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MAYNARD PRIZE DEBATE
Of the Theological Department

The annual Maynard Prize Debate was held last Friday evening, March 10, in the Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel before a large and appreciative audience. Rev. Isaac Clark, D. D., dean of the department, presided. Invocation was offered by Rev. Tunnel, D. D., warden of King Hall. Music for the occasion was furnished by the University Band under the leadership of Mr. B. H. Baker.

"Ought the whipping post to be established for the punishment of wife beaters?" was the question which was debated by C. C. Gill, E. T. Newman, and W. E. Spratley in the affirmative; H. C. P. Baker, S. B. Ross and J. L. Wright in the negative.

Hon. Ernest W. Roberts, M. C., Rev. M. Ross Fishburn, and Prof. William H. Richards were the judges, who awarded first prize to S. B. Ross, class '05, and second prize to H. C. P. Baker, class '06.

It may be interesting to know that the first prize in the Maynard Prize Debate for the last three years has not been outside of the class '05; and in the debate for '04 both prizes were won by members of the class '05.

No other class in the history of the department has such a record.

The debate was one of the best ever heard on the Hill. It was both interesting and instructive.

The first speaker for the affirmative was C. C. Gill, to whom the judges gave honorable mention. Mr. Gill held that the end and purpose of all punishment must be considered before one is competent to discuss a question of this sort; that punishment differs in kind as well as degree—generally suited to crime; that the nature of wife-beating is such that the most stringent and suitable means should be established for its punishment. (a) Wife beating is an assault upon the dignity and honor of wifehood; (b) is an attack upon civilization itself. The whipping post is the most stringent and suitable means for the punishment of wife beaters. The whipping post embodies the principle of similarity of punishment—the only just and rational concept, according to the words of Moses, Paul, and Jesus. That imprisonment is not a sufficient substitute because the condemned wife beater would prefer the jail to the whipping post.

The first speaker on the negative was Mr. H. C. P. Baker. Mr. Baker showed that those countries which have the whipping post as a punishment of crime are below the United States in intelligence and Christian civilization. That the whipping post would not be in harmony with highest modern views respecting the punishment of criminals.

Mr. E. T. Newman, second speaker on the affirmative, offered two reasons for not sending a wife-beater to jail. "In the first place sending him to jail means sending his wife to the almshouse, or leaving her destitute, while he is comfortably housed at the expense of the government. In the second place sending him to jail means sending him to associate with criminals to become more criminal, so that when he comes out he is a more confirmed criminal."

The second speaker on the negative, Mr. S. B. Ross, said "The ground for the establishment of any mode of punishment is its adaptation to a wise end of punishment. Punishment without a wise end is worse than no punishment. In the progress of civilization there has developed through a gradual process, a benevolent view of the end of punishment. In darker days repression of crime was the end of punishment. But now the prevention of crime and the reformation of the criminal are recognized as the proper end of punishment; and by this view of the end of punishment our courts are governed. The prevention of crime and the reformation of the criminal being the end of punishment, no mode of punishment which is not adapted to that end should be established. I shall endeavor, therefore, to show that the whipping post should not be established for wife-beaters on the ground that it is not adapted to the accepted end of punishment. In support of this assertion, I beg your consideration of the following reasons: (1) The whipping post for wife-beaters is a retaliatory and inadequate punishment. (2) It carries no reformatory influence. (3) It would not benefit society. I admit that the whipping-post is an economical mode of punishment. But that is not saying much for it. It is a cheap punishment from which we could not reasonably expect other than cheap results. Economy is important but not the paramount issue in this question. Financial gain may be moral loss. Down South they have hit upon a way of saving expense in administering punishment. They dispense with sheriff and lawyer, judge and jury, and prison, and guard, and all the costly appliance of the law, and execute the supreme penalty of the law without it costing the government a cent. * * *

Lynching inexpensive? It is one of the costliest operations ever adopted by a civilized people, To be truly economical a punishment must be productive of good to society." The fourth and last point in Mr. Ross' argument was that it would not benefit the family. The man who will beat his wife needs but little goading to kill her, and the whipping-post might furnish a sufficient stimulus.

[Continued on Second Page.]
The University Journal.

A proverb heard almost daily and familiar to you all is: “A thing that is worth doing at all is worth doing well.” “Better not be at all than not be noble,” is a saying of one of the world’s men of brains. Years before the birth of Christ, Cicero said, “there is nothing to be eagerly sought by men but glory and praise”. The thought of the master minds of the world is not retrogressive, but every century, every decade, every year, every month, every week, yea, even every day making rapid strides along the avenues of progress. Glory and praise are ahead of us, and in some way the reward of all noble effort. If to an undertaking there is not even a distant sight of glory and praise, but on the other hand that commendation which can better be expressed by the anony- mous of those words, certainly the greater commendation lies in the refraining from the undertaking, since “Discretion is the better part of valor.” Then should the students of Howard University turn out in citizen’s attire in the Inaugural Parade in which Harvard, the only one of the other universities represented, is, contrary to notice given to students of Howard, attired in caps and gowns?

