Tuskaloosa June 14th 1869

Dear Sir

The propriety and necessity of writing to your Excellency will I hope be an apology for troubling you with this letter after my failure to hear from Dr. Cloud, to whom I wrote two weeks ago.

During four months of the last winter I taught in this city the Children of Freedmen having been employed by the Trustees of this Township at ($50,) fifty dollars per month. No funds have been sent to the County Superintendent to pay the Teachers of Public Schools and you will see from Dr. Cloud's letter to H.S. Whitfield that the money is withheld because there were only two schools for colored children. Now, permit me respectfully to submit that upon such a ground for withholding the Appropriation, We who did teach them ought to be excepted and paid without further delay. My account was approved by the Trustees, — directed by the County Superintendent and that portion due previous to 1st January forwarded to Montgomery and approved there. Mr. Whitfield says that under instructions the balance of My a/c will not be forwarded until the first portion

is paid? As the whole matter has been standing so long I hope the whole amount will be paid as soon as possible. Dr. Cloud himself is cognizant of the fact of My having taught Colored Children as he visited the School during his his first visit to this place and I called on him repeatedly during his visits. He then assured me the Money was ready and would be paid as soon as Mr. Whitfield made his bond — that bond was made some time since and now another objection is raised which does not apply to me, though the consequences seem to be visited alike on those who taught Colored children and those who taught white.

I owe the greater portion of that due me to your and my friends Messrs. Berry & Horner of this place. Like most of the teachers of public Schools I am dependent on my salary and Dr. Cloud's letter has destroyed the credit which the Money due by the State gave. My integrity I believe to be undoubted; but how can I pay when Officials withhold my just dues; or ask further credit under such circumstances, however great my necessities?

Permit me then respectfully to ask such interposition, or influence by your Excellency as will promote the ends of justice and the early payment, at least of the Teachers of Colored Children.

I am very Respectfully
Your Obt. Sert
W. D. Drish

To His Excellency W. H. Smith
Montgomery Ala.

ALA. DEPT. ARCHIVES & HISTORY CA

W. D. Driskill.

Tuskaloosa. June 14. 69.

School matters.

ARCHIVES & HISTORY
ALA. DEPT.
CA

Answered, June 19. 69.