

*The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers*

meeting was called in Sept. ostensibly to consider the general subject of progress, but was perverted into a political move, which was the real motive from the first, and resulted in such a disgraceful scene that the large hall in which it was held has been closed to our people, so that a church had to be obtained for your lecture. I make these statements that you may understand my wish to keep the movement to test the constitutionality of the La. Election Law out of their hands, for in any case, they will do nothing unless they can see a chance to subserve their personal interests.

An individual here or there may be useful, if detached from the rest.

Moreover, not one of them I fear comprehends the real character of the question.

All friends will be glad to welcome you to the city. The University will be especially pleased to greet you. Very truly Yours —

Geo. W. Henderson

P.S. Please observe my new address.

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<sup>1</sup> Oscar Atwood (1842-1909) was president of Straight University from 1890 to 1906.

From Oswald Garrison Villard<sup>1</sup>

New York City. Nov. 2, 1899

Dear Mr. Washington: I enjoyed your recent article in the "Atlantic Monthly" so much, and also your contribution in the "Southern Workman," reprinted from the New Orleans *Times-Democrat*, that I am moved to ask whether you could not send me a contribution for the supplement of the *Evening Post*.<sup>2</sup> I give you absolutely the choice of your subject, and shall pay you our highest rate. That is not very high in comparison with magazine rates, but it is the best we can offer, and we can, of course, assure you a circle of readers unequalled in the North, as you know. At any rate let me take this opportunity to add my small word of encouragement in your great work. A letter from a white woman in Marietta, Ga., lying