

NOVEMBER · 1889

Hoping that you will make a "strike" at Philadelphia with the Unitarians & glad that Tuskegee is doing so well I am Yours sincerely

S. C. Armstrong

ALS Con. 92 BTW Papers DLC.

From Moses Pierce

Norwich [Conn.] Novr 1/89

My dear Sir Yrs of 25th ult was duly recd. I note what you say about needing \$400 to complete yr barn, you say that your students have done the work, but certain material supplys & superintendance we are compelld to pay cash for. I know not the size or the Material of yr barn, (whether wood which it should be), or brick which I should think extravagant if it increased the cost. The best barns in New England are wood, for which I supposed you could furnish the frame & covering from your own land & by yr own machinery. I believe in having good building plain & substantial built with economey which you have done, I hope. For a barn, Carpenters or blacksmith shop I do not believe you need brick buildings, wood answers in our climate why not in yours. These buildings should be placed so far apart as to protect them in case of fire. I do not say this to criticise what you have done, for I do not know. But I do know, that some other schools have wasted money in putting up expensive buildings where cheap wood buildings would have answerd every purpose as well. All waste destroys confidence of those who contribute. In regard to my ability to assist you at this time, I have to say that I have retired from active business & disposed of my interest in my former business after near 60 years of service in it. I have given up a large Salery which has curtaild my means of giving. I find I must give up for the present contributing to many objects that I feel an interest in, (among them Tuskegee) untill I can arrange my affairs so as to know what is prudent for me to do. While it is a great pleasure to help those who are laboring for the good of others, I find I must limit what I do to my means which I hope ere long will enable me to do something if not as much as formerly.