

*The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers*

not see why Atlanta University and Tuskegee School should not have gifts just as Harvard University has. But I would not make them as from White people to Colored people, but as from intelligent citizens who desire to promote learning — and yet there is one other sentiment. For two hundred years we wrongfully cut off your chance, in so far as that goes, we owe you a heavy debt; the way to pay it as honest men would wish to, is to set an open door before you, and at the same stimulate you to put forth your best efforts to make use of this opening. I do rejoice over the defeat of the bills. Some day when you can, let me know what you believe as the result of your personal efforts. Respectfully

Ellen Collins

ALS Con. 4 BTW Papers ATT. Original destroyed.

<sup>1</sup> Edwin Lawrence Godkin (1831-1902). He edited *The Nation* after 1865 and was editor-in-chief of the New York *Evening Post* from 1883 to 1900. His opposition to the Blair and Force bills was couched in terms of principles of nineteenth-century liberalism and fear of governmental power.

From Emily Howland

Washington D.C. March 5th, 1891

Dear Sir A lady from Boston and myself wish to take a trip South as far as Tuskegee, to visit your school and other institutions for colored youth as opportunity offers. This lady, Miss Mary L. Eastman, was a race teacher for years, and is now one of the best public speakers that we have. She is interested in the cause of education and also, deeply in the welfare of the colored people.

We should like to go in the course of two or three weeks, and I take the liberty of writing to ask you if this be a good season for visiting your country, and if it be malarial now or ever; also what the route thither should be. Could we take Hampton by the way or Richmond? I dislike to trouble you with these questions and would not but that I think that Miss Eastman's visit to your institution will be of value in many ways. I have just rec.d a letter from one of your students (Mitchell Garner) which interests me perhaps he or some other pupil