

MAY • 1910

To Robert Heberton Terrell

New York City, April 27, 1910

Personal and Confidential

Dear Judge Terrell: I suppose you have seen the printed program of the meeting to be held here sometime in May under the auspices of the opposition crowd.¹

Not a few of your friends here are nonplussed as to why Mrs. Terrell's name appears among the members of the executive committee and as one of the speakers on the program. This kind of thing is really embarrassing. I think it but just to your friends to let us know where you are at. This organization, as was true last year, is likely to engage in wholesale abuse of the President of the United States as well as other friends of ours. Whenever your name comes up for confirmation, your friends unhesitatingly go to the front. To have Mrs. Terrell's name appear on a program where the opposition is in charge naturally makes it harder for your friends to help you when the time comes, but makes it embarrassing from every point of view. Of course I am not seeking to control anybody's action, but I simply want to know where we stand. You can easily see that for your friends to be called upon to go to the White House or to see the Attorney General in your behalf one day and the next day a tirade appears abusing the President at a meeting where Mrs. Terrell is a member of the executive committee and one of the principal speakers becomes really embarrassing for us. Yours truly,

[Booker T. Washington]

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¹The second annual meeting of the National Negro Committee (NAACP), May 12-14, 1910.

To Ray Stannard Baker

[Tuskegee, Ala.] May 3, 1910

Personal

Dear Mr. Baker: Replying to yours of April 29th I would state that the sentence quoted in your letter is true so far as local re-