

MAY · 1889

From Margaret James Murray

Fisk University Nashville Tenn. 5-21-'89

Dear Sir; You asked sometime ago for a recommendation from President Cravath and also from Mr. Jenkins. Mr. Jenkins wrote you¹ and I had our President write the recommendation, but about that time, I heard of Mrs. Washington's illness and so have retained the recommendation until now. Enclosed you will find one from President Cravath² and one also from Miss Ballantine³ the Lady Principal of Jubilee Hall.

I shall be very glad if you can give me work. Very Respectfully,

Maggie J. Murray

ALS Con. 2 BTW Papers ATT. Original destroyed.

¹ On June 3, 1889, William Jenkins wrote that "Miss Murray has already been asked to go to Prarie View Texas. I have had a talk with her and she says that she would much prefer to go to Tuskegee, even if she is offered less than she would receive at Prarie View." Jenkins included Margaret Murray among Fisk's best students. (Con. 2, BTW Papers, ATT. Original destroyed.)

² Erastus Milo Cravath wrote BTW on Apr. 16, 1889, characterizing Margaret Murray as "an excellent scholar, a good disciplinarian," and a student possessing "more than an ordinary degree of energy and executive ability." (Con. 2, BTW Papers, ATT. Original destroyed.)

³ Anna Thankful Ballantine was born in Virginia and graduated from Glendale College in Ohio. She went to Fisk University as principal of young women and held this position for twenty years. On Apr. 11, 1889, she wrote to BTW that she considered Margaret Murray "of good mind, of conscientious religious convictions, of unusual power in gaining influence over those younger than herself, and of ability to direct them." (Con. 2, BTW Papers, ATT. Original destroyed.)

To Oliver Otis Howard

New York. May 26. 89

Dear Sir: You will be glad to know that Mr. C. P. Huntington gave \$1000 to Tuskegee this morning.¹ This with your help puts us in pretty good shape. Gen. Ketchum² gave 1/2 a scholarship and Mr. Barbour³ is going to send a donation very soon.