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There are several very much needed buildings also, and then there is the matter of our annual current expenses which is always with us.

I am taking up several of the matters with Mr. Norton which we discussed the other evening.

Let me say it was a great pleasure and satisfaction to be able to spend so much time with you Friday night, and what pleased me most was to see that you are not becoming disturbed or permitting yourself to be unnecessarily wrought up or nervous over what some elements are saying and trying to do. It is a real satisfaction to see that adverse criticism neither sours nor disturbs you. I am sure you will win, and that magnificently. Yours truly,

[Booker T. Washington]

TLC Con. 411 BTW Papers DLC.

<sup>1</sup> Henry Clay Frick (1849-1919), coke and steel manufacturer, was one of the founders of the U.S. Steel Corporation in 1901.

## To Joseph Oswalt Thompson

Huntington, N.Y. August 3d, 1910

My dear Mr. Thompson: I thank you for yours of July 26th. I note carefully what you say. I feel quite sure that you are going to poll a large vote and that good will be accomplished through your nomination. My one fear is that you will over-exert yourself and in this way get a setback. I hope you will be very, very careful to preserve your strength.

You and Albert will be interested to know that I was sent for a few days ago by the President's secretary and went to Beverly Friday night where I had a two hours' conference with President Taft and his new secretary. They asked me to state frankly what the mood of the colored people is and what the cause of their dissatisfaction is, and I spoke right out from the shoulder. I feared a little that I was too frank and outspoken. I did not hesitate to call names of people who were at the bottom of the cause of the trouble. Both of them were deeply interested and promised to take