

MAY · 1894

<sup>2</sup> Hugh Mason Browne used this metaphor in a Thanksgiving service at the Lincoln Memorial Church in Washington in 1893. Washington used it again in a speech in Montgomery on Jan. 1, 1895 (see below). He also used it in the Atlanta Compromise address, Sept. 18, 1895 (see below).

## To John Wessley Hoffman<sup>1</sup>

[Tuskegee, Ala.] Apr. 31 [May 1?], 1894

My dear Sir: I write according to promise.

Until late I have been trying to persuade Mr. J. D. McCall, who has had charge of our scientific work for sometime, to transfer to the department of mathematics in lieu of the sciences, but he has not as yet consented to make the transfer. Of course I could make the change without his consent, but with a teacher who has been here for sometime and who is faithful in doing the best he can, I dislike to make a change that is not agreeable to Mr. McCall.

We are pushing more and more our scientific work, and it has now gotten to the point where it is entirely too much for any one person to do acceptably. I have just had a talk with Mr. McCall about this, and he agrees with me thoroughly on this point. As matters now stand it seems to me best for you to come here and take charge of a part of our scientific work. In connection with this there is one class in composition and another on rhetoric, which we should want you to have charge of for next year.

The science work which we should like to have you take charge of, especially for the next year, would be an elementary course in nature study that would tend to prepare the students who are in the lower classes for the study of the higher sciences the study of insects with the view of finding those that are injurious to plants, and finding remedies to check their ravages; Agricultural bacteriology; Dairy chemistry, veterinary science; and perhaps we shall want you to take charge of agricultural chemistry, but of this latter I am not quite sure. It is my plan to give you plenty of room to demonstrate everything in connection with the scientific work before mentioned, and to make a close connection between the industrial and scientific work, doing as much individual work with the students as you can find time for.