be it also

Resolved, that we hereby extend to the parents of the deceased our sincere and heartfelt sympathy in this their irreparable loss; and be it further

Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the parents of the deceased; that a copy be published in the University Journal; and that a copy be retained by the class.

Done this twenty-fourth day of February, nineteen hundred and fourteen, by the Freshman Resolution Committee,

T. Etna Nutt, Chairman
Elsie W. Brown
H. W. Wilson

In silence, and at night, the conscience feels that life should soar to nobler ends than power.”

“In the lexicon of youth, which fate reserves for a bright manhood, there is no such word as fail.”

“There is One above who sways the harmonious mystery of the world ever better than prime ministers!”

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.

Regular Chapel Exercises daily at noon, except Saturday and Sunday.

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Freshman "Medic" and Dental Stag

EDITOR'S NOTE—In this account we have a glimpse of the much talked of Freshman Medical and Dental Class. This class is not only a happy and lively group, but also a studious and ambitious group. In recent examinations, it is said, that the class had a greater number of members on the honor roll than any previous Freshman Class.

On the eve of Saint Valentine's Day, the Freshmen of both Medical and Dental Colleges assembled themselves together for the first time in a social way in order to foster class unity and to celebrate the recent victory over that terrible valley of "dry bones". The Stag was held in room five, True Reformers' Hall. At 9 p.m. the "Freshies" began to assemble. Then, some engaged in whist, and other amusing games while many danced the "T—", "T—", and other late dances while still others sang class songs and yelled class yells. A little later, on, two classical selections were rendered on the "Ivories" by Messrs. T. W. Nelson and M. Philips.

At 11:30 p.m., the "baby doctors" gathered around the elaborately prepared "Stag table" where they were refreshed with such dainties as:

- Olives, Bitterine
- Fimbriated Celery
- Emulsion of Potato Salad
- Quadrirgeminae of "Hot Dogs"

Smithfield Ham
- Ox Tongue Epithelium
- Digital Rolls
- Ice Cream à la Velvét
- Orieited Cakes
- Divorc Coffee
- Cheese and Crackers
- Punch Fermenti ad Libitum
- Cigars and Cigarettes galore

At length, just as President P. B. Lenox was on the point of calling the "Embryonies" to order for a little "bull," the party was interrupted by twenty or more young ladies who had been fostered, Dr. McNeil's boys really tripped the light fantastic toe to the tune of "melodious music" until the "wee sma" hours. Then the ladies retired to their respective homes; President and Toastmaster Lenox resumed his duties; and each man built a small "air castle." Much credit is due Dr. Powe and his committee for the way in which the evening was spent. —"Core"

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Hints

Undue haste in eating, is as inelegant as it is unwholesome.

Among civilized nations the knife is never used to convey food to the mouth.

The advice of Confucius "Eat at your table as you would at the table of the king," is as true today as it was in the pagan era.

It is a much better taste to break off pieces of bread as you need them, than to bite the entire slice as though you were competing in an eating contest.

The fork does not only bear food to the mouth, but it is its duty to convey back to the plate any food particle which can not be conveniently masticated.

The rules of etiquette should not be regarded as many regard a dress suit, to be worn only on special occasions, but rather as an indispensible factor in one's daily life.

"Manners are what vex or soothe, corrupt or purify, exalt or debase, barbarize or refine us, by a constant, steady, uniform, insensible operation, like that of the air we breathe."—Burke.

The dinner table where social decorum is most needed, is the place where it is frequently disregarded. "A man's behavior at table," says Florence Hall, "is a pretty sure indication of his social status."

Dramatics at Other Colleges

At Syracuse next month "The College Hero" will be produced.

At the University of Michigan, a departure from college dramatics will be made this spring in the presentation of the pageant of "Joan of Arc."

A. H. Tavernier,
Manager of THE DRAMATIC CLUB

The Cornell Masque repeated recently "The Gondoliers," a comic opera; and the Cornell Dramatic Club, after electing new members, will present two short one-act plays next week.


Mr. Bodwell had only read of snow before, and, of course, he could not immediately figure what it was. For several moments he tried his best to connect it with Lincoln's birth day which had occurred the day before.
The Long Lost Personals

Mr. "Ignats" Johnson, the barber, declares that competition is very sharp at present, Mr. Harrison having opened up a rival shop with a red pole as advertiser. Burn that pole, Johnson, and pray.

Having received an invitation from a young man to attend "Richelieu", Miss M. Ed. J. promptly fainted and then went home to consult her physician about it—the invitation. He reduced the heart-beat and sent her back to the young man with a favorable reply.

He's Nobody's Snow Ball
When the wind began to blow
And the snow began to fall,
All the boys began to laugh
And to run about the hall;
And each man began to think
Nice and warm would be his bunk—
'Cept old Donald, who began
Sad and slow, to pack his trunk.

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Certainly did show 'em
How she held them with Billie,
But just hold your breath—
You'll hear of his death
When his friend hears the news
up in Phillie.
He'll have still less peace
When it reaches Northeast,
Oh my, but his road's auffly hillie.

Mr. J. H. Wilson, 1827 4th Street, received the Georgia delegation at his residence on the night of January 31st. The company was royally entertained and assured Mr. Wilson that he would be elected to the Presidency of the Georgia Club. The party disbanded in a highly emotional state, according to report, singing "Way Down in Georgia", "Crown Me Queen of the May" and other national airs.

THINGS SEEN ABOUT THE CAMPUS
Miner Hall Gridiron Heroines.
(Well they really are the winners.)
Groups posing for pictures.
(Nothing in the cameras.)
A Man Walking By Himself.
(Girls kept in after Chapel.)
A Junior With a Long Coat.
(Don't guess; it's "Fitz").
A Gentleman Carrying an Ice-box. (Sign of Servility.)
A Detachment of Girls with Chaperon. (Vexation for Chap.)
Soph'mores Songsters. (Sing like Chinese.)
Man Crossing Girls' Ellipse.
(Reckless; faces grave penalty.)
Shouting Boys. (Primitive instinct.)
Laughing Girls. (The "Velvet Kind").
Basketball Girls. (A mere stall.)
Students Running to Class. (Hereditary.)
Students Running from Class. (Common Sense.)

KIRKSEY - Charmless—permitted to roam; do not feed.

Howard Academy vs. Harrisburg High School. Harrisburg, Pa., March 7th BASKET BALL.

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