

# BRING DAT COLLEGE HOME

I's been sending you to college now for six or seven  
years  
Since the mornin' dat you lef' me I's been sheddin  
bitter tears,  
But I thought of dat ole sayin' "Sunshine come behin'  
de storm",  
So my young man, when you finish, you jes bring dat  
college home.

I's been scrubbin' by the washtub, I's been sweatin'  
in de feil,  
Many times I had to borry an' I almost had to steal,  
But I held on to my patience, beat dem soap suds  
into foam,  
All de time my heart was sayin' he's gwine bring dat  
college home.

Folks here say you gwine be nothin', you jes foolin'  
time away,  
But I shake my finger and tell dem "wait until some  
future day".  
So nex' June when dogwoods blossom and de bees begin  
to swarm,  
I'll be waitin' for to see you when you bring dat  
college home.

Don't you min' dese folks here talkin', day ain't half  
as good as you,  
And dey's bound to nag at good folks, dat's all dey  
know how to do.  
I's got wood enough for winter, plenty clothes to keep  
me warm  
So you trot off to college, then nex June, you bring  
dat college home.

I don't mean bring home the buildings or to wreck dem  
good folks place,  
Bring home Christian education, and dat high tone college  
grace,  
You jes grab dem fessor's habits, hole em tight  
thoo win' an' storm,  
Den when you git your diploma, take em all and light  
for home.

Show dese folks dat you got 'em by the speeches dat  
you make,  
By the specks dat you'll be wearin' an' de way your  
coat tail shake  
But don't git above de people, settle down an' cease to  
rome,  
Be a light in your own village, be a college right here  
at home.

- Anonymous -

*This was a Favorite Poem of my late parents' Dr. Miller W. Boyd Sr. and Mrs. Mary G. Whitten Boyd, Presidents of Morristown College, Morristown. This poem was used many times during the 1940's and 50's in speeches given by my parents to secure funds for the college. It is now presented to you with the hope that the story it tells might still be useful and inspirational to all today.*

*Love,  
Marjorie Boyd Debnam*