

*The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers*

training. I cannot go into details in regard to the progress of this work, except to say that when he died, all unknown to those who were receiving his aid, at least sixty-five small country schools were being helped by the money he contributed.

I think I have never seen him quite so happy as when I would make a report as to the results his gifts were getting in the way of better schools, or when I could show him a picture of one of the little new schoolhouses that he had helped the country people to erect.

In this connection I recall most vividly a trip which he invited me to take with him from New York to Fairhaven on his yacht, the *Kanawha*. During the course of the trip I had abundant opportunity to tell him more in detail than I had hitherto done about the good that his money was accomplishing for the uplift of the people in the South. It seemed to me that his face fairly radiated with happiness as, through the account I gave him, he was able to enter fully into the situation and realize the good that he had been able to do. All these gifts to these small schools were made on condition that the people who were aided should do something to help themselves. While the amount of money that Mr. Rogers gave was large, the sum which his gifts led the people to raise on their own account was still larger. In this way he made his gifts do the people a double service, since they not only had better schools, but they, at the same time, felt that they had obtained them to some extent as a result of their own efforts and sacrifices.

IN NEW YORK

I saw Mr. Rogers frequently when I was in New York. No matter how busy he was, or how much his name was being bandied about in public controversies, in which he was often misunderstood and often abused, he always had time and seemed glad to see me, and he always seemed very happy to take time to hear my report of the progress of the work he was aiding.

Only a few days before Mr. Rogers passed away, I had an extended interview with him in his office, when he arranged for me to make a trip over his new Virginia railway, for the purpose of studying the conditions of the colored people along the routes, and of devising some means by which he might assist them in their