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The Advocate

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BLUE RIBBON FICTION IS FOUND EVERY WEEK IN
THE FEATURE SECTION

A Friendship That Has Lasted 50 Years

Remarkable story of the friendship of three men which began 50 years ago in Howard University when they started out to fill their pitchers with water.

By DR. W. R. A. PALMER

The ranking, but scarcely the senior member of a South Carolina triumvirate, formed at Howard University, Washington, D.C., fifty years ago, September 12, 1881, is pleased to tell the story of this unique friendship, the personality of which is not wholly unlike Caesar, Pompey and Crassus of Rome.

The writer came to Howard in 1879 the fall of the year, Kelly Miller in 1880. George Frazier Miller came September 12, 1881. On the afternoon of this very day he met Kelly Miller and myself who were already friends. The three of us were bearing pitchers to that memorable spring to draw water from the hillside, and there and then began that unbroken friendship, now beginning its fifty-first year, becoming more and more acute. The writer and George Frazier Miller were from Charleston and Kelly Miller from Wensboro, S.C. We gloried in the fact we were South Carolinians.

Joined Eureka

We became members of the Eureka Literary Society, were graduated from the Classical Preparatory Department, Dr. Cyrus S. Richards, principal. Continuing our course we became members of the Alpha Phi Literary Society of the College Department from which department we were graduated with the degree B.A., 1886 and 1888 respectively, during the presidency of the Rev. Dr. William W. Patton whom we dearly loved and whose memorable prayers for liberal Congressional appropriations, we live to see answered in this day.

Continued Study

After Howard graduation we continued our course, George Frazier Miller in the General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church, New York, Kelly Miller in Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md., and the writer in Drew Theological Seminary, now Drew University, Madison, N.J., of the Methodist Episcopal Church; each upon completion of the course receiving the institution's degree. Honorary and other degrees have been conferred since then.

Today each one still serves in his chosen way.

Kelly Miller has combined teaching, writing and lecturing in a marked degree at Howard since graduation, and in point of faithful, efficient, and conscientious service, is the dean of all, since the translation of the late lamented George William Cook.

The South Carolina Triumvirate

Kelly Miller, the Rev. George Frazier Miller and Dr. W. R. A. Palmer First Met September 12, 1881, while en route to Get Pitchers of Water. All from South Carolina; All Joined Eureka Literary Society in Prep, and Alpha Phi in College.



REV. GEORGE FRAZIER MILLER, rector of St. Augustine's P.E. Church, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Teaching, lecturing, and writing have been the occasional work of George Frazier, who is now the active rector of St. Augustine's P.E. Church, Brooklyn, N.Y., where he is still popular after more than twenty years of the most acceptable service, and

Note the Empress Eugenie hat, the "gates ajar" collar, the military coat and the bat wing necktie.



George Frazier Miller at age of 17 when he entered Howard University. This photograph is 50 years old.



KELLY MILLER, professor of sociology at Howard University

also of the writer, who is now pastor of the Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church, Easton, Md., having given forty-five years to the many and varied calls of an itinerant minister.

The man in the gospels bearing a pitcher of water was a necessary factor in cementing the friendship of Jesus, the greatest of all friends, with His disciples, and also in the redemption of the world; so our triangular friendship begun in some such way, has inspired each of us to make the largest possible preparation and

to keep at it, that he might make a worthwhile contribution to symmetrical redemption of his race and bring about an era of peace and good will among races and men.



DR. W. R. A. PALMER, pastor of Asbury M.E. Church, Easton, Md.

50th Anniversary

We rejoice in this fiftieth anniversary of a friendship which endures, and grows stronger and stronger, because its foundation is spiritual; differing in appearance, tastes, temperament and disposition, agreeing to disagree, especially upon burning questions, representing the Methodist, Presbyterian and Episcopal churches, William R. A. Palmer, Kelly Miller, and George Frazier Miller are three minds with but a single thought, three hearts that beat as one, concerning the Unity of the Human Race, the Brotherhood of Man, the Fatherhood of God.

Real Devil with Pitchfork, and Evangelist



IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN HELL, TAKE A LOOK AT THIS.—Mr. Lucifer himself, who came all the way from Washington to Baltimore last week, to tell you that there is one, and it is hot. He is shown on the Gospel Train of Elder Micheaux with his pitchfork all ready for business. The engineer is Elder Edwards, who is assisting Elder Micheaux in his drive against sin in D.C.



Commencement scene at Howard University with ancient administration building in the background, just as it appeared when the South Carolina trio trod its hallways. Other buildings on the campus in 1880 were: Clark Hall, Miner Hall, and the Industrial Building, now Spaulding Hall.