

*The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers*

To Charles B. Purvis

[Tuskegee, Ala.] June Fifth, Nineteen Hundred Twelve

Dear Dr. Purvis: Thank you for your letter from Washington.<sup>1</sup> I shall follow your instructions and plan to be present at the next trustees meeting.

You and I agree thoroughly regarding the new Bishop.<sup>2</sup> We want to get somebody who is not in any way under his control or influence personally. I have practically no faith in him.

I hope to talk with you before the meeting of the board. Yours very truly,

Booker T. Washington

TLpS Con. 462 BTW Papers DLC.

<sup>1</sup> Purvis wrote on June 1, 1912, urging BTW to attend the next Howard University board meeting and to nominate a strong candidate. He opposed any candidate that W. P. Thirkield would propose "upon general principles," and opposed "creating a place for some hungry Methodist minister." He urged BTW out of his wide experience to name a candidate of broad outlook, saying: "A *business man* is needed, a man of moral courage, & who has connections." (Con. 462, BTW Papers, DLC.)

<sup>2</sup> Wilbur Patterson Thirkield.

From Monroe Nathan Work

[Tuskegee, Ala.] June 6, 1912

Mr. B. T. Washington: I have carefully examined Sheriff Daniel's letter of May 31 concerning the commitments to the Macon County Jail.<sup>1</sup> I have also had an interview with him. I find that the 226 commitments to jail are all the persons that were "Committed for offences that are liable in Circuit and County Courts." This does not, however, include all who had been arrested by the sheriff and his deputies. I do not believe that by taking jail commitments you can get a clear convincing statement concerning the orderliness of Macon County as contrasted with other counties.

The United States Census reports that in 1904 875 Colored persons were committed to all jails, workhouses, and penitentiaries in the state.