

JUNE · 1891

While I have counselled you to find yourselves, to measure your heights, and your depths, your strength and your weakness, your failure and your success, your growth and your decline as often and as accurately as possible, I would further admonish you to let *us* find you as often as possible. Let us find you as I believe you leave us today. You leave us with good names, worthy ambitions, a spirit of self sacrifice, and a purpose to give your lives unselfishly to the highest interest of humanity. Will you let us find you in the years that are to come, the same Emma,<sup>1</sup> the same, Kittie,<sup>2</sup> the same Silvia,<sup>3</sup> and the same Smith,<sup>4</sup> the same Williams,<sup>5</sup> the same Dillard<sup>6</sup> — only made stronger and brighter and more consecrated by use and service? Will you let us find you with no stain attached to your character, no charge of failure to perform duty however humble? And now my dear friends with the giving of these diplomas, in the name of the officers and teachers I bid you good bye, and need I add that we shall always carry you in our hearts, shall always pray for you. No parent ever sent forth his child into the world with more loving tender interest than that with which we shall follow you.

“Our hearts, our hopes are all with you.” God bless you. Good bye.

AM Con. 955 BTW Papers DLC.

<sup>1</sup> The only Emma in the 1891 class was Emma Jennie Parker. (See Warren Logan to BTW, Apr. 16, 1891, above.)

<sup>2</sup> Katherine Juanita Baskins Barr.

<sup>3</sup> Sylvia Robertson Howard Davis.

<sup>4</sup> Charles (or Clarence) Vincent Smith, an 1891 graduate of Tuskegee, went on to graduate from Meharry Medical College and became a physician in Pensacola, Fla.

<sup>5</sup> Robert Craig Williams also went to Meharry Medical College and graduated as a pharmacist in 1893. He later returned to Meharry and graduated as a physician in 1898, settling in Augusta, Ga.

<sup>6</sup> Burton Harrison Dillard settled in Lopez, Ala., after graduation, taught school, and worked as a carpenter.

## From Theophile Tarence Allain

Soulouque P.O. La., June 1st 1891

My Dear Friend: Your very kind favor came to me after my returned from our county seat, Plaquemine La., where I went to attend the