

The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers

From Anson Phelps Stokes, Jr.

New Haven, Conn., November 2, 1911

My dear Mr. Washington: I enclose herewith for your confidential information a proposal which I expect to bring before the Phelps-Stokes Trustees at their next meeting. You will see that it is an attempt to help in the solution of the negro problem from a different side than has been emphasized in the past, namely by training at a great Southern university a group of Southern white students who will investigate the negro and his problems with the view to assisting in improving conditions. I have talked the matter over carefully with Dr. Dillard and Dr. Alderman who feel that the plan is a very important one. I would appreciate your estimate of it and any suggestions that you may make regarding it. If successful I hope we may be able to establish a similar fellowship at the University of Georgia, perhaps elsewhere. I feel that the fellowship will result in accomplishing three purposes:

First. The mere existence of the fellowship at a Southern white university under state auspices will be significant.

Second. The researches of these fellows should result in bringing together a body of facts regarding the negro that will be of material assistance in solving his problem.

Third. The fellows should form a body of men who would be of great assistance in the future in leading in various educational and sociological movements in the South. Very truly yours,

Anson Phelps Stokes

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To Samuel Bratton Donnelly¹

[Tuskegee, Ala.] November 6, 1911

My dear Sir: I want to thank you for the courageous stand which you have taken in relation to the colored employees of the Government Printing Office.² The two fundamental rights guaranteed to the Negro by emancipation was the right to own property and to freely sell his