

Colored School No. 1

Room No. 3.

Dallas, Texas,

April 12, 1893.

Hon. Albion Tourgee,  
Mayville, N. Y.

Dear Sir:—

Our School appointed us to write you and it is with much pleasure we do so for we have heard so much of you through our teacher, who on Arbor Day gave us a good lecture on you and how well you think and speak of the colored people.

On that day we planted trees and after having such a good lecture we planted and dedicated one to you.

There was a circular Programme sent to all of the public Schools by our State Superintendent.

among the list of songs he sent was America.

We could not see how we could sing this song with much faith when just a few days before and only ninety miles from us, think of it, the white people burnt a colored man alive. The idea of calling this sweet land of liberty! Our School appointed us to tell you this and also to tell you how much we thank you for what you say and do for us.

We haven't much freedom in Texas and there is so much to discourage us, but we mean to keep on,

trying. Colored boys and girls can not even sit in a rail road coach with white boys and girls though we behave as well as they do. Only when we go as servants can we sit or ride with them and the whites always give our mothers and fathers the ruffest and hardest work to do and pay them the least wages; still this is "sweet land of liberty"! Our fathers and brothers are always severely punished if one of them should do the least thing to a white man or a white boy but the white man or white boy is hardly ever punished it makes no difference what they do to us.

We send you a picture of the boys and girls of our room and also of our teacher. We hope you will like it.

We forgot to tell you that Arbor Day comes every year, in the state of Texas, on the 22 of February. We were waiting to send you a photograph is why we are so late writing you.

We remain, yours truly.

Anneta Cannon,

Birdie Wallace.

236. Young St.  
Dallas, Tex.

By Birdie