

JANUARY • 1902

tion Proclamation as a ware measure to cripple the South not for any lov he had for the niggers. The nigger was given the franchise to humiliate the southern People for Boasting of ther Rebelious acts after they had been crushed out it was not for any love for the Niggers. There is more Nigger lovers in this town than ther is in all the yankee States in the Union. I was in the Union army & I know that if there is any thing the yankee hates wors than the Devl it is a nigger.

Now Mr Nigger who are you indebted to for your freedom is [it] not the people you are Raping Robbing murdering. Wo[ε] Nigger the day is not far distant when you will be Swept from the face of the earth

C. B. Church Sr

PS I can see no future for the nigger in this country CBC

ALS Con. 194 BTW Papers DLC. Written in purple ink on brown paper.

From Edgar Gardner Murphy

Concord, Mass. Jan. 1/02

My Dear Mr. Washington: The enclosed is our only copy of an interesting record and I beg that you will kindly return it to my New York address (Care, Mr. Ogden) when you have read it.

Just ten years ago (February, 1893) there took place perhaps the very first of the negro burnings for crime. I was then stationed at Laredo, Texas — a young man just beginning my active ministry in the South. The negro's crime was one of the most frightful I have ever known (upon a dear little girl of four years — he literally tore her body to pieces). The atrocity of the crime drove the people mad and made the rebuke of the punishment peculiarly difficult. Yet my whole heart cried out against the form of the negro's punishment — for I then foresaw that it would be taken as a precedent for many spectacles like it. I wrote the call for the mass meeting and then went from man to man through the town getting the names of the best men of Laredo to aid me in the public effort to *protest* against the form of the execution. I was opposed by some of my