

THE WORKS OF FRANCIS J. GRIMKÉ

Edited by

CARTER G. WOODSON

Volume IV

Letters

The Associated Publishers, Inc.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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Printed in the United States of America

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I have received many fine letters from friends of my husband in London and they all testify to the noble and unselfish life he has led. I have been promised some papers by two of his editor friends there and when I receive them I shall try and let you have a copy.

I am enclosing herewith a photo of my dear husband, which I am sure you will be pleased to have. It is a recent one of him being taken two years ago in London for a passport to these Islands, and shows him as he looked up to the time of his death.

Hoping that you are all well and have not suffered much during this severe winter you have experienced in the States and with sincere regards to you all in which my daughters join, I remain,

Sincerely yours,
Alice McCants Stewart.

Wallace Radcliffe to Francis J. Grimké

Washington, D. C., March 23, 1923.

My dear Grimké:

I am not sure that I acknowledged the two printed slips you sent me as through an illness of several weeks my correspondence was very much neglected. Of course I do not agree with your entire condemnation on the question of bringing the Washington church to the front. I endorse thoroughly, of course, the motives that you present, but I also believe in the necessity, especially in Washington, of church buildings much better furnished and adapted to our work and more attractive than most that we have now in the city. I do not know any city anywhere in which the church buildings are generally so unattractive and illy adapted to their work. I believe that church buildings should be for many reasons conspicuous and impressive even in architecture, but the best thing, of course is, as you indicate, the Christian lives of the people and the consistency of their actions personally and organically.

So far as the Wilson College is concerned, I am with you. I do not in any way endorse the popular colorfobia. I do not believe any Christian institution has a right to close its doors or to deny its fellowship to others because of the question of color. I thoroughly sympathize with you in your line of thought and claim.

America, is, I think, more inconsistent than any other nation on this one subject and I have no kind of sympathy with the popular thought. I think it is fair to say, however, that that popular thought is gradually being Christianized, and with every appeal to wipe out that idea in the Christian churches I am in hearty accord.

Sincerely yours,
Wallace Radcliffe.

Alice McCants Stewart to Francis J. Grimké

St. Thomas, V. I., U. S. A., March 30, 1923.

Dear Doctor Grimké:

We are sending you an In Memoriam card on which appears a letter and poem sent to Bandmaster Adams, editor of "The St. Thomas Times" for publication and which was published by him in his paper. The letter and poem are a tribute to my dear husband from one of his London friends and are indeed very beautiful. We are sending these cards to friends. We are enclosing three herein. One is for your good self, one for Mr. Archibald and the other is for Miss Angelina.

We hope that you are all well and that you are now beginning to feel the warm breath of Spring in the air. We are all well and are trying to find comfort and inspiration from above.

With best wishes from us all, I remain,

Yours sincerely,
Alice McCants Stewart.

Charles B. Purvis to Francis J. Grimké

Los Angeles, California, April 9th, 1923.

My dear friend Grimké:

Your letters came to me this morning. I was about writing to you—As you expect to see me the last of next month which is my usual time for visiting Washington, I will answer your letters by the returning mail.

I will not be able to attend the Annual Meeting of the Trustees of the University. My daughter has written to me expressing a desire to spend the summer here, and to remain a year—provided