A Science Hall and a Modern Library for Howard in the Near Future

At the mid-day exercises in Andrew Rankin Chapel, Tuesday, February 23, President Thirkield came forward with good cheer to the sons of old Howard. Chief among the surprises was the disclosure of a proposed congressional appropriation, which will enable this University to have a modern science hall, and the knowledge of the successful culmination of the plans with Mr. Carnegie, which will give to us a fifty-thousand dollar library.

With the possible exception of a modern library, nothing could be more needed at this University than an up-to-date science hall. In all the present institutions of learning, the general trend of education is toward scientific research and in order for any school to keep abreast with the increasing demand for a change from the culture of the humanists, it cannot place too much stress on its scientific facilities. To a great extent Howard has been seriously hampered in making any progress along this line. Ever since the present instructor of sciences has been retained, he has been handicapped both by lack of a modern laboratory and the inability to obtain sufficient apparatus, absolutely necessary for the successful demonstration of experiments. With an appropriation of ninety thousand dollars, however, the outlook for overcoming this embarrassment is very encouraging indeed.

Now, we can only fully appreciate the need of a modern library, with large and commodious reading rooms, when we consider the fact that at present there are approximately twelve hundred students, who have access to our library and that there is a small reading room with a seating capacity of about twenty-five to accommodate them, and then, too, of the 40,000 books and pamphlets belonging to this institution, 2,000 books and an indefinite number of pamphlets have to be stored away because of the limited space on the shelves of our library.

We should extend our hearty congratulations to President Thirkield for the success of his work since coming here and for his unceasing efforts in our behalf. For one to head an incumbent institution and in the short space of three years, to place it upon a firm basis is no insignificant task, indeed, and especially do we realize its importance when we take into consideration the fact, that this extraordinary insufficiency, which has been brought about by President Thirkield, can not be estimated by its intrinsic value but by the influence it will wield in placing our institution among the leading universities of the day.

While congratulating the President, all Howardites should in turn congratulate themselves for the encouraging future of this institution with which they have been associated. Howard, indeed bids fair to become the Mecca, toward which the eyes of our youth will instinctively turn. In fact, it seems as if the present outlook already forecasts a new era in the history of our school and tells of a future Howard, situated on a hill overlooking the national capital, that is second to no other institution of its kind.

J. A. M.

Planting the Washington Ivy

Washington's birthday was very fittingly celebrated by planting, at the west end of the Main Building, a piece of ivy from Washington's home in Mount Vernon. A large crowd gathered and sang "America." After a brief prayer by President Thirkield, Professor Miller delivered a masterful eulogy on "The Father of His Country." Dr. Moreland, International Secretary of the Y. M. C. A., made a short address. The President then planted the ivy, allowing each one present an opportunity of depositing some of the soil on it. The doxology was sung, after which the benediction was pronounced by Dr. Parks.

Debating Team Chosen

On Saturday night at the regular meeting of the Kappa Sigma, the team was chosen for the intercollegiate debate with Lincoln University. The men chosen are Messrs B. L. Marchant, Win. Love, and J. S. Butts; Mr. F. McKinney was chosen alternate. The ability of all of these men as debaters is well established and there is no doubt that they will bring victory to dear old Howard.

The question to be discussed was also decided upon: "Resolved, that women should have the right to vote on the same terms as men." Howard has the negative side of the question.

Let every student, whether on the hill or not, and every friend, even at a sacrifice, make an effort to be present and give the team that enthusiasm, so necessary to our victory. The date will be announced in a subsequent issue of the Journal.
Mr. Grimke Addresses Class in Economics

Mr. Archibald Grimke, on last Saturday afternoon, read before the classes in Economics a masterly paper on the "Economic Condition of the Negro." The paper was no laudation, but a careful, scholarly, economic essay. It is to be regretted that all the college students could not hear this paper. We hope to see this with other of Mr. Grimke's monographs in print.

Prof. Miller Tours in the North

At the Request of Dr. Rider of the American Missionary Association, Prof. Kelly Miller is this week touring Connecticut. The Association, appealing for aid to carry on its educational work, is conducting a vigorous campaign throughout the country over. This week interest centers around New Haven and New York where the Association will hold monster meetings and where Professor Miller will speak. Dean Miller also speaks at Bridgeport, Greenwich, and South Norfolk. On Saturday, he will return to go next week to New Jersey. In April, he will make a tour of Ohio.

