

*The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers*

the Negro's best friends. The Atlanta Exposition is to have a Col'd. Commissioner. I nominate you for the position on the first ballot. The Washington Post champions the idea.<sup>1</sup> Senator Walsh<sup>2</sup> is saying many good things about the Negro.

You might not care to be a Comsr. But I feel sure that you are the best fitted of any man in the South for organizing the Col'd. Exhibit. Then again you would have an opportunity to make a world wide reputation second not even to Fred. Douglas.

I would advise that you come here ostensibly for the purpose of looking out for a slice of that Freedman Bureau pie in the meantime I can assist you in getting an airing through the press here which airing would be of immense help to you & the cause you represent. "All things come to those who wait" is an old saying; but in these times of rivalry and competition the hustler gets there every time.

Enclosed clipping is from Sunday Post. An inquiry was sent to the Treas. last week as to how much of the Freed'm fund remains. The parties that recd the Home money were comparatively unknown. How much advantage you would have in this resp!! Your Friend

Jenkins

ALS Con. 6 BTW Papers ATT. Original destroyed.

<sup>1</sup> In an editorial, "Give the Colored Folks a Chance," the *Washington Post* said: "The suggestion that some representative colored man be placed upon the board of commissioners of the Atlanta Exposition should encounter no opposition. As many colored men as may be needed to look after the interests of the race on this great occasion should be assigned to duty as a matter of course." Blacks in the South had made phenomenal progress since the Civil War, it said, and a comprehensive exhibit would cast instructive light on the race problems yet remaining. (*Washington Post*, June 26, 1894, 4.)

<sup>2</sup> Patrick Walsh (1840-99) was U.S. senator from Georgia by appointment in 1894-95.

An Announcement in the Indianapolis *Freeman*

[Tuskegee, Ala., July 7, 1894]

THE NEGRO CHAUTAUQUA

Last year the Independent published an article from the pen of Prof. Nathan B. Young, Tuskegee, Ala., headed "A Chautauqua for