THE PLEDGE
(In an informal competition held in connection with the work in English in the Sophomore class, this story was awarded the second prize.)

If aught but death part thee and me," Ruth had repeated softly.

Class Day at the New England Woman's College was over. Near the chapel there could be seen a tired Junior piloting tardy visitors about the grounds. Groups of merry, white-robed undergraduates, with arms entwined, girl-fashion, strolled over the rapidly darkening campus. The two seniors, still dressed in caps and gowns, sat quietly in their room and smiled sad little smiles at each other as they heard the happy laughter sounding beneath the window.

They had been talking of their futures, these two seniors, and thinking sadly of the partings on the morrow.

"It will be the beginning of the end," Alice had said, passionately; "Our beautiful friendship will come to nothing."

But Ruth had hushed her quickly. The beautiful words of the other Ruth had come, unbidden, to her lips, and Alice had repeated them after her, softly, fearfully. "Thy people shall be my people"—"If aught but Death part thee and me."

The girls clung to each other in silence. The laughing on the campus had ceased. The Glee Club, on the Chapel steps, began to sing. Soft and clear and sweet sounded the girlish voices. Ruth thought of the four happy years just ending, years during which she had come to love Alice, her dark-eyed, pure-souled Alice, as she loved no one save her widowed

Interscholastic Debate
Academy Wins From M Street

In a closely contested debate at the Metropolitan A. M. E. Church under the auspices of the Eureka Literary Society of Howard University Academy, the M Street High School team was defeated by the Academy team. Fully 500 people witnessed the contest and were really held in suspense until the Hon. Archibald H. Grimke announced the decision of the judges.

DIRECT ELECTION OF SENATORS

The Academy boys defended the affirmative and the M Street boys the negative of the subject, Resolved: "That United States Senators should be elected by the direct vote of the people." An interesting musical program by the University Orchestra relieved the intense strain on the audience.

TRIANGULAR DEBATE TO-NIGHT

Blue and White Ready

The "Blue and White" forensic artists will try to capture once more the Triangular League Debate honours. When they meet the debaters from Atlanta University in Rankin Memorial Chapel and the Fisk University team in Fisk Memorial Chapel at Nashville in the annual debate. The question to be discussed is "Initiative and Referendum." Three debates will be held simultaneously on this question tonight at Washington, Atlanta and Nashville. Each school will defend the affirmative side of the question at "home" and the negative away from "home." At

BATTLESHIP AND SCHOOLHOUSES

In his address at the great banquet to Senator Gal-linger, at Washington, at which President Taft, Secretary Root and others spoke, President Wilbur P. Thirkeld of Howard University responded to the toast, "Battleships and Schoolhouses". He said in part, that a Congressman had proposed that for three millions, we should build a dreadnought, and enblazon her with the name "Skeered o' Nothing," but Lincoln saw, with prophetic ken, that our gravest problems and perils are not without, but within that "as a nation of free men, we must live through all times, or die by suicide".

"Grave and far-reaching are the problems of the Republic; world embracing, our opportunity. The battleship cannot solve these problems; the schoolhouse and college can. With enough gun-boats to police our shores, rather than forty more battleships for eighty millions, to plow the seas and tempt the devils of war, give us eighty millions to equip and strengthen the institutions of learning in forty states of the Union. After all, it is not the gun, but the man behind the gun that commands the world's homage and makes the Union invincible.

"Spain had the ships and the guns, but drew her defenders and warriors from a population, 68 per cent of whom are illiterate, and the guns would not hit the mark. It is the man of trained powers, the man of disciplined brain and will, dauntless and firm before the foe, who aims steady
and hits the bull’s eye every time. Powers tested in school, mental and moral sinews hardened give forth the American Hobson and his band of heroes. Wild-eyed in visions of war, and hot on his Hobson’s hobby for battleships, he may appear, yet may we never forget his deathless deed of heroism for his country, and his example of high-souled valor that clutches the heart of American youth. The nerves of such a man may tremble, but the soul of patriotism carries him on in the teeth of the guns.

"With Senator Gallinger, we agree that it is the school and the moral forces of the Republic we must bring to bear on the grave problems we face. Think of the migration of a million a year to our shores. No longer kindred peoples—Teutons, Saxons, Celts, of Northern Europe, but the Slavs and Semites, the 'Huns and Vandals' of Southern Europe; of this million, 230,000 illiterate, 430,000 unskilled. On they come with their blood hatreds and race hostilities.

