

MARCH · 1903

constant gratitude that I have the opportunity to do something I hope not only for my race but for the lifting up of all the people in the South regardless of race or color.

Now I have thought much about what your brother² should do at Cincinnati and I cannot help but feel that no one who is desirous of benefiting humanity should object to the words going upon the slab your brother wants to be placed there. While this is my opinion regarding the slab, I do not think that the colored people would object to a separation on the inside of the hospital provided the accommodations for each race are equal; this course is often pursued in the South. Even in our Southern States there are hospitals that draw no color line, but on the inside the two races are completely separated. This it seems to me, ought to satisfy any reasonable person. I have written your brother to this effect.

I hope at some time you may be able to see our work at Tuskegee, and I shall hope that your brother may find it convenient to stop by here when in the South. Yours truly,

[Booker T. Washington]

TLC Con. 249 BTW Papers DLC.

¹ Elizabeth Julia Emery in 1903 was about seventy years old. She spent the first twenty years of her life in Cincinnati and thereafter lived abroad, for a few years in France and for more than forty years in England. Unmarried and with a memory from her childhood of injustices toward blacks, she sought at Tuskegee to put some of her considerable wealth to use. (T. J. Emery to BTW, Apr. 8, 1903, Con. 261, BTW Papers, DLC.) Out of her benefactions over several years the Emery dormitories, a series of small, unpretentious buildings, were built.

² Thomas J. Emery, Jr., brother of E. Julia Emery, was president of Thomas Emery's Sons, a real estate and investment banking firm in Cincinnati. He was also president of the Emery Candle Co.

To Theodore Roosevelt

Tuskegee, Alabama. March 1/1903

Personal and Confidential.

My dear Mr. President: I have not written you since I received Mr. Edgar Gardner Murphy's telegram for the simple reason that the