

The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers

To Cecil Gabbett¹

[Tuskegee, Ala.] Mar 10th [188]6

Dear Sir: Within the last twelve months there have been not less than 500 trips made over your R.R., including long and short distances, by our students and teachers.

We have paid out for freight brought partly or wholly over your road within the last 12 months \$540.00. A part of this was paid by merchants in the town on goods ordered expressly for us. With these facts before you I apply for a pass over your road and not only on the ground stated, but because if the pass is granted, that, during the next twelve months, I can increase the number of passages over your road at least $\frac{1}{3}$ and in two years double the number.

I have succeeded in making the school as large as it is by traveling among the people, but am not able to pay out the amount in R.R. fares [in] the future that I have [in] the past. Am sure that you will be repaid many times for granting the pass.

The freights would also be increased. The facts given above I can get reliable citizens of Tuskegee to certify to if necessary. Yours truly

B. T. Washington

HLpS Con. 91 BTW Papers DLC.

¹ General manager of the Western Railway of Alabama.

A Speech by Olivia A. Davidson before
the Alabama State Teachers' Association

[Selma, Ala., Apr. 21, 1886]

HOW SHALL WE MAKE
THE WOMEN OF OUR RACE STRONGER?

I feel the honor as well as the responsibility of this opportunity of appearing before this audience to-day. Public speaking is not to my taste. For years past my life has been full of work, but generally in a different direction — at least by different methods, and if I consulted