

JULY · 1891

From John Gideon Harris<sup>1</sup>

Montgomery, Ala. June 27- 1891

Dear Sir: Since promoting the funds — sent me by the Peabody fund — to be used for Institute work, Dr Curry, for good and sufficient reason has change[d] the direction of a part of the original donation, which necessitates a re-apportionment. From the Program you send me — I see you hold five institutes of three days each aggregating fifteen days — or say three weeks — for this service — I will pay you, one hundred dollars — which will amount to six dollars pr. day actually engaged. You know that this money is not to pay salaries, but actual expenses. It gives you a fine chance to electioneer for your school, at no expense to you.

As soon as you have closed at Hayneville, send in your report — in detail — and I will give you a cheque for the money. Yours Truly,

Jno. G. Harris

ALS Con. 99 BTW Papers DLC.

<sup>1</sup> John Gideon Harris (1834-1908) was Alabama superintendent of education from 1890 to 1894. An 1858 graduate of Cumberland University's law school, he practiced law, served as a major in the Confederate Army, and ran unsuccessfully for Congress in 1870. In 1873 he was appointed to the board of commissioners of the Alabama State University for Colored Students in Marion, Ala. As superintendent of education he vigorously promoted education rallies and summer teachers' institutes. When he retired from office, in June 1894, the Colored State Teachers' Association passed resolutions endorsing Harris's administration and commending "his deep and active interest in the education of the colored race." They called him "a friend who has stood by us." BTW signed the resolutions as president of the association. The Alabama Education Association of white teachers passed similar resolutions of commendation. (*Biennial Report, Superintendent of Education, State of Alabama, Sept. 30, 1894*, 168.)

From James W. Austin

Boston, July 23 1891

Dear Sir, By the Will of the late Gen. James F. B. Marshall a Legacy of One Thousand dollars was bequeathed to "The Tuskegee Normal School."