M Street Scholarships

Not very many days ago the matter of granting scholarships in the M Street High School was discussed by the faculty of that school. The faculty decided that in the future scholarships would be awarded to those students only who would consent to go to any college except in the District. This was a great blow at Howard, and several of the instructors, who are alumni of Howard, bitterly opposed the measure. Despite the opposition of these brave sons of Howard, the measure was passed by the faculty. This, however, was not the end. The action of the faculty was referred to the School Board. The Board rescinded the action of the faculty, thereby giving the students of M Street receiving scholarships the privilege of taking their college course wherever they desire—even at dear old Howard, the only colored college in the district.

The Omitted Questions of the Discarded Foibles

"Who licked the freshies? Sophs.
"Who beat the freshies in football? Sophs.
"Who will beat the freshies in baseball? Sophs.
"Who will beat the freshies in the track meet? Sophs.
"Who stole the freshies feed? ? ? ?"

The above conundrums and answers were to have been published in the Sophomore edition of the Journal, but were at the eleventh hour stricken out. However, in publishing these gymnastics of veracity, we do so in order to show that they are the hallucination of a disordered mind, probably of the same Sophomore who, when the properties of common salt were discussed in Chemistry class, asked the instructor if there was any truth in the story of the efficacy of placing salt on a bird's tail to catch the bird.

As to the Sophomore's licking the freshies, we fail to remember the said incident, since the triumphant freshies gave the Sophomore was so severe that the President of the University, fearing probably the total annihilation of the Sophomore class, put a ban on all future class rushes.

As to the stealing of the freshies' feed, we all remember the delightful time which all enjoyed at our first and only freshman feed of the year,—we refer to the Freshman Banquet in Miner Hall, and since the menu was served as per schedule, we cannot conceive of our being robbed of any feed whatsoever. Of course there were some scraps left and perhaps some of the Sophomores employed in Miner Hall may have appropriated these scraps to their hungry brethren. However, if this be the stealing they refer to, we say unto them, that since we are a charitable class, we freely forgive them.

The other questions have been, or will be, answered by Dame Fortune, consequently we will not devote space to answering them.

But there is one question which is conspicuous by its absence and that is, Why did the Sophs turn down the Freshmen's debating challenge? In reply to the Freshmen's challenge to debate, the Sophs said, "We can not debate you because we expect to be represented in the Alpha Phi Oratorical Contest." Now, the Freshman Class is going to be represented in that contest and by the best speaker in the class, and yet we have ample material for a debate with the Sophomores. Now, since we, immature freshmen, can afford material for both events, the Sophomore Class, our supposed intellectual superiors, has insulted its own intelligence by its reply to our challenge. However, we are reluctant to believe that the Sophomore Class, being composed to a great extent of dogmatic and bigoted egotists, would be guilty of such an offense. Consequently we must come to the conclusion that when we sent our challenge, the Sophomores contracted a case of frigid pedal extremities, in other words—cold feet. Therefore, when we send another challenge to the Sophomore Class, we will accompany it with hot bricks or an oilstove in order to get satisfactory results.

On Tuesday at chapel, after President Thirkield made the announcement that made Tuesday, Feb. 23, a red letter day in the history of Howard University, Prof. George W. Cook made an excellent two minute impromptu speech that was well fitted to the occasion: it had the right ring of sincerity and truth in it. Surely, as the Dean said, President Thirkield has made a niche for himself among the great Howard Presidents. Professor Cook said this and it is true for Dean Cook, that most loyal son of Howard, has not only great love for his Alma Mater and appreciation of her worth, but also deep knowledge of her history.
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

formance of our obligations as they come upon us can we enjoy right­fully, the privileges of citizenship.
"My official connection," he said, "with your university will soon end but I assure you that my sympathies and best wishes shall ever be with you." And as he said this Howard realized, only, too vividly, that she is losing one of her best friends.

Prof. Kelly Miller read an article on Lincoln, from his own pen, that appeared in the American Missionary Review. The article was an excellent one and full of the brilliancy and personality of the author of Race Adjustment.

President Thirkield next presented the University with a bronze tablet containing Lincoln’s Gettysburg address and as a most fitting climax to the celebration, introduced Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Levering.

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**A Request**

In any well arranged printing office where a great quantity of work is done and where newspaper work is made a specialty, all material is sent into the composing room on a uniform sized sheet of paper. In offices where larger quantities of material are sent from outside towns, and where the amount of work guarantees it, a man is hired who recopies all work not already on this uniform sheet and who reads proof. In other offices where greater quantities of work are done, more men are hired, and some do nothing but read proof, while others do nothing but recopy. Another thing insisted upon in well arranged offices is that all articles be written on one side of the paper only. These two rules, adhered to, are a great assistance to any printer, and often by them hours of unnecessary work are avoided.

When the Freshman class decided to increase this issue of the Journal, the Class Editor requested all members of the class who contributed to the Class Issue to send in their contributions on a uniform sheet of paper, that is, on their regular theme paper, and to write on only one side of the paper. To this request everyone responded, and it is needful to say how it assisted in getting this paper out on the date of issue.