"America is 'God's crucible,' the great melting pot, where all the races of Europe are meeting and reforming. Our civilization will be to these either the fires of God, refining, chastening, purifying,—or the fires of Hell, destroying, corrupting, damning these alien masses before they can be Americanized.

"Your battleships will not stop them. The schoolhouse must open to them and train them for citizenship, else the cities into which they are massing these ignorant aliens will be overwhelmed as was home. Even now the warning of Wendell Phillips is solemn and prophetic: 'Our cities will yet strain our Republic as slavery never did.' And face to face with appalling illiteracy and battered ballots, even in Ohio, there is given awful meaning to that other word of Phillips: 'An ignorant ballot is the winding sheet of liberty.'

Let education, therefore, as the Senator-statesman pleads, be made a national function. Place it alongside of the army and navy. Let it rank along with internal improvements as a basal function of the Government. The conservation of forests and water power is good. Conservation and development of manhood is better.

I am here also to utter the gratitude of nearly one-third of the people of the District, a race also representing every ninth soul of the Republic, for the constant and generous interest of Senator Gallinger in the equipment and work not only of the common schools, but of Howard University, the only institution where the Government directly touches the education of the American Negro.

With a large spirit of humanity Senator Gallinger joins the President, I may say, in the expressed conviction that this institution is the partial payment of a debt to a race to which the Government and the people of the United States are eternally indebted; that it is an obligation of the Government to an institution, which shall work out in the end, the solution of one of the great problems that God has put upon the people of the United States. It stands for the education of a race which through no fault of its own, is a part of our Anglo-Saxon civilization, and must measure up to its duties and responsibilities, or be doomed. They are American in spirit and ideals; not anarchist or socialists; not strikers or avengers. There are no black hand societies among black men. For the training of the teachers, physicians, and the intellectual, moral, and industrial leaders and helpers of this race, Howard University stands.

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THE PLEDGE
Continued from Page 1. Column 1

father. And Alice thought of many things, of Ruth's father, the proud, impetuous Southern gentleman, of Ruth herself, fair and sweet and gracious, soon to become the mistress of her father's rich home. Then her thoughts crept to her own home, her people, herself.

The Glee Club had wandered away. The Campus was still.

Alice suddenly slipped from her friend's arms and stood before her.

"Ruth," she said, unsteadily, "I have something to tell you—no, don't interrupt me—something that I should have told you long ago. But—O Ruth, Ruth! I couldn't tell you before! After we, utter strangers, had been drawn to each other so swiftly and so surely, how could I break that friendship which our very natures demanded? These years have been the happiest of my life, though I have spent them under a dark shadow, deceptively, dishonorably. Yet I have spoken no untruth. You have considered me merely reserved about my friends, Our poverty, you thought, kept me from inviting you to my home. Ruth, I am not poor my father is almost as wealthy as yours. Next fall, I am to begin a school for my poor people, those whom I denied in failing to tell you that I am the daughter of a Negro."

There was silence in the small room. Alice was on her knees

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TRIANGULAR DEBATE

(Continued from page 1, column 2)

Washington the varsity will uphold the question with the Atlantans on the offensive. At Nashville our other team will argue against Fisk's affirmative advocates. The debates will prove very interesting.

Last year was the first year of the league and Howard took the honors and all indications point to a repetition of the past performances. The men were selected from a large field and every one is a "good man." Messrs. Curley, Jackson and McMorris compose the affirmative side and will debate against Fisk, while Messrs. Kelly, Washington and Wimberly compose the negative team and will debate here.

The question again arises, "Will we win again?" We firmly believe that our debaters will again carry the day. Jackson, Washington and McMorris are veterans and their forensic qualities are well known. Kelly, although this is his first year on the varsity was an alternate last year and has been recognized throughout his college career as an able debater. Curley and Wimberly are the "finds" of the season. We have every reason to believe that they have the staying qualities and debating ability. At the final rehearsal before the Committee of the Faculty last Monday all these men showed up excellently.

When the presiding officer calls for the "first speaker on the affirmative" here and for the "first speaker on the negative" at Nashville we know our boys will be ready.

