

Enough Said



“Race lines must be obliterated in the South, and the old theory of the natural inferiority of the Negro must give way to the demonstration of Negro capacity.”

George Washington Williams



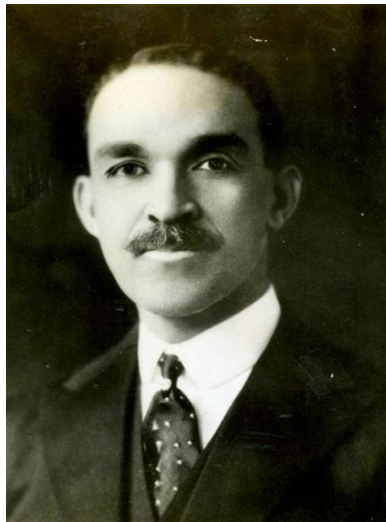
If the ‘highly educated’ Negro would forget most of the untried theories taught him in school, if he could see through the propaganda which has been instilled into his mind under the pretext of education, if he would fall in love with his own people and begin to sacrifice for their uplift—if the ‘highly educated’ Negro would do these things, he could solve some of the problems now confronting the race”

Carter G. Woodson



“It seems hardly a gracious thing to say, but it strikes me as true, that while our men seem thoroughly abreast of the times on almost every other subject, when they strike the women question they drop back into sixteenth century logic.”

Anna J. Cooper



“If men will not be good, they must at least be made to behave.... If America has not yet reached her height after three hundred years of striving, she ought not be impatient with the Negro after only sixty years of opportunity.”

Benjamin Brawley



“ Boldly and without flinching, I will face the hard fact in this, my fatherland, I must expect insult and discrimination from persons who call themselves philanthropists and Christian gentlemen. I do not wish to meet this despicable attitude by blows; sometimes I cannot even protest with words; but may God forget me and mine if in time or eternity I never weakly admit to myself or to the world that wrong is not wrong, that insult is not insult, or that color discrimination is anything but an inhuman and damnable shame.”

“I write then in a field devastated by passion and belief. Naturally, as a Negro, I cannot do this writing without believing in the essential humanity of Negroes, in their ability to be educated, to do the work of the modern world, to take their place as equal citizens with others. I cannot for a moment subscribe to that bizarre doctrine of race that makes most men inferior to the few. But, too as a student of science, I want to be fair, objective and judicial; to let no searing of the memory by intolerable insult and cruelty me fail to sympathize with human frailties and contradiction, in the eternal paradox of good and evil. But armed and warned by all this, and fortified by long study of the facts, I stand at the end of this writing, literally aghast at what American historians have done to this field.”

W.E.B. Du Bois



“Negro Americans have created and maintained defenses against the negative traditions which have characterized American life and thought, but they were slow in creating a worthy tradition..... The experience of the Jewish people in history is not too different from our own. The great difference is in their prophets, priests, and kings, as weak as they were. They praised their leaders who became heroes even in the long years of slavery, and their historians and authors were inspired to create and build their tradition.... At the same time, we need interpretations, portraiture, brilliant narration. There must be no mythical or legendary unless supported by fact.”

Charles H. Wesley