**Who Stole the 100 Copies of the Journal?**

After last week's issue of the Journal had been printed, the sophs spent several toilsome hours in folding and mailing the same. After they had quite completed their task, they departed from the Journal Offices, leaving about 100 copies of the Journal. Not long after, it was discovered that these copies of the Journal had mysteriously disappeared. It has been asserted, by some of the sophs, we suppose, that some of the members of the Freshman Class had stolen the Journals. As a true representative of the Freshman Class, we could not remain silent and allow her fair name to be so maligned.

Before the Class Editor undertook the task of editing this week's issue of the paper he went to the regular Journal Management and ascertained just the conditions under which the classes were to edit the Journal. These conditions were explained to the Freshman Class and no member of the class was ignorant of the fact that the regular Journal Staff still managed the affair. The sense of honor which exists in the Freshman Class would not permit the members to rob the Journal Company. We fear that,—inasmuch as the sophs cannot be taught the difference between mine and thine, and inasmuch as they will, without the consent of the owner, appropriate food belonging to private individuals to their hungry classmates,—the sophomore "class spirit" has led some sophomores to take these papers for distribution to their classmates who desired to send a few copies "down home" and who were too poor to pay the Journal Company for the extra copies.

**Social Life of the Men of Howard**

A great deal has been written about the Howard spirit, but just what this spirit is no one has ever defined. Whatever this spirit may be, it is sufficient to say that the real spirit of the men is what it should be. This is the Howard spirit, but what this spirit is no one has ever defined.

In speaking of this social life we do not mean the part these men take in (Continued on page 9, column 1)

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The Story of a Comedy

The knowledge of the personality of an artist, composer or author of the peculiar circumstances surrounding the appearance of a masterpiece add wonderfully to the enjoyment of it. Somehow it is expected that the general tone of the product will reflect its private history. But as I scanned a creamy old volume of Goldsmith's, "She Stoops to Conquer," with its pictures of beruffled and bewigged gentlemen in their knee breeches and buckled shoes, and of dainty, powdered dames curtseysing at the reader; and as I studied its humorous lines the story of its birth and first appearance did not seem compatible with the comedy itself.

Goldsmith was in sore financial straits at the time he wrote this comedy, and probably for that reason writing seemed a difficult task. In a letter he said: "For the last three months I have been trying to make people laugh. I have been strolling about the hedges, studying jests with a tragic face." The epilogue he re-wrote five times and the name of the comedy he could not decide upon till a few nights before. "She Stoops to Conquer" was presented to the public on the stage. He offered the play to Colman, manager of Covent Garden Theatre, London. Colman kept it for many months, although Goldsmith, nearly distracted from financial difficulties, appealed humbly to him again and again for his decision, even offering to change the play to suit the manager's demands. Only after certain persuasions were brought to bear on Colman by Mr. Samuel Johnson did he consent to produce the play. Not a single piece of scenery nor one new costume would Colman get, and his openly expressed disapproval spread to the actors, who one after another dropped their parts.

On the 15th of March, 1773, however, the play was presented at the Covent Garden Theatre. A party of Goldsmith's friends, including Dr. Johnson, of course, dined at Shakespeare Tavern that evening and went from there to the theatre in a body. They distributed themselves in different parts of the house, determined to make the play a success by the use of prearranged signals for applause and laughter. One worthy old Scotchman with a dim sense of humor came near spoiling all by giving vent to great guffaws at inopportune moments. But such support was not needed, for the audience received the play most kindly and it was an unqualified success. Meanwhile, Goldsmith was wandering up and down the Mall, not daring to venture near the theatre, until a friend came after him near Act V. with the good news. A few days later the play appeared in book form with a dedication to its valuable friend Johnson.

We are glad to know that it was a success financially as well, bringing Goldsmith a much needed five hundred pounds. As it was received by the first audience so it has been received by all audiences since. Dr. Johnson says: "I know of no comedy that has answered so much of the great end of comedy—making an audience merry." The irresistible "Tony," young "Marlow" and the "Hardcastles" never failed to amuse. And so it was that Goldsmith, because he was such a genius, gave us a sparkling comedy that contains not a hint of gloom and in spite of an indifferent public, sordid poverty and adverse criticism, wrested from the hands of fate a brilliant success.

M. Beatrice Smith.

Literary Societies vs. Athletics in Howard University.

Under the caption, "Literary Societies versus Athletics in Howard University," the reader will naturally expect an argument against athletics in this university. But there can be no valid objections to athletics in any university. It is not, therefore, so much the purpose of the writer to condemn athletics as to create interest and enthusiasm in order to give a greater impetus to the literary life here at Howard.