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BASEBALL SEASON OPENS

April Fool for Annapolis

For the first time in recent history the home boys defeated the Annapolis Grays Saturday last in a 3 to 2 game. The game was interesting because "Kid" Brice, formerly of the visiting team, pitched under the blue and white. Brice has always taken the Howard boys into camp for Annapolis and his work in the box excited much interest. The "Kid" played clean ball however, the thing that makes athletics worthwhile. Annapolis has always had a good team and the home boys consider a team in good condition when it defeats Annapolis. Although the home boys battled well, Brice's pitching was necessary to hold the visitors down and this he did by striking out 16 men.

CHANDLER SCORES FIRST RUN

"Chief" Chandler was the first to cross the plate this season. Having stole second and advanced to third on a sacrifice, he came home on Captain "Hutty" Oliver's single. Hutty played a good game and set a pace for his team by hitting 3 out of 4 times up.

JONES GETS A HOMER

First baseman Jones of Atlanta has made good. He attracted the rabble's attention by his work on the initial bag but completely won them by lining out the first home run of the season.

TEAM IN GOOD CONDITION

Manager Bell, Captain Oliver and Coach Marshall have been working hard in spite of bad weather and have rounded the team into very good form. The infield work is better than it was last year while the team is batting better than usual.

Batteries: Howard; Gray and Brice. Annapolis; Brice, Queen and Dogans. Umpire "Jap" Brown.

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TAILORS AND DRAPERS
ARE YOU A GENTLEMAN?

In another column will be found an article on "Politeness" from the editorial columns of the February "Crisis." There is little hesitancy on the part of colored or white men to give up seats in the street car to women of their respective races. It is a debatable question with both as to whether or not they should extend the same courtesy to women of the other race. We heartily concur in the judgment that no gentleman can withhold courtesy and politeness to any woman, be she white or black.

THE LIFE OF BEATRICE FAIRFAX A CALL TO YOUNG WOMEN

The death of Beatrice Fairfax is not only an irreparable loss to the New York Journal but also to the nation at large. This woman's soothing, charming philosophy has smoothed a wrinkle from many a care-worn brow and has lightened the burden of many a weary soul. Her work showed to the world a wealth of mind and a love for humanity. Her success should stimulate some of our young women to take the pen and through the influence of their broad training and noble life to mould sentiment in all that makes for the sweetness of life and the striving after perfection.

MRS. MARY CHURCH TERREL IN BOSTON

Mrs. Mary Church Terrel of the board of education delivered an address before the third annual conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Boston on March 30, 1911. Her subject was Federal Aid to Education. She delivered an address Wednesday before the Calhoun Club, which is composed of some the most prominent and wealthy women in Boston. Mrs. Terrel is undoubtedly one of the foremost women of the race. Her lectures have been delivered to the best audiences in the most enlightened centres of this country and they have always brought forth expressions of great praise from those whose opinions count in making up an estimate of the worth of those engaged in public life.

PRESIDENT THIRKIELD CARRIES HOWARD ALONG

Presidents Thirkield's toast, "Battleships and Schoolhouses" delivered at the banquet of Senator Gallinger at which many of the great forces of this nation were assembled, was made on an occasion of great significance. It means something for our President to be able to take Howard University to those people who are in position to help us. The first step is to get them to listen and to learn something about us. When these men of great interests and heavy burdens become convinced that we are really accomplishing something, when they realize that we are making a desperate effort to help ourselves, they will lend us a strong hand. These big men are too busy to get up to Howard often, then why not take Howard to them? This is what Dr. Thirkield is doing. He is on the right track and we appreciate his activity in keeping us before the public men whose disposition toward the University means much for its progress.

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The Yale News has published a list of the members of the Freshman Class who have won honorable mention in their school work for the last semester. The mark of each student is actually given in this list. This seems to be a good idea, but it is so seldom that we can get our marks. Even is it true that the upper classmen have much difficulty in securing their marks. A student's standing in a school is too important a matter to trifle with. The holding back of marks or the failure to report them at all causes serious trouble when a man is counting up credits for graduation. Often he finds that he is being held for some work marked incomplete during his first year. Students should not be allowed to carry conditions beyond the Sophomore class or beyond the second year in the secondary schools of this University, and they would not carry these burdens on through the year if they could find out by the record that they have such conditions. After the examinations are held the papers should be corrected and the marks given to the dean in order that they could furnish a student his record at anytime necessity demands it. Do not play with a man's future; but let him know what he has done, and if his work has not been satisfactory tell him to do it over. Make the student do his work, but see that the rule measures both ways.

