

The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers

last year at the girls carrying heavy pails of slops up and down steps. I do not see how they can escape the diseases that women are heirs to, and I am sure they do not.

A gate has been suggested in place of the style and I very much wish that could be had.

No cook has been secured for the students kitchen. I wish you could find a competent woman up there.

Mr Calloway spoke to me yesterday about Miss Chapman's mother taking that place. The kitchen is kept pretty well under Mr Penny and some pieces of new furniture improve the appearance.

We will try to be in as good shape as possible for visitors and I am glad Mrs Hobson & Hopkinson² were so well impressed. Very Sincerely

Mrs Kaine

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¹ Harry E. Thomas.

² Mrs. Elizabeth C. Hobson and Mrs. Charlotte Everett Hopkins were white women of Washington, D.C., who toured five southern states in late 1895 for the John F. Slater Fund. They had been designated by the fund trustees to investigate means of improving the condition of southern black women. (See Hobson and Hopkins, *A Report Concerning the Colored Women of the South*.) While they were at Tuskegee, Margaret Murray Washington gathered a group of about thirty women to meet with the two investigators.

From Leonora Love Chapman

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 3, 1895

Dear Mr. Washington: I am very sorry to feel obliged to worry you.

Mrs. Kaine and I have consulted as to the best method of putting down the noise. We decided that so far as the girls were concerned, it was the fault, to a great extent, of the lady teachers, who seemingly try to set no example for the girls. We further decided, that, since we had both spoken to the teachers in a body, the only way to correct it, is to take the teachers and speak to them individually. It happened that the lot fell on Mrs. Bond¹ and Miss Thompson² *first*. While Mrs. B. was not discourteous, she said: "It is a shame that teachers must be subjected to the same discipline as students." Mrs. Kaine complains of Mrs. B. also.