The chief aim of every university is the development of brain, not brawn. But the trend of the times in our universities is toward athletics—toward the development of muscular strength, and the preparation of individuals for vigorous physical exertions and contests. The university to-day is more concerned about the athletes—men who perform some great feat on the gridiron or diamond, rather than about the scholar and the debater, men who represent the literary standard of the university. No one can speak disparagingly of athletics for athletics stand for the physical development and the growth of robust and vigorous bodies. But athletics must not be maintained at the expense of debating and public speaking. To encourage and foster the athletic side in our university life at the expense of the art of public speaking would be to go contrary to the purpose and aim of the university. For the university stands for the culture and development of the brain. Athletics should be subordinated to the higher aims of life. "Every one with anything like an adequate idea of human perfection has distinctly marked this subordination to higher and spiritual ends of the cultivation of bodily vigor and activity." The author of the Epistle of Timothy says just as
The art of public speaking should be considered as important a part of the routine of education as mathematics and English—and infinitely more important than athletics, for the art of public speaking is of such incalculable worth that it might form a necessary part in every scheme of education. Yet it is greatly neglected in this university.

The chief and first cause of this neglect lies, perhaps, in the fallacious notion which prevails among students that speaking and debating are the exclusive business of the barrister and the clergyman—that the art of speaking is a natural gift, and that any attempt on their part to cultivate this art will be a failure. They forget that speaking is an art that can be cultivated just as other arts, the foundation of which is laid by nature, but the entire superstructure of which is the work of learning and labor. It is an accomplishment of laborious practice.

The second cause of this neglect of our literary societies is the failure of the faculty to take the proper interest in the societies and to encourage the societies by their visits and talks. In our athletics we have plenty of interest and encouragement from the faculty. More than that, we have in our athletic council members of the faculty planning and looking after the interests of athletics. But when it comes to our literary societies, which are more important than athletics, it is no little task to get even a visit from members of the faculty. Moreover, there are cases where students have been censured by their teachers because they seem to give too much time to debating; and yet the same teachers will give their consent for a football team to make a month's tour through the south.

You say the football team is a great advertiser for the university? So it is, and the debating team is a greater advertiser for the university. Which was the greater advertiser for Shaw University, her eleven football men, with their brawn and fame, or her three invincible debaters, who, with their brain and oratory, triumphed over Howard? It takes no law student to answer this question. But it does take a wise man to explain why Howard on one hand is so concerned in, and gives so much encouragement to, athletics, and, on the other hand, so utterly neglects her literary societies.

Since we can cultivate this art of speaking, and since we can gain power and ability to think aloud, and to clothe our thoughts in appropriate language, why is it that we neglect public speaking? Is it because we do not see any value in this art that we are so negligent in regard to our literary societies? We have but to follow those students who neglected this part of their education to find that they are not able to stand on their feet and construct a sentence intelligibly or utter it correctly. They want every grace and exhibit every fault of speaking. Now, we do not mean to say that every student can be a great orator; but it is possible for most of us to approach, at least, an average degree of proficiency if we avail ourselves of the many opportunities offered us here at Howard.

We would, therefore, appeal to the students of Howard University to take an active part in our literary societies. We make this appeal, not because of the professional advantages for those who are to be lawyers and preachers, not because we believe that the future of Howard students depends upon their ability to speak, but because it is worth the effort of any student to cultivate a habit of thinking on his feet. It is, at least, worth while for any student to attempt to cultivate what gifts he has. His efforts in this regard can not utterly fail, for if nothing more, he will certainly be improved in the matter of writing compositions. Moreover, he will acquire an extensive knowledge in his research on the different subjects.

THOMAS B. NEELY.

The Modern Freshmen

Evidently the author of “Social Evolution of a Student,” published in the issue of last week, has been a freshman of the old days. If, when the present sophomores were freshmen, it was their custom to demolish their hostess’ furniture and bric-a-brac in their clumsy exits from the parlor, let it be known, to the eternal confusion of all sophomores and to the everlasting glory of all freshmen, that the modern freshmen are masters of all the mysteries of parlor etiquette. They need no four years of strenuous preparation in order to pay a social call. Such things come as natural to them as does the knowledge of their superiority over sophomores. Therefore, while we greatly deplore the ignorance of our friends of the class of ’11 in regard to the intricacies of social etiquette, yet we hope that in the near future they will imitate as well as emulate the example set by their well wishers.

THE MODERN FRESHMAN.

Freshman Social Life

Howard University, with its admirable location and representative student body, offers advantages for the maintenance of the social relations which are so highly prized at most colleges.

