

The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers
To Samuel Chapman Armstrong

Tuskegee, Ala., Oct. 16 1884

Dear Gen'l: Your letter concerning singers is rec'd. You will see by the letter that you rec'd from me a few days after yours was written that I had come to the same conclusion. I was led to it by the reasons which you express. I have never been satisfied with the singing, and then while Mr. Hamilton means well, he lacks the power of control[ing] men and centering their interest.

The building is going on nicely. Sincerely yours

B. T. Washington

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To Samuel Chapman Armstrong

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 19 1885

Dear Gen'l: About the last of Feb. or first of March I think of going on a money trip to Phila, New York, an[d] Brooklyn. What do you think of it? You remember that I was in Phila last March directly after our meeting there in Horticultural Hall and collected a good amount. I think of calling on the same ones who gave last year and others. In Brooklyn am thinking of asking Mr. Porter¹ to help me and Dr. Robinson² in New York. I know very few persons in the two latter cities of whom I can ask aid.

The work on the building is still going on. The brick work of the 3rd story is now being done.

My object in making the trip at the time named is to avoid being so closely pushed for funds during the spring and summer months as we usually are. We have purchased and paid for most of the material for the building, but there will be a constant drain on our fund till the building is completed and I want to guard against any possibility of shortage.

What do you think of our getting a small saw mill? We spend a large amount every year for lumber. We would be at no expense for logs as we have them on our land. My brother John agrees to come