

AUGUST · 1896

be freed. Our Government has last week been holding a Council in London to make arrangements to carry out its promise. The next few months will probably see the emancipation accomplished. But there is not one single missionary in the whole island to stand by the coloured people in the crisis of emancipation. It is a habitation of cruelty & of darkness. We want forthwith to establish a *Christian Industrial Mission*, in the name of Jesus who died for them, among these people. We want to purchase a plantation, pay the people wages, establish schools, erect a church, & let the light of the gospel of Jesus Christ shine upon them. Give them a new hope, offer them a new life, create within them new aspirations for a higher & better estate than they have ever yet known. Give them a chance. Providence has given you a chance in the South. We want a smart business man who can run a plantation intelligently, economically. Let him [be] imbued with the Spirit of Christ, & we will undertake his support. Have you the man? Yours on behalf of the oppressed in the Crisis of emancipation.

H. S. Newman

ALS Con. 120 BTW Papers DLC.

¹ Richard Henry Pratt.

From William Jenkins

Tuskegee Aug 7/96

Dear Mr Washington: I am afraid that you misunderstood the import of my letter. I did not ask for an increase of salary; at least I did not intend to do so. I realize what a struggle you are having in trying to make both ends meet.

No one is less willing than I am to embarrass you at this time by clamoring for an increase of salary. My object in alluding to the matter at all was simply to call your attention to the fact that I am unable after two years trial to support my family on the \$433.00 which I receive as salary even with house rent thrown in; and that I hoped for better things for the future. I prefer to wait until your return to lay our grievances before you concerning our Commissary charges and the embarrassments caused by unfulfilled promises. Not wishing to monop-