

*The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers*

will also give the boys the advantages of a Reformatory-Industrial Education and at night the elements of an English Education. You could say that it would be still a Prison but a "Children's Prison," adapted to the age of those within its walls. The cultivation of fruits and vegetables, canning and evaporating them would serve to pay most if not all of their expenses.

I wish you could erect two buildings at a distance from each other and from your college — one for the boys and one for the *women*, of whom there are now more than a hundred at the Penitentiary and in County-prisons. I am very sure that they could earn their living by gardening and laundry-work.

I believe that if these people can be helped it is by their own race, who understand them who sympathize with them, and who are willing to make sacrifices for them.

You may use this letter in any way you please, but not my name. If you will write to the Governor and Inspectors on the subject I will enclose the letter in one from myself.

J. S. Tutwiler

ALS Con. 4 BTW Papers ATT. Original destroyed.

<sup>1</sup> Julia Strudwick Tutwiler (1841-1916) was born and reared in the South. She became a prominent educator and prison reformer in Alabama. In 1881 she was appointed co-principal of Livingston Female Academy and spent almost thirty years at the institution which became Livingston Normal College. In 1891 she was elected president of the elementary education department of the National Education Association. She lobbied in the Alabama legislature for better educational opportunities for women, winning admission of women to the University of Alabama.

Active in prison reform from 1879, Miss Tutwiler worked to improve conditions in Alabama prisons and to promote religious instruction as part of a program to rehabilitate prisoners. She opposed the convict-lease system but found it too entrenched to abolish. Her poem "Alabama," written in the 1870s, was adopted as the Alabama state song.

## To Halle Tanner Dillon<sup>1</sup>

[Tuskegee, Ala.] April 16th [189]1

Dear Madam: I am in receipt of yours of April 9th and in reply would say that we expect to have in the future a resident physician at this institution and prefer a lady. It is my intention to pass through