

*The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers*

ating factories, owning bank stock, lending white people money, manufacturing goods that the white man needs, interlacing his business interests with those of the white man, there will be no more lynching in the South than in the North. Let a black man have \$500,000 in a bank in the South, every officer and director of the bank will take special care to see that this black man is not driven from the town or unlawfully punished.

In the town of Tuskegee and vicinity I regard the race question as practically settled. Not long ago parties living at a distance from Tuskegee made two attempts to lynch colored men confined in the Tuskegee jail for rape on a white woman; each time the mob was prevented from carrying out its intentions by the strong public sentiment in the town. The black men were given a fair and legal trial, condemned and executed in a lawful manner — the only instance of the kind in Alabama since the war. Explanation: both the white and colored people in Tuskegee have excellent opportunity for that kind of education that teaches that, “And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.”

*The Congregationalist*, 78 (Aug. 31, 1893), 282-83. Reprinted in *Southern Workman*, 22 (Nov. 1893), 172.

An Account of a Speech before the Labor Congress,  
Chicago<sup>1</sup>

[Chicago, Ill., Sept. 2, 1893]

The other feature of yesterday was that the morning session of the Labor Congress was given to a discussion of the industrial problem as it affects the negro.

The venerable Fred Douglass presided and the first paper was by Booker T. Washington, president of the Tuskegee Industrial Institute, Alabama, on “Progress of Negroes and Free Laborers.” He described the evils of the mortgage system, which as it is practiced in the South, is but another form of slavery, and which could not exist but for the ignorance of the negro. There was but one remedy for ignorant labor,