

The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers

those matters in which the negro has been better treated in America than anywhere else in the world.

Despite all any one has said or can say in regard to the injustice and unfair treatment of the people of my race at the hands of the white men in this country, I venture to say that there is no example in history of the people of one race who have had the assistance, the direction, and the sympathy of another race in all its efforts to rise to such an extent as the negro in the United States.

Notwithstanding all the defects in our system of dealing with him, the negro in this country owns more property, lives in better houses, is in a larger measure encouraged in business, wears better clothes, eats better food, has more school-houses and churches, more teachers and ministers, than any similar group of negroes anywhere else in the world.

What has been accomplished in the past years, however, is merely an indication of what can be done in the future.

As white and black learn day by day to adjust, in a spirit of justice and fair play, those interests which are individual and racial, and to see and feel the importance of those fundamental interests which are common, so will both races grow and prosper. In the long run no individual and no race can succeed which sets itself at war against the common good.

The Century, 85 (Nov. 1912), 46-55.

¹ Reuben S. Lovinggood was president of a black school, Samuel Houston College in Austin, Tex., from 1903 to 1917.

² A. A. Gunby, a lawyer of Monroe, La., was a champion of better public schools in that state and a member of the Louisiana Education Association.

From Robert Ezra Park

Wollaston, Mass. December 3, 1912

My dear Mr Washington: I read with interest Mr Hollander's¹ letter in regard to the proposed investigation of the results of education at Tuskegee as shown in our students. I think such a systematic investigation would be a fine thing but I do not see where the science comes in.