

SEPTEMBER · 1899

If in my small way, I can ever at any time be of service to you in any line of work which you are doing for the help of our people and mankind, I am yours to command. With confidence in the sincerity of your purposes I am, with high regard, Very sincerely yours.

R. C. Ransom

TLS Con. 160 BTW Papers DLC.

### From Timothy Thomas Fortune

Saratoga, N.Y., Sept. 5 [1899]

Dear Friend: I have your telegram of even date concerning the whereabouts of Bruce. I will send him a note at Albany. I sent a note to Rev. J. H. Anderson<sup>1</sup> at Binghamton yesterday, asking if the letter for Bruce sent to his post office had been delivered to him. I should hear from him tomorrow morning.

I heard Mr. Baldwin's paper at the American Social Science Association this morning and the *low tone of disparagement of the race developed by the discussion surprised me.*<sup>2</sup> I answered some of the mis[s]tatements of fact and conclusion. It is a pity that the friends *we have [have] to give away so much in discussion to gain so little.* I give away nothing.

My hand is very stiff and painful today, but the doctor says it is doing very well, and he ought to know. He began on the other ailment today, and found it in satisfactory condition. I hope for the best. Yours truly

T. Thomas Fortune

ALS Con. 154 BTW Papers DLC.

<sup>1</sup> James Harvey Anderson, born in Maryland in 1848, was a minister of the A.M.E. Church at Binghamton, N.Y. He was a regular columnist on the *Star of Zion* for thirty years and was its editor from 1916 to 1920.

<sup>2</sup> In his speech before the American Social Science Association in Saratoga, N.Y., William H. Baldwin, Jr., attempted to win the support of the white South by conceding many racial views commonly held by whites. Using the analogy of a child who lacks self-control, Baldwin described the newly freed slave as too eager for the superficial and ornamental of life. He saw a decline in the quality of black life after emancipation as the Negro artisan gradually disappeared and the Negro politician took his place. Critical of higher education for blacks, Baldwin said the northern white teachers who went south after the Civil War made the mistake of assuming that