

The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers

manliness, the self-respect and obedience, the strong virtues of promptness, reverence, neatness, and command — things consequent of this training — are not to be had without a gun, a uniform, and authority at the back of the whole department. Do not think that this would turn your institution into a military camp. My work at colleges is common-sensical and along the line of helpfulness.

I am very well situated here and this is my mother's home; my sole reason for wishing to change was to come into contact with a greater number of the youth of our race. But you know far better than I whether the South is ready or will with friendliness encourage and countenance its colored youth in the acquirement of the qualities I have enumerated.

Your photograph (unautographed) reached me safe. Thank you for it.

Wishing every success to your great work and blessing you in my heart for your kindness in this military matter, I am sincerely
Yours,

Chas Young

ALS Con. 165 BTW Papers DLC.

To Timothy Thomas Fortune

Tuskegee, Ala., Apr. 4, 1899

Dear Mr. Fortune: I have read with interest the letters from Mr. Shepard¹ and Mr. Hunter,² of North Carolina and thank you for sending them to me. Mr. Hunter's letter has some good suggestions in it and I see no reason why many of them might not be made practical. He or some other man would have to take hold of the matter and push it as an individual.

I confess to you that I see no hope for any permanent change in our present condition by reason of anything that Congress or any National Convention will do. Congress by reducing some of the representation³ will have some effect but even that will not cure the present evil. I have been asking myself lately some rather serious questions and I want to put one or two of them to you. Is there