

SEPTEMBER · 1886

In the 1880 census she was reported as a mulatto thirty-eight years old. Her husband, a black man aged forty-eight, was a physician born in Kentucky. In 1880 they lived in Albany, Ohio, but later moved to Athens and then to Columbus, where she established a millinery store. Very fond of her sister, she continued to take an interest in all of the Washington children.

To William Hooper Council¹

[Tuskegee, Ala.] Sept 9 [188]6

Dear Prof. Council: I write to say that Robert Langston² of Montgom[er]y was expelled from this institution for being guilty of very bad acts. He also owes our school a bill of \$19. which has run for more than a year. It is needless for me to say what I think your duty is in the matter for the precedents for action in such cases are too well established in all institutions of standing. Viewing Langston as an individual I would not seek to deprive him of any opportunity for improvement, but we as a race *can not* afford to be slack in such matters. This you have often emphasized. I write of course supposing that you are ignorant of the fact that he has ever attended this school. This is the first time that I have had occasion to correspond with you regarding such a matter but it has always been a custom between Talladega, Marion and other institutions and Tuskegee, to take in no student suspended or expelled from the other institution and I suppose you have the same understanding.

I am glad to see that you have had a prosperous beginning. The "Index"³ I am always glad to see and always read it through.

Should be glad to be remembered to your teachers. Yours sincerely

B. T. Washington

ALpS Con. 91 BTW Papers DLC.

¹ William Hooper Council (1848-1909) was born a slave in Fayetteville, N.C., and taken to Alabama by slave traders in 1857. He attended a school opened by northerners at Stevenson, Ala., in 1865, remaining there until 1867, when he began teaching. During Reconstruction he held minor political positions in Alabama, taught for a time at Morris Brown College in Atlanta, and edited a newspaper in Huntsville, Ala. He served as secretary of the 1873 National Equal Rights convention. In 1876 he was appointed to head the new Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical College in Huntsville after he had thrown his political support to conservatives. As president of Alabama A & M, Council often came into con-