

*The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers*

people. I wish you would go at once before the council or see the members individually, and arrange for the colored schools to receive support from the city fund. I wish you would press this matter or use Mr. Hare<sup>1</sup> or any one else that you think proper to help. Mr. Adams<sup>2</sup> also might help you. Now is the time to push this matter otherwise we will lose. Keep me informed of your progress. Yours truly,

Booker T. Washington

TLS Con. 12 BTW Papers ATT. Original destroyed.

<sup>1</sup> Charles Woodrogh Hare.

<sup>2</sup> Lewis Adams.

From Samuel Somerville Hawkins Washington

Tuskegee, Ala., Aug 3d 1897

Dear Sir: Though no responsibility for the care of the sick rests with me for next year I should regret to see any epidemic at Tuskegee that may with proper precautions be avoided or at least made comparatively light.

You are no doubt aware of the large number of small pox cases in B'ham and that there are now in Montgomery over 30 cases not confined to any one section of the town but springing up every where. The disease has been in the state for more than six months and has been going from community to community — the very mild type in which it has manifested itself having made the authorities somewhat lax in dealing with it. The disease manifests itself in four distinct types — the mildest of which is called discrete — this is the type that has been in the State and there has not been a single death from it. Should it get into the school here at Tuskegee the confluent type is almost bound to show itself and you would expect a large death rate.

You can hardly keep it out of Tuskegee as it has been so general in the State. The worst season for it is the winter. The best thing to do is to prepare to meet it. You ought to have a *number* of people *now* engaged in removing trash & weeds from, and throwing lime around your buildings in considerable quantity. You ought to commence vaccinating at the rate of 20 a day at once. I would not recommend any