

JANUARY · 1882

do this we need stock, vehicles, tools, a stable, cash to pay for first year's labor, &c. What a lift up it would be to our students could we get the three or four hundred dollars needed to make this start.

One thing that probably retards the progress of education in the Normal and other high-schools in the South more than anything else, is the "in and out" system. Few students are able to remain in school an entire term because they are *not able to pay board*. More than once this term when students have stayed here till their last dollar was spent, have they come to me with tears in their eyes to say, "I must go." Several are cooking for themselves, that they may squeeze through the term. We do not want our students to become objects of charity. We only want to make the school able to give them a *chance to help themselves*. Our plan will have two advantages: first, it will permit the students to remain in school; secondly, it will teach them how to labor.

In the South, education of the head and hand must go together. While the girl learns arithmetic she must learn to set a table, or she will never learn it. Trained farmers are as much needed as trained teachers.

As soon as the farm is equipped, we expect to direct our energies towards getting up a school building by next term. The present buildings on the farm will be entirely insufficient to accommodate the school next term. We may seem to be planning much, but remembering that God helps those who help themselves, we will go forward. Yours faithfully,

B. T. Washington

*Southern Workman*, 11 (Jan. 1882), 9.

<sup>1</sup> J. A. Grimmett, a Republican, later postmaster of Tuskegee.

<sup>2</sup> Mary Tileston Hemenway.

<sup>3</sup> Moses Pierce.

## To Oliver Otis Howard

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 10 1882

Dear Sir: You will doubtless be surprised on receiving this letter. I am a graduate of Hampton Inst. of which you were one of the founders. Was appointed Prin. of this school about seven months ago. We