Here the freshman woman makes her advent very modestly, unheralded and unknown, consequently she is scarcely recognized, for an interval, at least. The fellows come green, awkward and unacquainted; consequently they too are, for an interval at the mercy of those above them.” Fortunately, however, this
unhappy interval has been of but short duration this session, and in this respect "Ye Freshmen" boast of quite an enviable record. Under the guardianship of several kindly-disposed and interested professors and the matron of the Miner Hall, the Freshmen breaking asunder the bonds of formality and tradition have commingled extensively both among themselves and among those of other classes and departments. This happy condition, we must admit, has been seriously hindered by the seemingly determined and concerted opposition of the so-called Miner Hall "smart set," which opposition, however, is being gradually overcome.

The social life is quite a pleasing and potent feature of any so-called feature of any co-educational college, and as such should be carefully fostered. As a class issue it is productive of pride, friendly rivalry and harmony. Accordingly, the present freshman class has founded several literary organizations, given a creditable banquet, inaugurated the regular Saturday strolls, and given several stags. The results have been a just compensation for the trouble involved, and at this date quite a large majority of the gallant chaps have won favor at the hands of their fair "co-eds" and are as one, resolved to play havoc with that lonesomest monopoly of "Medics" and "Preps."

A FRESHMAN.

The Saturday Walks

Every Saturday morning the "freshmen" assembly in front of Miner Hall to take the weekly cross-country walk. After a few college yells and class songs their walk begins. No paths are sought, nor are the regular roads, but the way is chosen regardless of condition—up hill and down again, across branches, through briars and mud, and wandering through woods, to the end of narrow, almost untrod paths, after the manner of explorers. After walking about five miles the class returns by a different way. Many times this way proves to be a very round-about road. If, perchance, they come upon a little country store, lunch is procured and brought home to be served in picnic style. After the lunch, which lasts about an hour, not because they have so much to eat, but because there is so much to talk about, the class song is sung and the boys depart in high spirits. When the weather is unsettled instead of a cross-country walk a visit is made to one of the public buildings. These walks are very enjoyable as well as instructive. The fresh air and the exercise physically, the observations of the soil, the trees and different phases of nature aids mentally.

The Joys of the Road

AS REVEALED BY ONE TYPE OF TRAMPS.

There is a class of tramps upon whom we can never look with the eye of disgust or eye of pity. These tramps are neither indifferent to the natural demands or claims of society, nor crushed by the reverses of fortune. These men, because of their great intellects, vivid imagination, strong feelings and hearty good will to all, feel themselves the brothers of all—naturally, the wide, wide world is home. They are identified with all the useful walks of life. Like the birds of the air, they migrate when the whisperings of nature are strong and insistent. Among this class we find the musician, the poet, and the painter, who tramp through the beautiful valley, along the river's bank and up the mountainside.

"All the seaboard knows them, From Fundy to the Keys; Every bend and every creek Of abundant Chesapeake; Ardise hills and Newport coves, And the far-off orange groves, Where Floridian oceans break, Tropic tiger seas."

It is through this type of tramps that we can learn to appreciate the pleasures of vagrancy. Through their songs, their poems, and their very lives we can taste with them the joys of the wandering life of the primordial state. Though housed in the city we can with them feel the purely animal pleasure, the sense of well-being and the tingle and thrill of every single inhalation that come from being out in the open with the blue sky overhead and the green turf beneath our feet.

"And this, our life, exempt from public haunt, Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, Sermons in stones, and good in everything."

With Burns we can drink in the beauty of a spring morning; with Wordsworth we can gather exquisite posies and read the meaning of every single flower; and with London we can even hear the luring of the wild. "We can listen, as did Bach, to the soul-thrilling symphonies of nature; or can catch, as did Joseph Turner, the brightness of the skies." Then, like Stevenson, out in the open, under the canopies of heaven, we can fall into a "living slumber."

"Whose furthest footsteps never strayed Beyond the village of his birth, Is but a lodger for the night In this old way-side inn of earth." NELLIE M. QUANDER.

My First Day at Howard University

My first day at Howard University is crowded with many confusing incidents. With my friends I reached the top of the hill breathless and expectant, then hurried to the Main Building. Soon we discovered that we were obliged to climb a countless number of dusty steps to reach the office of the Dean.
The College of Arts and Sciences. Since this college is filled with the learned and the wise it is elevated above the lowly “Preps” and the Commercial College. Conscious of our importance we made a dignified ascent only to reach the top panting and exhausted. On our way up we met strange faces with dazed expressions which we hoped were not reflected in ours.

