

**TUSKEGEE TO VOORHEES; THE
BOOKER T. WASHINGTON
IDEA PROJECTED BY
ELIZABETH EVELYN WRIGHT**

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Tuskegee to Voorhees; The Booker T. Washington Idea Projected by Elizabeth Evelyn Wright by
Dr. J. F. B. Coleman

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DR. J. F. B. COLEMAN

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FOUNDER

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Elizabeth Evelyn Wright



By

DR. J. F. B. COLEMAN

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1942

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Foreword

This book gives a brief story of a simple, great character. I knew her well.

Miss Wright was a poor girl, but blessed with riches beyond the reach of figures used by men—the riches of an abiding faith.

She was frail and sick in body; she suffered from cold and hunger. She bore all with patience, and stayed not. Long, weary miles did not detain her. Rebuffs and refusals were disappointing, but with a prayer for help, she kept her way. To ill-timed and bitter opposition, from those she was seeking to help, she gave silent submission, and kept her course for their welfare.

Thousands of dollars passed through her hands, without a thought of a farthing for her own needs or comfort.

She had a vision of large buildings in wide, growing fields, each building thronged with eager youth, with paths leading out into the world travelled by hundreds of colored boys and girls, hopeful, strong, reliant.

She toiled through countless ills and troubles until the fields were secured, the buildings erected, and the children gathered. She made the vision true.

Young man or woman! Do the good fruits of the world seem forever beyond your reach? Take heed of her life here written. Would you give hope and joy to others? Have a vision and make it true.

GEORGE W. KELLEY,

Chairman of Board of Trustees.



DR. J. F. B. COLEMAN, Author

Author's Preface

The following record was undertaken at the urgent request of many of Miss Wright's closest friends and admirers. It has been delayed in the hope that this demand would soon cease, and the labor required to collect and sift the facts avoided. Instead it has grown more insistent with the passing years. It were hardly possible to deny the plea that the inspiration of such a unique life; humble in origin, of high aim, brief but intense in action, and marvelous in accomplishments, ought not to be lost to the vast army of colored boys and girls who aspire to noble manhood and womanhood; and specially to those who find themselves in hard circumstances, yet long to do something worth while to help the race in its upward climb.

In very truth the author was conscripted into this particular service. His acquaintance with Miss Wright while she was still with us was casual and of brief duration; and she left no diary or written records from which such a biography could be conveniently constructed. Means and resources for discovering and patiently sifting the facts were limited. All of which circumstances taken together have made the assembling of the facts recorded in this book a rather difficult job. Nevertheless every difficulty has been compensated for many times over by inspiring revelations. The excursions here and there to places where she labored, and conversations held with those who worked with her, and others in whose homes she abode for more or less brief