We would be glad to publish such a list if the deans of the several departments would be kind enough to favor the Journal Company with such a record.

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INTERSCHOLASTIC DEBATE

(Continued from page 1, column 2)

caused by the forceful arguments presented by the teams. Following Invocation by Dean Cummings of the Academy and brief remarks by Mr. Thomas C. Brown, President of the Eureka Literary Society, the battle was on. Mr. George E. Hall, first speaker on the affirmative, came forth amid the shouts and clamors of the loyal Howardites led by Binga Desmond. Mr. Hall laid the question before the judges, gave a brief history of it and the contentions of his side, declaring in substance that the question is a vital issue in American politics and showing from history that it is no radical issue but old as the Constitution itself.

Having set forth these five propositions, first, that the people demand a change; second, the plan should make deadlocks impossible; third, it would reduce bribery; fourth, it would make the Senate a more effective body; fifth, it is more consistent with democratic government, he showed in his contention that the government rests upon the will of the people and that this same idea was in the minds of the framers of the Constitution and further that the Fathers lived up to this rule which they established. "Then" said he, "the just demands of the people should prevail and to disregard them means to break down the government."

First Negative

Mr. Fred D. Malone opened the negative argument by setting forth six conditions; first, that the direct election of United States Senators would violate the Constitution; second, State legislatures are better adapted to elect senators than the people; third, the condition of politics forbids such election; fourth, popular election would change the character of the Senate; fifth, the temperament of the American people forbids; sixth, it is unnecessary to pass an amendment. Mr. Malone supported the first two contentions and showed that this is the first serious step to break down the Constitution. He further cited the personnel of the Constitutional Convention, showing the seriousness and weight behind every article in it, claiming in addition, that the principle of representation is a fundamental one and it would be dangerous to break down such a grave principle. In his second contention, he maintained that conventions for the election of senators would enable millionaires to buy the much coveted honor and finally the state legislatures are better prepared than unwieldy, nondescript, popular electorate.

Second Affirmative

Mr. Charles R. Humbert, by way of rebuttal, argued that human nature has changed and because a certain condition was so in 1787 is no reason that it exists today. In his main argument he maintained that deadlock would be impossible. Having explained the dead lock and the causes for it, he claimed that deadlocks and election of senators by state legislatures are coexistent.

Again the chances for corruption would be greatly diminished. In state legislatures, trusts and millionaires could buy them out behind closed doors but such would be impossible in a popular convention because it would be hard to bribe the people.

Second Negative

Mr. Freeman argued that the condition of the United States politics forbids, because popular government has given rise to corruption and popular election would open another avenue for the po-

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Mr. Hayes was the only negative speaker in rebuttal but all the Academy boys came back strong. This was due to a misunderstanding in the argument, which led M Street to train only one man in rebuttal. Mr. Hayes was allowed ten minutes while the affirmative speakers had five each.

**Teams Well Trained**

Miss Annie Barker and Mr. Earnest Pollard, instructors in English in the Academy, trained the University boys, and the results of their efforts was noted in the clear, concise, forceful presentation of the argument. Miss Barker has been instructor in English in the Academy many years and has a reputation for turning out good English students. Mr. Pollard, a recent graduate of the College of Arts and Sciences, upheld Howard's fair name at Wilberforce last year, is considered a good debater. M. Street men, especially Mr. Hayes, were full of the subject and showed the results of careful research and good training.

Much credit is due Mr. H. C. Brown, President of the Eureka Literary Society, who worked so hard to bring about the contest, a project that has been attempted often. Mr. Brown entered the field personally to dispose of tickets and he exerted every effort to make the affair a success and a credit to both schools.

Mr. Juan E. Sanchez, President of M. St. Literary Society, a former Howard man, was on the rostrum, and has been associated with Mr. Brown in managing the contest.

Desmond's Quartette, Messrs. Howard, Preston, Koger and Jackson, deserve honorable mention for the splendid musical selections they rendered in the yelling contest between the two rabble, and the support rendered by the Howard rabble must have been felt by the Academy team. M. St. had no alternate, but Mr. James W. Jackson was prepared to support any Academy speaker in case of accident.

The Eureka is deeply indebted to the judges; Hon. A. H. Grimke, Hon. H. L. Johnson and Rev. Dr. I. N. Ross, and the timers, Mr. Garnet C. Wilkerson and Walter Dyson.