Finally we reached the Dean’s office and were welcomed by him. But to our dismay we were sent back down those same dusty flights to the office to register. Unwillingly we parted with our registration fee and endeavored to answer the many questions printed on our registration cards. We contrived to concentrate our thoughts long enough to discover that the date of our birth was not 1900 as the card seemed to indicate. We were obliged to remember the number of schools which we had attended and the length of time spent at each. This was embarrassing to some to say the least. We had forgotten to bring our diplomas to present to the Dean, but the other freshmen had not. The diplomas were there in scores, wrapped in inconceivable ways which the proud owners had devised to disguise the real contents of the bundle. Some students were holding their diplomas in clenched hands as if afraid some one might steal them and leave them in lurch.

Everywhere the sophomores, juniors and seniors, with smiling faces, were shaking hands as if they had not met in years. They all seemed to be acquainted and were jubilant and gleeful in comparison with the solemn freshman. The latter and the professors were the only serious looking people in evidence. Our group tried to assume the self-satisfied air of the “sops,” but I fear we did not succeed for I heard some one on glancing at us remark, “They are freshmen.” All that I can recall out of the rest of the day is a severe headache from climbing dusty steps and inky fingers from signing so many important papers; the remainder is a hopeless blank which I expect to fill in when pleasant reminiscences have been dissociated from the confusing details of that momentous day.

The Speaker’s Political Power

The Speaker of the House of Representatives has a political power almost unlimited. Next to the President of the United States he is the most important man in the political world. He it is who controls nearly every important move in the business of Congress.

This great power of the Speaker is secured in several ways. In the first place, it is his duty to his party that he prefer those of his side in calling upon members to speak. He also decides in their favor all points not distinctly covered by the rules of order. It is, therefore, not difficult to see what an advantage is thus secured by the party to which the Speaker belongs. By reason of such privileges, no matter of importance can be introduced by the opposite party unless it is the will of the Speaker. But if by chance come before the House, the Speaker can postpone it or advance it in a way which determines its fate.

His greatest power, however, is secured by naming the members of the numerous standing committees and the chairman of each. Since practically all the business of the House is transacted in these committees, the Speaker may by judicious foresight place the direction of this business in hands approved by himself. The chairman of each of these committees is, of course, always selected from the party which commands the House, and the committee itself is so composed as to give that party a majority. The Speaker’s distribution of members among the committees is, next to his own election, the most critical point in the history of a congress, and that watched with the most interest. He is, however, not free in disposing such places. His election has been secured by promises of these positions to leading members and friends; and while he must redeem these promises he must not override the wishes of certain men, and must compliment particular States by giving a place on good committees to their prominent representatives, and must also avoid nominations which could alarm popular interests.

Although expected to serve his party in all possible directions, he must not resort to all possible means. He is required to give a certain amount of fairness to his opponents in the formation of committees and conduct of debate. Though he may decide all possible points against them, he must not interpret the rules of the House to their disadvantage. These conditions surround the exercise of his power with trouble and anxiety. An instance showing the dissatisfaction caused by the Speaker’s methods is a speech recently delivered by Representative Hepburn. In this speech he assailed the methods practiced by the Speaker. He asserted that if the people knew the exact state of affairs in the House, and the power arrogated by the Speaker and the Committee on Rules, there would be agitation that would force the leaders to consent to radical changes in procedure.

The Speaker has power which, in the hands of a capable and ambitious man becomes so far-reaching that it is no exaggeration to call him the second, if not the first, political figure in the United States. He has an influence upon the fortunes of men, and the course of domestic events, superior, in ordinary times to that of the President, although of shorter duration and less observed by the world.
the social functions in which both men and women participate, we do not mean the superfluous time spent by the men in standing around the campus, nor do we mean the part these men take in the pleasures of the city; but we do mean the life of men among men and the friendship resulting therefrom.

The present condition is brought about first by the failure of the men to get together more often, and secondly because there is not sufficient room in the dormitory for the accommodation of the entire male student body.

In this University, just as in others, there should be large reading and assembly rooms, equipped with desks and tables, where students might read, write, and play some innocent games for their amusement. In these rooms students might tell of their experiences and discuss the topics of the day. In this way they would know their fellow students better and derive much benefit from this good fellowship. There would be some incentive for remaining on the hill after school hours and there would no longer be reason for searching through the city for men; they would be on the hill.

Again, there is not sufficient room for the accommodation of all these men and as a result they live all over the city. If they could be brought together in a large dormitory under rules made for men, the good results would be almost unparalleled. The large number of studious men would unconsciously exercise their influence over the careless fellows and the quality of moral, physical, and spiritual life would be raised. What a student wants is some homelike place and this he will seek; yet in his seeking, he often goes wrong. But if the University possessed large homelike dormitories, this long desired relief would be at hand.

