

DECEMBER · 1889

proves, they may not be equal to an examination for 3rd grade license. I was compelled to deny licenses to several parties yesterday, who were better qualified than Goins. Of course no faculty can give a pupil brains — but it certainly has an option as to the conferring of Diplomas.

I thought I would say this much, in behalf of myself & other Co. Supts, as well as for the good name of your Institution. It seems to me that its reputation is bound to suffer from such cases as the above. The education of the col'd people is a matter of no personal concern to me more than to any other Christian man, & well wishers of the race; but I have a legal & consciencious Duty to discharge, & I do not wish to be compelled to fill our schools with incompetent teachers, because they hold Diplomas. Resp'y

D. D. Sanderson  
Co. Supt. Ed. Greene Co.

ALS Con. 97 BTW Papers DLC.

<sup>1</sup> Refers to examination for a third grade of teaching certificate. Alabama public schools were not graded at that time.

## To Samuel Chapman Armstrong

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 13 1889

Dear Genl Armstrong: What do you think of the wisdom of our trying a singing tour, say from the middle of March to middle or 10 of April? I am very anxious to make *new* friends to get *new blood*. We feel the need of this. The people listen well in the summer and appear to enjoy the meetings, but I fear the impression is not as helpful as it would be, should we find them at their homes. My idea is to take a quartette including Hamilton<sup>1</sup> have one of the students besides myself speak and let the other speaking be done by some prominent local personage. I should not go to Boston or very near it as I have been there once this year, but have in mind going into Ct. N.Y. Western Mass. & Rhode Island. Nothing definite has been done, and I shall take no step before hearing from you.

It would be quite a new venture for me and do not know that I could succeed. I feel sure that I should have to depend on you for