**Vesper Services**

The usual large audience that has marked the Vesper Services this year was treated last Sunday to a service of unusual interest. The sermon was delivered by President Thirkield. His address was eloquent and practical and everyone left feeling inspired. Secretary Knowles Cooper of the Central Y. M. C. A. was present and led in prayer.

The "trio" by Misses Childers, our director of music, Thomas and Alexander was sung with wonderful effect. Their voices blended as one, each note being brought out to its fullness, round and sweet. It was very beautifully sung. We hope to hear those three voices in other selections from time to time.

We hope that a larger number of students will attend these services. There is no exercises in the University from which we can derive greater benefit. The public is always cordially invited to attend these services on Sunday afternoon.—C. H. G.

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THE FRESHMAN BANQUET

On Friday Evening evening March 24, the Freshmen Class of the School of Liberal Arts, gave its first formal banquet. The loyal Freshmen together with the President of the University and several members of the faculty assembled in the Library Hall at 8 p.m. and witnessed a very interesting program rendered by the members of the class.

After the rendition of the program, the President of the class, Mr. Wm. H. Harper, made a few remarks and the class and the guests retired to Miner Hall where they found an elaborately decorated dining room. After the singing of the Class Song and a few words of welcome by the President of the class, all seated themselves at the beautifully decorated tables which were arranged in the form of an “F” and partook of the first class menu.

In the midst of the most enjoyable part of the evening, the class was interrupted by the cry “The Sophs have taken the ice cream.” At a signal of the Yell Leader, the invincible Freshmen immediately rushed forth and to the disappointment of the President, the invincible Freshmen together with the School of Liberal Arts, gave its first formal banquet. The hoyden.s and Sophs, recovered the ice cream untouched.

The banquet then proceeded uninterupted as the deans and invited guests enlivened the occasion with their witty toasts. At eleven-thirty the banquet was brought to a close, and all retired expressing themselves as having spent a very pleasant evening.

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DRAMATIC CLUB ENTERTAINED

The young men of the Howard College Dramatic Club which recently presented the “Merry Wives of Windsor” at the Howard Theatre were entertained at the home of Mr. Wm. Gilbert on Saturday night, March 25. The earlier part of the evening was spent in various amusements and later on a menu consisting of oyster patties, potato salad, sandwiches, ice cream, cake, punch and mints was served.

This year marks the third successful season of the Dramatic Club. Beginning as a class organization, it now embraces members of all classes in the College Department. The aim of the organization is to produce each year a classic play. In 1908 under the direction of Mr. E. E. Just, Goldsmith’s “She Stoops to Conquer” was presented. The next year Richard Sheridan’s “Rivals” was successfully played under the direction of Professor B. G. Brawley.

The financial successes during the three years have been due in a large measure to the business manager, Mr. Wm. Gilbert. The literary efforts as shown in these productions have won for the Dramatic Club a wide reputation and a permanent place among University organizations.

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POLITELESS

There are two situations where it is hard to be courteous: when courtesy involves public condemnation; and when courtesy is demanded by the discourteous. The first is the problem of the white American, the second is the dilemma of the black American. Shall you rise in a street car and give that colored woman a seat, Mr. O’Brien, despite the grins and comments of your fellows? And you, Mr. Johnson, shall you surrender your seat to the white woman whose manner toward you is a personal insult? Yes—yes, in both cases, yes, with a full realization of the cost. A raised hat, or a title of courtesy in the South by any white man to any colored woman usually means severe social condemnation. For a Negro to offer courtesies to white people usually means that the courtesy will be snatched as a right, or angrily refused; even if it is graciously accepted there remains in the Negro’s breast the knowledge that he is giving what he, his wife or his child would never receive under reversed circumstances, and he half despises himself for being a gentleman.

Such feelings explain much apparent discourtesy. White men particularly Southern white men, are often more harsh, sharp and insulting to colored people than they would dream of being were it not for the battle between instinctive courtesy and fear of public opinion which is raging in their own hearts. They resent passionately the false position to which they are thus forced and the victim suffers.

So too, black men are often rudely and impudently impolite, truculent even towards friends and well-wishers because they are blindly and instinctively throwing up defenses against possible insult or taking present revenge for past discourtesy.

All this is wrong. No black man can afford to be less than studiously polite even in the face of possible insult. And the white man, North or South, whose courtesy does not extend to the weak, the helpless and the black, is not a gentleman, no matter whose grandson he may be.—Ex.

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