The consequence of these assembly and reading rooms and these homelike halls would do much toward bringing to a reality the much talked of idealism among the students. The spirit would be unequalled. The Howard songs which some of the poetic students compose would be just as dear to these men of Howard as students as the Star Spangled Banner is to the American people.

It was our intention to devote all space in this issue to articles written by Freshmen only. Space is here given to an article concerning a gift by the Council of Upper Classmen which the general management was anxious to have publi-

The Fifty Dollar Gift of the Council

In the announcement of the Council for the present scholastic year, we stated that the purpose of the organization was to create, foster, and cement the bonds of lasting friendship and fellowship between the various departments of the university. That part of our original project has been accomplished cannot be gainsaid. But we further stated that three gold prizes would be given this school year to the young men writing the best theses on any subject selected by the faculty. One of said prize was to go to each of the degree departments.

This year we have striven earnestly to rid the minds of some that the Council is a social organization; and at the same time to make some manifestation in the concrete of our purpose. We therefore decided to give the above named prizes. But after long, serious, and earnest consideration on this project, it was evident that the proposition of giving prizes for theses, for this year at least, would have to be relegated to the fields of more conjecture. We saw that the multiplicity of difficulties surrounding this scheme would lead to bitter departmental feuds.

Another plan, however, presented itself, and without one dissenting vote, the sum of fifty dollars was voted to be presented to the President of the University as part of the Council's contribution to the Funds needed Library fund. This amount we hope and intend to increase to one hundred dollars before the end of the year.

We hope that those who are to take up this work after we have gone forth from here will continue what we have labored so strenuously to establish. We expect to arrange this contribution that after the building is completed, the Council's annual contribution will take the form of statuary, bearing the name of the Council of Upper Classmen of Howard University.

"The Freshman Stag"

In last week's issue of the Journal an article appeared with the above heading which is here quoted. We cannot see what possessed the writer to think of publishing such an article. It has been the intention of the Journal Staff to publish items concerning actual occurrences. Of "the Freshman Stag" nobody in the Freshman Class knows anything whatsoever, and it could have existed nowhere but in the abberation of the sophomore who wrote it. The minutes of the class fail to show that any such entertainment was ever presented for consideration. No member of the Freshman Class can be found who has the slightest knowledge of even an assembling of "a representative bunch of Prof. Kelly Miller's Freshmen on the eve of Lincoln Centenary." We had decided to let this article pass unnoticed; but for the general information of the readers of the Journal, however, we decided to make the correction.

PERSONALS

Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Terry have the "Howard Spirit!"

Mr. Neely and Mr. Doggett are interested in zoology: they are now studying the Swann.

A certain young lady in the Sophomore Class visited the printing office last week and claimed that she could set type. After she had given all material and assigned a case, she stood for some time, then exclaimed, "My where are all the other letters in this case, I can't find anything but the B H J.

We notice that Cook is still carrying baskets of fruit to Miner Hall. We hope that they are not all returned filled with lemons.

Isn't it queer that "Tabby," "Herriot" and "Happy" are such friendly rivals? Who bought the Lawneys?

The young 1-Ly in the Commercial College is sure that "Rah" meant a." that he said in the letter.

A certain young lady in the Freshman Class told "Charlie," that she thought "Al" was on the job to day. Well, I guess that substitutes some.

It is said that "History repeats itself," a second French Revolution has just come to pass. Thirteen have already been sent to the guillotine.

Did "Arnett" really mean to do any harm last Saturday?

Look out J. B. The fair damsel says she's a real friend of "French".

The Freshmen intend giving a banquet shortly; all hungry "Sophs" are most cordially invited.

All of the Sophomores have ordered one of the Howard Seals, but each one of the freshmen have ordered one.
The Providential Element in Lincoln's life

At the Vesper services on last Sunday, President Thirkield delivered an inspiring address on "The Providential Element in Lincoln's Life." The President having shown how Lincoln was surrounded by discouraging environments, said in part:

"Leaving the beaten path, let us for these moments dwell upon the consideration of what I may call the predestined, providential, and providential element in the Life of Lincoln.

"The burden of a mission; the consciousness of a career, as if predestined, like a prophetic note, came out in Lincoln's life. It seems to hold large place, as were, in his sub-conscious mind. Ever and anon it emerges. Through acts and utterances, vocation and ambitions, the note of the predestined and prophetic sounds forth.

"Even in the backwoods he seemed urged on by aspirations and out-reachings of soul utterly unshared by those about him. Who will say that even then he saw not a star that marked his way? that he heard not prophetic voices urging him on?

"Ages ago another leader and emancipator of men saw God in the burning bush and heard his voice. To the God-conscious soul, every common bush is yet on fire with God, and Jehovah speaks to souls attuned to righteousness, and

justice and truth, eternal attributes of his nature.

