

NOVEMBER · 1895
From Alice J. Kaine

[Tuskegee, Ala.] 11-30-95

Dear Mr Washington My work begins to move. The plumbers have been in the laundry about 10 days.

Mr Thomas¹ wished to know to day how the underground drain pipe can be put in since the floor is already down. I have decided to excavate from the outside rather than ruin the new floor. I hope I may have boys for that on Monday morning.

We expect also to begin on the laundry boxes, 2d floor, Monday. They have been delayed because of the need for sheds for the animals. That could not be helped.

The halls in new part of Alabama Hall are being finished to day. On Monday we begin on the old part.

Your letter in reference to Mr J. H came to day. I do not like to speak of it. I so deeply regret the occurrence. You must never believe for a moment Mr Washington that I could or would say one disparaging word to the Slater trustees or any one else, about Tuskegee. No mistake of Mr J. H. Washingtons could lead me to that. I too fully realize the earnest work you and your wife are doing to criticize outside of your grounds anything weak that I come in contact with on the inside and too, the virtues so outnumber the faults here.

I am very sorry for Mr J. H and in spite of his temper I like him and supposed I was on the best footing with him. In his highly nervous condition I do not believe him capable of self control and his responsibility is too heavy for him.

I appreciate the support you give me, without which I could not succeed.

I gave the letter and yours to Mrs Washington to read.

It seems to me now that I shall meet with no more delays.

The slop arrangements about Ala Hall are not so good as last year — the odors are *bad*. I have talked with Mr Thomas a simple plan which he thinks a good one. I suggested it to Mr J. H. but he has some idea of his own which I fear will not work out well, if at all. Back of Willow Cottage is an unsafe slop deposit. It is simply emptied on the ground not more than four feet from the house and becomes a disease breeder. The girls who carry the slops out *will not* climb over the style into the field and I cannot blame them. I was distressed