

The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers

he took an active part in aiding blacks by establishing a school and also by preaching at black Baptist churches. Schaeffer supported the school out of his own pocket after the Freedmen's Bureau was dissolved. Gradually the administration of the school came under the control of the Friends' Freedmen's Association of Philadelphia, and Schaeffer withdrew from active participation in its affairs in order to concentrate on his role as minister.

From Timothy Thomas Fortune

Atlanta, Ga., March 31, 1896

Dear Mr. Washington: *Our friends in the north* want me to establish a newspaper here which shall cover the whole South and which they will back until I can get it on a paying basis.

You know my opinion of longer residing in the north. I write now because you are my good friend and I want your candid opinion of the undertaking. We shall not abandon *The Age*. It will do in the north what we do in the South with the *Southern Age*. If I go into the undertaking I shall want your active support in all directions, and if you approve of it I wish you to dictate *at once* a letter to the paper expressing your approval of the movement and stating in your way the work it can do for the good of the race.

I wired Mrs. Matthews yesterday to come here because I need her help in the project. With kind regards for you and Mrs. Washington,
Your friend

T. Thomas Fortune

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From William Edward Burghardt Du Bois

Wilberforce, O. Wednesday, 1 April 96

Dear Mr Washington: I have been for some time seeking a leisure hour in which to answer you[r] kind letter of the 17th January — but leisure hours are scarce here. I feel that I should like the work at Tuskegee if I could be of service to you. My idea has been that there might gradually be developed there a school of Negro History and