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Lyons, Judson W.

Judson W> Lyons

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Recommended Citation

Lyons, Judson W>, "Lyons, Judson W." (1904). *Booker T. Washington Collection – Letters*. 7.
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The.....
TUSKEGEE NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE

COMMITTEE ON INVESTMENT
OF ENDOWMENT FUND

MR. WM. H. BALDWIN, JR
President Long Island Railroad
128 Broadway, New York City

MR. J. G. PHELPS STOKES
100 William St., New York City

MR. GEORGE F. PEABODY
54 William St., New York City

MR. PAUL M. WARBURG
52 William St., New York City

.....Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.....

For the Training of Colored ***

Young Men and Women ***

December 26, 1904.

Personal and Confidential

Hon. Judson W. Lyons,

Register of the Treasury, Washington.

My dear Sir:-

Replying to your letter of December 22d concerning the possible policy of the President toward the South and the race, permit me to say that I have seen the President twice since his re-election, being with him for an hour and a half last Wednesday night. In each of these visits the time has been occupied mainly in a discussion of the general policy rather than matters relating to individuals. On each occasion he said to me frankly and strongly that he did not mean to change his attitude toward the race. Of course his making such a statement it is a little difficult to go into details with him, that would seem to doubt his ability to maintain his former high standard. I think, however, since your letter states the fear of many colored people so clearly and emphatically, I will leave off your name and address and send the letter to him telling him that it states what many of the colored people feel and fear. I told him, however, the same thing very strongly last Wednesday night, that is, that many had the fear that he would be captured by the South. In reply to that assertion he said that the fact that he sent in Crum's name immediately after the assembling of Congress ought to convince the colored people that he seems to stand as he has always stood. He is going to make an important utterance on the subject in his address in New York City on Lincoln's Birthday, and I am very anxious that he say the proper thing and refrain from saying anything that will be harmful.

Regarding colored men in office, I think his general policy is going to be to put more

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colored men in office in the Northern states and fewer in the South. That does not mean, as I understand him, that he is going that he is going to remove colored men who are now giving satisfaction in the South, but his new appointments will be largely confined to the Northern states where the negro vote is more potent in national elections.

Regarding the activity and hopes of the Lily Whites and others who masquerade under that banner, we have several illustrations of it right here in Alabama. While that element is sleeping or seemingly dead, it pops up its head whenever there is the least hope of recognition, but in anything I may say to him or write him I shall certainly keep in mind the views which you have so clearly expressed. My own opinion is that he is going to make no change in his attitude whatever toward the race.

I do not know what your own individual opinion is regarding the Platt bill recently introduced in Congress, but I have no hesitation in saying to you that I am opposed to it. It will accomplish no good for the black man in the South. It virtually says to the Southern states that if they will give up one or two of their representatives in congress that they can have the privilege of disfranchising all the colored people; besides, the passage of such a bill will be legal recognition and endorsement of the right of the Southern states to draw the color line at the ballot box, a matter which the Southern states themselves have never dared to come out and admit in their new constitutions, while of course they have drawn the line in the administration of the law. Take a state like Texas where the Negro vote has never been seriously questioned, the Platt bill virtually says that if that state will give up one of its 18 representatives the colored man can be disfranchised, and if such a practice will get root in the South very soon it would spread to the border states like West Virginia and Indiana where the states could give up one or two representatives with practically no loss to the white man. Largely for the reasons mentioned, I think you will find that the President will oppose the Platt bill. Some relief is necessary, but I am quite sure that this is not the measure.

Wishing you the compliments of the season, I am,

Yours very truly,

Boomer to West

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27 Pine St., New York City
MR. ROBERT C. OGDEN
784 Broadway, New York City.

....Tuskegee, Alabama.....

For the Training of Colored ***
Young Men and Women ***

PERSONAL.

Hotel Manhattan, New York City .

December 13th, 1903.

Hon. Judson W. Lyons,

Treasury Building, Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Lyons :-

Apropos of our ^{private} correspondence ^{© Moorland-Spingarn Research Center} regarding the conference in New York during the 6th, 7th, and 8th of January, I write to say that the meetings will be held in the parlors ^{© Moorland-Spingarn Research Center} of Carnegie Hall, 454 West 57th Street. The first session will open at 10.30 A. M. January 6th. A daily midday luncheon will be served in the Hall. ^{© Moorland-Spingarn Research Center}

Very truly yours,

Booker T. Washington

December 13 1903

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON.

TUSKEGEE NORMAL AND
INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE.
INCORPORATED.

TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA.

October 24, 1903.

My dear Mr. Lyons :--

I am indebted to you, I presume,
for a copy of your annual report to the
Secretary of the Treasury, and I write to
thank you for remembering me in this way.
I shall place the report in our Library.

I shall hope to see you when I am
again in Washington.

Very truly yours,
© Moorland-Spingarn Research Center

Booker T. Washington

Honorable Judson Lyons,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D.C.

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON.

TUSKEGEE NORMAL AND
INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE.

INCORPORATED.

TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA.

October 28, 1903.

Hon. J. W. Lyons,

Treasury Department, Washington.

My dear Mr. Lyons:-

You will perhaps recall that about the middle of last February I addressed you a letter concerning a private conference to be attended by about fifteen or eighteen of our most prominent men, representing various sections of the country and various race interests, for the purpose of considering quietly all the weighty matters that now confront us as a race. The meeting was not called at the time hoped for in my last correspondence for the reason that there was delay and some disappointment in providing funds for the expenses of the meeting. That feature has now been provided for in a way that will not make those who attend the conference feel obligated to any individual or organization and leave them free for open and frank discussion.

I very much hope that you can now see your way clear to attend such a conference in New York City to be held, if possible, on the 6th, 7th and 8th of January, 1904.

The value of such a meeting will consist very largely in everything connected with it, even the fact that there is to be such a meeting, being kept absolutely from the public for the present, and I wish to enjoin upon you the importance of nothing being said concerning it.

I very much hope that you will feel it to be your duty to throw aside all other engagements, for the purpose of attending this meeting, which, I believe, is going to be the most important, serious and far-reaching in the history of our people. Other matters can wait. The things to be considered by this gathering I think cannot wait longer. The recent action taken by the Governor of Tennessee in relation to Pullman car accommodations for colored people is but one of the signs which show the importance of such a gathering as we contemplate.

Yours truly,

Robert W. Livingston