



## Smithsonian Institution

*National Museum of African American History and Culture*

### Post Mortem 1929

Extracted on Mar-28-2024 01:22:20

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[[black/white photograph with border- President Mordecai Johnson]]

[[certificate-style border with printed name- PRESIDENT MORDECAI W. JOHNSON]]

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#### A Few Moments with The Editor

If in the course of human events any group of individuals, associated in like endeavor, can not obtain and retain from such contact and association that intangible and undefinable something which will be dear to the future memories;

If in ten or twenty years from now the reminiscences of those four mighty years of contact within the confines of our medical school are not brought back with closer and dearer significance;

If friendships made by constant association, by constant mingling and struggling together, by ever interchanging and amalgamating ideas and ambitions, are not lasting and best reflected when unadulterated within the same settings as in the days of their reality;

If the inclusive compilation of those facts and interests, friendships and associations are not better reflected upon our memories by just such a collection as a class book:

Then, and only then, will the need, purpose, and aim of this, our class record, be in vain.

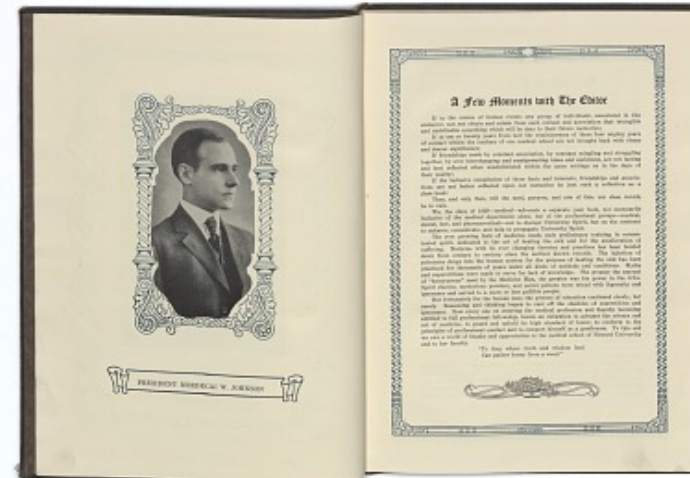
We the class of 1929-medical-advocate a separate year book, not necessarily inclusive of the medical department alone, but of the professional groups- medical, dental, law, and pharmaceutical-not to disrupt University Spirit, but on the contrary to enhance, concentrate, and help to propagate University Spirit.

The ever growing field of medicine needs such preliminary training in concentrated spirit, dedicated to the art of healing the sick and for the amelioration of suffering. Medicine with its ever changing theories and practices has been handed down from century to century since the earliest known records. The injection of poisonous drugs into the human system for the purpose of healing the sick has been practiced for thousands of years under all kinds of methods and conditions. Myths and superstitions were made to serve for lack of knowledge. The greater the amount of "hocus-pocus" used by the Medicine Man, the greater was his power in the tribe. Spirit charms, mysterious powders, and secret potions were mixed with ingenuity and ignorance and served to a more or less gullible people.

But fortunately for the human race, the process of education continued slowly, but surely. Reasoning and thinking began to cast off the shackles of superstition and ignorance. Now every one on entering the medical profession and thereby becoming entitled to full professional fellowship, incurs an obligation to advance the science and art of medicine, to guard and uphold its high standard of honor, to conform to the principles of professional conduct and to comport himself as a gentleman. To this end we owe a world of thanks and appreciation to the medical school of Howard University and to her faculty.

"To they whom truth and wisdom lead  
Can gather honey from a weed."

[[printed image- bowl of flowers with swirl design]]



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