

OCTOBER • 1901

Tonight the usual order of affairs was not disturbed on account of the color of the guest of honor, and Washington left the white house about 10 o'clock, apparently very much pleased with his dinner and his chat with the president.

Atlanta Constitution, Oct. 17, 1901, 1.

To Theodore Roosevelt

Grand Union Hotel, New York. Oct. 17, 1901

My dear Mr. President: Mr. W. E. Mollison,¹ Vicksburg, Miss., is a colored lawyer of intelligence and I think of high standing, he certainly has the confidence and good will of both white and colored people. He knows Mississippi conditions pretty thoroughly and I think you could get a good deal of information if you could see your way clear to have him come to Washington to confer with you. He is by profession a lawyer and I think has a good practice. Yours truly,

Booker T. Washington

The enclosed letter from Mr. Riis² I think any man in the world ought to be proud of.

B. T. W.

TLS Theodore Roosevelt Papers DLC.

¹ Willis E. Mollison, born in Mississippi in 1859, was a black lawyer, banker, and politician. He was educated at Fisk and Oberlin. Active in Republican politics, he was a delegate to the Republican national conventions from 1892 to 1908. In 1912 he joined the Progressive party.

² See Oct. 10, 1901, above.

To William B. Hoswell¹

Tuskegee, Ala., October 17, 1901

My Dear Sir: I thank you very sincerely for your great kindness in placing with us the dressing gown and smoking cap worn by the late Frederick Douglass during his stay in Chicago during the World's Fair. I cannot tell you how very greatly it enriches our