Base Ball

Regular base ball practice will begin Saturday, March 18, at 2 p.m. on the University campus. All persons who desire to make the team or can give assistance in developing it, are earnestly requested to report as early as possible. A call was made last week by Capt. Evans, of the Medical School, and it is hoped that a large number will respond, as it is quite necessary that the team should get in condition early, since many early games are scheduled.

The University Band to Make a Tour.

It has been noised about the yard the past few days, that the management of the University Band is making arrangements to take the band on a tour of the Middle and New England States during the Christmas Holidays. The plan, so far as we have been able to ascertain, is to have the band and soloists give concerts in various cities. The trip will afford members of the band a good time socially and at the same time give the people in the sections covered an opportunity to hear a well trained organization. We think the idea a good one and we would be happy to lend whatever assistance we can to help the project along. Yale, Harvard and Princeton have glee and banjo clubs which make towns of the country during the Christmas and Easter recesses. For that reason we feel it our duty to encourage the Band in its undertaking. The student body has just cause to be proud of the Band.

Maynard Prize Debate.

[Continued from First Page.]

The third speaker on the affirmative was Mr. W. E. Spratley. In support of his argument, he held: (a) “That the whipping post should be established because it is a punishment that best meets the requirements of the law and justice in that it tends to reform the criminal and to prevent others from becoming criminals, and to protect the interest of society. (b) Because it is a punishment that does not bring special and needless hardships upon the family most deeply concerned by rendering them destitute or making them endure the humiliation of making appeals to public or private charity. (c) Because it is a punishment that does not needlessly tax a community for the support of the criminal in idleness, while his family, it may be, is in the almshouse. (d) Because it is a deserved punishment. (e) Because it is a punishment keenly felt to be a punishment.”

The third and last speaker on the negative was Mr. J. L. Wright. He said: “The whipping post ought not to be established because it is opposed to the true spirit and proper methods of our Christian civilization. Were I to content myself with the first impulses that forced themselves into my mind, I would be found among those who have so invitingly expressed the affirmative of this question. But I am under the most sacred obligation to bear in mind that I live in an age of progress, of culture, of refinement, of civilization and, last but not least, I live in an age when the sacred principles of Christianity are engrained upon every banner. Though the crime of wife-beating is degrading and repulsive,” he held, “the spirit of the age demands a punishment other than the whipping-post which is degrading in itself.”

We wish it were possible to give all the points of all the arguments but space will not permit.

Hon. Ernest W. Roberts, who rendered the decision of the judges, said that on account of the excellence of all the speakers, there was some little trouble in awarding the prizes, but that the decision was unanimous.
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Personal.

Mr. T. C. Jordan, of the Senior College Class, will have to give up his work in school on account of bad health. As soon as possible he expects to return to his home in Little Rock, Arkansas, where climatic conditions are more favorable to his improvement. His faculty and classmates will probably feel the loss more keenly than others, but are able to find consolation in the fact that his going away is merely a premature separation, for after all it will be only a few months until the class of ’05 will become a thing of history. Since Mr. Jordan has done such excellent work, the class will petition the authorities to vote him the hours required to make him an eligible candidate for a degree.

Miss Mamie Waring, of the Commercial College, and Mr. Bernard Hughes, of the Senior Medical Class, have both recovered from a slight attack of cold.

Miss Sadie Freeman, who has been spending the winter in the “Smoky City,” is now in this city for a short stay with her mother.

Miss M. A. Wiggins, of New York, spent a very pleasant time in this city during Inaugural week, being highly entertained by the Howardites.

Mr. Bunby, A. B ’01, is now in Mt. Vernon, Indiana, doing excellent educational work. He was once a prominent figure in University athletics, having served as captain of the Varsity base-ball team, and for many years holding down the initial bag.

Mr. Clay C. Sibley, M. D. Med. Dept. of Howard University 1900, A. B. College Dept. 1902, died Saturday morning, March 4, at his home in St. Louis, Mo. His remains were sent to his sister at Dallas, Texas, where he formerly lived, and where his body will probably be laid to rest. Mr. Sibley was much loved by the student body and teachers, who now sympathize with his relatives in their bereavement.

A New Movement.

Among the many societies and clubs of Howard University presenting movements for the cultivation of mind, soul and body, and presenting high purposes and noble ideals the Sigma Kappa Tau stands eminent. This Society was organized January 6, 1905, under the auspices of Messrs. G. W. Oates and James A. Lightfoot, assisted by Messrs. Thomas W. Rose, Francis, J. P. Jordan and B. K. Smith, for the purpose of establishing fellowship among the students, and especially for the study of English Literature. Its officers are: G. W. Oates, President; Thomas W. Rose, Recording Secretary; Mr. Francis, Corresponding Secretary; J. P. Jordan, Treasurer; James A. Lightfoot, Reporter. Executive Committee: R. K. Smith, Chairman, Thomas Rose, James Lightfoot.

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The Ohio State University football players are already at spring practice, under the direction of Coach Sweetland, Cornell. The Yale gridiron forces will be called out just before Easter.
Howard University.

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