"In the Lincoln Douglas Debate, Lincoln had a vision deepening his conviction, beyond his time. To his political advisers he submitted the fateful proposition that this country cannot permanently endure half slave and half free. He also proposed to put the question to Douglas as to the exclusion of slavery from any territory. Every politician, knowing the adroitness of his opponent, advised against and warned him that it would make Douglas senator. "Perhaps," rejoined Lincoln, with prophetic ken, "but I am after larger game. The battle of 1860 is worth a hundred of this." When urged to introduce witty anecdotes to gain the popular applause, which Douglas courted, this masterful story-teller said, "The occasion is too serious. The issues are too grave. I do not seek applause to win the people, but to convince them.

"His friend observed, also, a growing seriousness in the man. He moved and spoke among the people, combining in his tenderness and stern righteousness the qualities of Hesec and Anos—those fore tellers of truth and preachers of righteousness among the people of Israel. Describing Lincoln in the great debate, Mr. Horace White has said that as he proceeded he seemed rapt like one inspired, and moved his audiences as if some power outside himself was speaking through him. His hearers say that his eye at times glowed as with fire and his countenance shown with an unearthly light. He sometimes seemed to forget his audience, with a far-away look, his vision swept beyond the people.

"In his supreme act of emancipation, what he said to his cabinet might have been put in the word of Paul, that this document in substance was "not of man nor through man but by revelation of God." And so in others of the greatest concerns of Government he asked no advice, and as we view all the years, as one has said, he acted like one who held a brief from the Almighty for the peace and security of the nation and the liberation of millions from the law of God, and was only waiting about till the time came for God's plan to be carried out. And so it is that Lincoln stands forth as a transfigured man, as the prophet of God, and the commissioned leader of men."

Congratulations to the Alpha Phi

As an old member of more than a score of years of the Alpha Phi Society, I feel compelled to congratulate the present membership of that body upon the good judgment displayed in having scholarly men occasionally invited to address the society.

The splendid address of Prof. Wm. H. Ferris, A. M., upon "The Ten Greatest Orators Presented in History," was a veritable feast of reason and flow of soul. Such utterances by learned professional representatives of the culture of the oldest universities in our country serve to inspire the student body with correct and lofty ideals of life and service and furnish concrete examples of capacity and character which are of estimable value to university students seeking in books preparation for a large and useful career in that practical life of the every day world. It would be a great gain for Howard University if Prof. Wm. H. Ferris could be added to the teaching corps of the College of Liberal Arts. He would add the rife scholarship and deep culture of Harvard and Yale to that of Howard and Pennsylvania and Dartmouth and Cornell.

(PROF.) WM. H. H. HART

Comment Vous Portez-Vous?"

A grave old senior in the library sat,
With books around him piled;
Absorbed was he in deepest thought
And by strange dreams beguiled.
Many an hour had he spent,
His work was almost through,
When a stolid junior passed him by,
With a "Comment vous portez-vous?"

This grave old senior glanced around,
Expressed his thoughts in looks,
He did not want to be disturbed
So went back to his books.
He now felt free to work in peace,
But this was not quite true,
A frivolous sophomore soon passed by
With a "Comment vous portez-vous?"

Once more he from his studies looked,
And said with meaning air,"I will not speak to any one,
Though fairest of the fair," So straightway he began to dig.
Although he felt quite blue,
When a gay young freshman greeted him,
With a "Comment vous portez-vous?"

This time he peeped from 'neath his brows
And beheld a beautiful girl,
Her face was radiant with youth,
And surmounted by a curl.
This grave old senior gazed at her,
And just like me or you,
Retumed her salutation with,
"Très bien, mademoiselle; comment vous portez-vous?"

MORAL

Though a senior may be digging,
And will not stop for worlds,
He may be easily captivated
By one of the freshman girls. E. F. P.
Announcement

Today, at Chapel, Dr. Thirkield announced that the proposed appropriation by Congress for the long needed modern science hall was, at a late hour last night stricken out. However, an appropriation of $93,000 for buildings and repairs was voted.

And I Never Will Be

When I see a soph with his pants turned up and his beautiful rocks on view,
And over one eye perched a little round hat with a ribbon of orange or black,
And the fourteen rings and the seven pins that he got at his dear prep school,
Why, it strikes a chord, and I say: "O Lord, never was I that big a fool."
When I see a soph with his gloves turned down and a cigarette stuck in his face,
And a loud check coat and a horse-cloth vest and a half an inch wide shoe lace,
And a bunch of hair that hides his ears, and a line of senseless droll,
Then I paw the sword as I say: "O Lord, never was I that big a fool."
Ex.

A pessimist is the guy that always thinks of the morning after.

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