

you think so? And as  
much depends upon  
your attitude now.

I wish you could  
come to New York very  
very soon. I want to  
ask you something - I  
will -

Paul, suppose we  
marry quietly in New  
York this month, say  
nothing of it to anyone  
and live apart for a  
short while until we  
are both ready to be  
together "for good"? I  
want to be yours, I  
want to be united to

To: Paul Laurence Dunbar (1)  
Washington, D.C.  
Library of Congress

From: Alice Ruth Moore [Dunbar]

Jerome St  
W. Medford, Mass.

Jan 1, 1898,

My darling, - The last  
letter I wrote last year  
was to you and the  
first one this year is  
to you. A happy New  
year to you, my hus-  
band and may it be  
a bright, happy one, with  
a cheerful outlook for  
a stronger, truer better  
Paul - though I shall  
love you just the same

what you are or not.

Pace, my darling, I hope you are  
feeling strong and happy during these  
Rosalay times. I want to think that  
you are enjoying yourself without  
feeling any "Basel's temptations"  
are you? I trust in your simplicity  
and believe you are, but I want your  
assurance.

One thing let me say to you. Do  
not mind too much whether to  
Washington socially, please. It will  
make it hard for me when I  
come, and I want that our time  
together have the highest possible  
position. We respect and admire  
atom. I see the forms that be.  
We are glad to ourselves to create  
and maintain our impressions,  
linked up to social functions and

(4)  
you, and yet there is an  
obligation down my  
friends in the schools  
to complete my course  
and get my three cert-  
ificates. I know you  
don't care about this  
sort of thing, but won't  
you, dear? It will  
simplify matters a  
great deal. If you will  
say yes, come down to  
New York when you  
can — and I will be  
really yours. Of Paul,  
you don't know how I  
long to feel that nothing

