

MAY · 1914

There are millions of black people throughout the world. Everywhere, especially in Europe, people are looking to us here in the South, black and white, to show to the world how it is possible for two races, different in color, to live together on the same soil, under the same laws, and each race work out its salvation in justice to the other.

I do not wish to be misunderstood. Tremendous progress in all these directions has been made within the last fifty years. I speak as I do with frankness, and yet with love, because I want to see still greater progress brought about.

The negro here in the South, supported and encouraged as he is by the best element of the white people, has made progress in getting property, education, and a high Christian character that is not approached by any similar group of black people in Christendom. We must go on, patiently but courageously, year by year, devoting our best energies to the great big things, the fundamental things that underlie the progress and civilization of white people and black people throughout the South.

And this Southern Sociological Congress, in my opinion, as one of the great mediums in God's providence, has been brought into existence for this purpose.

James Edward McCulloch, ed., *Battling for Social Betterment: Southern Sociological Congress, Memphis, Tennessee, May 6-10, 1914* ([Nashville?]: Southern Sociological Congress, 1914), 154-59.

¹ Anna Virginia Russell Cole (1846-1926), the wife of a railroad official in Nashville, gave \$7,500 a year to the Southern Sociological Congress. She also made several gifts to Vanderbilt University.

² William Hodges Mann (1843-1927), governor of Virginia from 1910 to 1914, was also the author of a Virginia prohibition act and an act promoting public high schools.

To Emmett Jay Scott

Boston May 10, 1914

Dear Mr. Scott: As far as you and Mr. Fisher can find the time I hope you will send out from now on short pithy paragraphs to the colored papers on R.R. Day.