

The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers

From J. H. Coleman

St. Louis Mo July 12 1897

Mr Washington Sir It affored me great Pleasure in riteing to you this after noon to ask of you your opinion on the subject of so many of our People being lynch. Mr. Washington it a shame an Disgrace on the Negro race in Many Respects tha ar lynch for crymes that Wood not Send them to the Penn tha Have gone so far as to Take our Wemorns out an lynch them. Must we as men stand that. Who Have our females got to Depend on for Protection if we don't study some Plan to stop this linching. We Have ben taught to live Peaceful an on the other hand the White People ar Uniting to Gether against us. Hear in this city the Whites meets evry Week to formulate Some Plan against the Negro.

On one of there Meeting a White Gentleman got the floor an spok in the favor of the Negro an he was ousted out of the Meeting at once. Dear sir I think it Wood be a good idear for our Peple now to be taught How to unite an Protect life an Propety an Protect our femeals if some of us have to looze our life. Mr. Washington if we do not Protest against this Why after While tha Will come to our Schools an take our Teachers out an mob Them an also come to our Homes an take our Wives an Daughters out an male treat them. Great meny of our People ar being lynch on fault Repots Mr. Washington. Please send me some of your Books showing the Diffrence Persitions that the Graduates of Tuskegee Hold an if it cost eny thing i Will send you the Price at once soon as i get them. Hope to hear from you at once because I am verry much Disturbe the Way our People ar being treated.

J. H. Coleman

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From Samuel May

Leicester, Mass. July 22/97

Dear Mr. Washington, Yesterday two papers came to me from Illinois. One was the Chicago "Daily Inter Ocean" of July 17th, the very first article in which was a two-column communication to the editor signed by "Ida B. Wells-Barnett."²¹ She had been to Urbana, Ohio, to inquire