

## FEDERATION SONG

Susie I. Lankford Shorter (1859-1912)

Tune: Glory Glory Hallelujah

We are a band of women from the National we come  
We are marching into battle tho' we're neither pipe nor drum  
The Ohio Federation, lifting others as we climb  
Our motto "Deeds not word'!

### Chorus

Deeds not words shall be our motto  
Deeds not words shall be our motto  
Deeds not words shall be our motto  
We're lifting as we climb

We represent the women who were once denied a place  
In the National Convention of the highly favored race  
Nothing daunted we have struggle and we've made ourselves a place  
Our motto, 'Deeds not words'!

Our race must be enlightened, we must earn our daily bread  
We must give our time and talent - and the hungry must be fed  
We must root upon old sadness, planting good and joy instead  
Our motto, 'Deeds not words'!

All hail the Federation! And may others join our band  
May the torch that we have lighted, since in this and every land,  
Till the women of all races will be glad to take our hand  
Our motto, 'Deeds not words'!

Sung at the National Annual Meetings of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs beginning in the late 1890's. Source: The History of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs: A Legacy of Service. Charles Harris Wesley. Washington, DC: NACWC, 1984. p. 54