

The Great Relay Race

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1. Picture of a relay race. Critical moment. A clean take-away of the flag.
Life, a great relay race. Present, a critical moment-taking the flag.
2. What is the meaning that you put into your name? You come to the school with certain history, and purposes. Your masters are wondering what there is in you. During the school years you will give to your name a certain character. You will make it stand for something. What will it be?
3. You have your own traditions. For 500,000 men and women have been making you what you are. An unbroken line of human effort. They hand you the flag. You have to carry it on. That you care.
4. But you came into this institutional life of education. It will influence you. You will influence it. It is the product of great efforts and purpose. The visible virtues to the faith of your fathers in preparing a world for you.
5. But back of these buildings and schools and religious societies is a great tradition. The life germ of that you must transmit.
6. Leonardo Da Vinci came to [the] conviction that men would sometime discover the wisdom that would enable them to build a mechanical apparatus for flying. It required 400 years and more to work out that problem.
2,000 years ago the Carpenter of Nazareth conceived of a Way of Life. We have not yet discovered how to live it, but we are learning.
7. That is one of the precious things that you are to transmit in the great relay of life. We expect you [to] get a clear "take away" and to run a clean race. You carry precious freight.

What will you do with your name?¹

1. What you bring with you.
2. Imagine yourself in the office of the Headmaster looking over names and saying, "I wonder what they boy is, what kind of baggage did he bring, what can he do?"
3. What will the name mean when you get through?
4. Leonardo Da Vinci on the Flying Machine

¹ The material from here to the end appeared on the last page in this manuscript. As I read it, it would seem to be Earl Davis' original outline that he fleshed out more fully in the material earlier in this manuscript.