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Extracts from an Address  
at the Jamestown Tercentennial Exposition

[Jamestown, Va.] August 3, 1907

I wish to express the gratitude of my race to the management of this Exposition for the opportunity here presented to exhibit our progress as a people. I also wish to congratulate Mr. Thomas J. Calloway and his Board of Assistants, as well as Mr. Jackson,<sup>1</sup> for their successful efforts in making the Negro Department a matter of pride to our race. Everyone who has contributed, in a slight degree, to the success of this Exposition deserves the thanks of our entire people.

Since coming upon these grounds I am free to say that I have been pleased and surprised at the neat and attractive appearance of the Negro Building. From an architectural point of view it does high credit to Mr. Pittman and all connected with its construction. I have been equally surprised and pleased at the large exhibit which has been installed in such an attractive and instructive manner. I am equally free to say that I wish that every member of my race could come here and witness these evidences of progress in agricultural, mechanical, house-keeping, educational, moral and religious development. In all these matters, those in charge of the Negro department deserve the highest praise.

I have been equally interested and gratified on the account of the deportment of the thousands gathered upon these grounds today. They present a clean, orderly, sober, industrious appearance. This deportment on a public occasion, such as this, is within itself the highest evidence of our progress.

Whenever an opportunity to see the slightest evidence of the progress of our race, presents itself, there, our people should not fail to put in appearance in large numbers.

I believe that our people should take advantage of every opportunity, no matter wherever presented, North or South, to show to the world the progress that we, as a race, are making. No battle was ever won by an army standing still or sulking in tents. Racial battles are to be won by marching forward, not by halting.

There are some special reasons why we should have a part in the