

The background of the slide is a blurred photograph of a desk. In the center-right, there is a black mesh pencil holder filled with various colored pencils. To the right of the pencil holder, a stack of books is visible, with the spines of several books showing. The entire scene is set on a wooden desk surface. The text is overlaid on this background, enclosed in a white, hand-drawn style rounded rectangle.

THE SPIRIT OF EDUCATION REGARDING FREED PEOPLE IN THE WAKE OF AMERICAN EMANCIPATION

Andrew L. Hanrahan

RESEARCH QUESTION

What was the spirit of education in the wake of emancipation regarding educating a large population of newly freed people whose educational ability ranged from illiteracy to higher education?

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands,
Office General Superintendent Schools

Howard University [handwritten]
Washington, Oct. 19, 1868

Hon. G. Smith,

Dear Sir; --

The Trustees of Howard University acknowledge the receipt from you, through Hon. Chief Justice S. P. Chase, of One thousand dollars, for the advancement of the cause of education, & particularly of the newly enfranchised & long-down-trodden & enslaved. We also received through Ms. A. L. Barber, the Principal of our Normal Department, Two Hundred dollars. At a late meeting of the Trustees, I was instructed to convey to you the grateful thanks of the Board for these liberal donations, stating that these sums have been set apart & intrusted [*sic*] in the "Howard Charity Fund," the interest of which is appropriated to the aid of indigent students.

Our school commences under the most favorable auspices, with 85, & a small Freshman Class, & we go into our new buildings next week.

Our Medical & Law Departments also open next week, & two courses of Preliminary Theological Lectures began last year have been resumed.

A kind Providence seems to the greatly favoring our enterprise.

Pay order of the Trustees; --

E. W. Robinson
Secretary

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS RESEARCH CENTER

Robinson, E.W. Letter to Gerrit
Smith. 19 Oct. 1868. Gerrit Smith
Papers, Syracuse University Special
Collections Research Center.

COURSE CATALOGUE OF HOWARD UNIVERSITY, 1869-70.

RELIGIOUS EXERCISES.

All the students are required to attend public worship at least once on the Sabbath, and public prayer in the Chapel

"...every morning at 9 o'clock."

SECOND YEAR.

FIRST TERM—

Latin—Caesar.....Harkness or Hanson.
Greek—First Book.....Harkness.
Or First Lessons.....Whiton.
History—Roman.....Smith.
Mathematics—Elements of Algebra.....Lcomis.

SECOND TERM—

Latin—Caesar.....Harkness or Hanson.
Or Sallust.....Hanson.
Prose Composition.....Harkness.
Greek—First Book or Lessons..Harkness or Whiton.
History—Grecian.....Smith.
Mathematics—Higher Arithmetic.....Ray.

THIRD TERM—

Latin—Cicero's Orations.....Stuart or Hanson.
Prose Composition ..Harkness.
Greek—Xenophon's Anabasis ..Boise.

Second year of study in the Normal School

Discussion

HOW MY RESEARCH
ILLUMINATES AN
ASPECT OF AMERICAN
FREEDOM

- What is education?
- What does it mean to be educated?
- What benefits come with education?

IN SHORT, TO HAVE ACCESS TO EDUCATION IS TO
HAVE FREEDOM. AS AN EDUCATED CITIZEN, ONE
HAS THE ABILITY TO READ AND WRITE, TO
DISCUSS IDEAS, AND--PERHAPS MOST
IMPORTANTLY--TO THINK FOR THEMSELVES.



PLANNED SOURCES

- *Catalogue of the Officers and Students of Howard University, District of Columbia 1869-'70*. Washington, D.C., Judd & Detweiler, Printers, 1870.
- Logan, Rayford W. *Howard University: The First Hundred Years 1867-1967*. New York, New York University Press, 1968.
- Morris, Robert C., editor. *Freedmen's Schools and Textbooks*. Vol. 3, New York, AMS Press, Inc., 1980, 6 vols.
- Purvis, Charles. Letter to Gerrit Smith. 29 May 1871. Gerrit Smith Papers, Syracuse University Special Collections Research Center.