

NOVEMBER · 1913

white people. I know that in some instances the railroads have endeavored to do this and I further know that generally speaking it is the purpose of the executive officers of the railroads which operate in the states in which the separation of the races is made necessary in traveling, to do this, and great pains have been taken and a very considerable amount of money expended to bring about a condition that complies with the law, and all should not be condemned for the failure of some. I may write you further regarding this matter at a later date. Yours truly,

L. E. Johnson

TLS Con. 519 BTW Papers DLC. Written on stationery of the Norfolk and Western Railway Co.

¹ Lucius E. Johnson (1846–1921) of Roanoke, Va., was president of the Norfolk and Western Railway from 1904 until his death, except for Jan.-June 1918, when he was chairman of the board.

To Robert Elijah Jones

Boston, Mass., November 3, 1913

Dear Dr. Jones: I think I am finding a way to have street railway conditions improved for our race.

Will you be good enough to let me have in the form of a letter the actual facts bearing upon the method of separating our race in the street cars of New Orleans? Also facts as to the humiliations to which they are subjected. Write me a letter that I can show to certain bankers who furnish the money. Also state if it is true, to what extent colored people refrain from riding on the cars because of the discrimination. Bring out especially the point that they do not have room enough. Yours very truly,

[Booker T. Washington]

P.S. Please send me copy of the law bearing upon the separation of the races in the street cars. Write to Tuskegee.

TLC Con. 927 BTW Papers DLC. Marked "Copy to Mr. Scott."