Sarah continued, “Now, my object in life is not simply to make money for myself or to spend it on myself...I love to use a part of what I make in trying to help others.”

That afternoon, Sarah sat down to the applause of the delegates. Perhaps Booker T. Washington was stunned that she had taken the initiative to speak, uninvited. But he did not remain stunned for long. The next year, Booker T. Washington invited her to come back to the convention as one of the scheduled speakers!

In Their Own Words

“I am not a millionaire, but I hope to be some day, not because of the money, but because I could do so much more to help my race.”

—Madam C.J. Walker