

The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers

She was an organizer for the NNBL in the Midwest. In Nov. 1900 she became the Chicago correspondent of the *Colored American Magazine* and wrote a monthly column on black affairs in Chicago.

³ Anna Thornton, born in Kentucky in 1856, was a "scalp specialist" according to the 1900 census. Her letterhead stationery described her business as: "MRS. A. THORNTON'S PARLOR OF DERMATOLOGY," specializing in scalp disorders and facial massage. The letterhead also stated: "CURES FOR ALL FACIAL BLEMISHES, Black Heads, Pimples, Freckles, Sallowness. Wrinkles prevented, and ladies advised how they may preserve a youthful appearance unto old age. Scrawny necks and busts Developed, and their faces restored to healthy beauty by Massage. Sulphur, Milk and other baths. You are invited to consult family physicians concerning my method of treatment." Mrs. Thornton sent her son Charles to Tuskegee Institute, where he was listed as a senior in the 1904-5 school catalog. (See Anna Thornton to BTW, Mar. 14, 1904, Con. 295, BTW Papers, DLC.)

⁴ Alice A. Casneau, a black woman, was born in Virginia in 1866. The 1900 census does not report her occupation, but shows her in the household of her husband, Elmer E. Casneau, a Boston barber.

⁵ Thomas Wellington Thurston, Jr., was born in West Virginia in 1866, and was ordained a Baptist minister in 1894. In 1895 he entered the field of silk manufacturing and established over the next decade mills in Columbia, Pa., Fayetteville, N.C., and Kinston, N.C. Later he became manager of the W. H. Ashley Silk Co. in North Carolina.

⁶ Gertrude Hood of Fayetteville, N.C., was the daughter of Bishop James Walker Hood, a distinguished clergyman of the A.M.E. Zion Church. During Reconstruction James Hood served in the North Carolina constitutional convention of 1868 and also held the post of superintendent of public instruction.

An Excerpt from the Journal
of Florence Ledyard Cross Kitchelt¹

[New York City] April 3—1901

Last night went to dinner of the Social Reform Club² at Clarendon Hotel, given in honor of Mr. & Mrs. *Booker Washington*, both of whom spoke.³ Mr. Chas. Sparr⁴ spoke of Mr. Washington as the Benj. Franklin of his race — a splendid comparison, as they both are especially noted for their *common sense*. Mrs. Washington is lighter than he and has beautiful features, arched brows, blue (?) eyes, a Grecian nose, and a poise of the head like a Gibson girl. Her hands are white as mine and beautifully shaped. But her hair is kinky. Mr. W.'s speech was mostly from that he already has written in his biography. I hear he raised \$47,000 — at the meeting at Madison Garden a few weeks ago.