

MAY • 1902

street cars where every child and passer-by cannot help but be attracted by it, causes me to feel that my work, as far as your influence has had to do with it, is turned to a source of great evil.

I am closely connected with the educators of Grand Rapids and I know that I am voicing their sentiments in this matter.

We wish that you would kindly inform us whether these companies have the legal permission to thus use your name and signature. If not we would like to take some steps to bring them to an account and to check such influences upon our youth. Most sincerely yours,

Chas. F. Bacon

TLS Con. 221 BTW Papers DLC.

<sup>1</sup> Charles F. Bacon of Grand Rapids, Mich., was an agent of the Sun Life Assurance Co. of Canada in 1902 and a travel agent in 1911, according to city directories.

### To Charles F. Bacon

[New York City?] May 5, 1902

My dear Sir: I thank you for your kindness in calling my attention to the display of the tobacco manufacturers who have flooded Grand Rapids with advertisements of a cigar bearing my name and exploiting same with autograph of myself. I have given my consent to no company and the unwarranted liberty taken in this matter I shall be glad to have looked into at once if you will kindly advise me as to the name of the manufacturers and jobbers of these cigars.<sup>1</sup> I feel very much grieved and shocked that persons have used my name in so unworthy a manner. Yours truly,

[Booker T. Washington]

TL Copy Con. 221 BTW Papers DLC.

<sup>1</sup> Bacon wrote BTW that the Putnam Candy Co. of Grand Rapids was the one using BTW's name. (May 10, 1902, Con. 221, BTW Papers, DLC.)