

JULY · 1893

From Portia Marshall Washington

Tuskegee, Ala., July 9th 1893

Dear papa. You dont know how glad I was to receive your letter and was glad to have you tell me about Boston on the 4th of July. but we had a delightful time we got up in the morning happy as birds and I did my work then we went to breakfast after breakfast I washed dishes then I came up stairs and sewed then I went down stairs and practised by that time it was dinner time after dinner I washed dinner dishes then I came up stairs and played with Baker's ball untill mamma said I could g[o] over to see Emma I went over their and I helped Emma wash her dishes. I played with Emma and Gracie¹ and Theodore & Horace.² we shot some fire crackers. then I went home and did work then it was supper time after supper I washed dishes. we had all ready fixed up our porch with drapery and flags the evening when I came home from Emma's. we had a concert out on the porch I played a peice on the pano Baker spoke a peice this was it Id rather be a marshall and ride a prancing horse and take lead with my fine steed and where a badge of course. after the concert I went with the rest of people down on the croquet ground and played. We shot fire crackers and roman cannons and sky rockets. I wish you could have been here. Papa you want me to tell you a the fourth of Jly. ~~In 1620 a few years after Capt. Smiths visit to England.~~ A little more than one hundred years ago. The king of England did not govern theas colonies well and so the people became dissatisfied and on the fourth of July in 1776, declared what is know as the declaration of Independence that they woud not be governed by England any longer. War with Eng. followed and Genarel Washington (thats you) one of the greatest and best men commanded our armys the war lasted nearly seven years we were fine. Then they joined them selves together and called their selves the United States. I must close now for I am tired Your loveing daughter

Portia

P.S. All send love. Pappa I think you owe me 65 cts.

P.

ALS Con. 17 BTW Papers DLC.