

*The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers*

I cannot get the consent of my conscience to continue receiving this monthly payment under present conditions. When this proposition was made and when I first began receiving it, I was under the impression that I was to see the Southern members of the Board and that some kind of definite, systematic and organized plan was to be agreed upon by which I could work, but this has not been done. I cannot see that I am doing anything now for education in the South which I was not doing before I began receiving this money, and under these circumstances I cannot feel that it is right, I repeat, for me to continue receiving it. I do not mean to intimate that there is not plenty of work to be done in the South in connection with my race to consume this amount and many times more. Everything possible ought to be done to keep the colored people intelligent and enthusiastic concerning the work being led so finely by the Southern Board, and the race ought to be kept in close and vital touch with it. The colored people can do much to help themselves and to help make the burdens of others lighter. Whatever I do should be done according to some plan and with the cooperation and approval of the Southern members it seems to me. Yours truly,

Booker T. Washington

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<sup>1</sup> BTW forwarded this letter to William H. Baldwin, Jr., who advised BTW not to send it to Ogden. (See Baldwin to BTW, Aug. 11, 1902, below.)

From William Henry Baldwin, Jr.

[New York City] August 11th., 1902

Dear Mr. Washington: I return herewith the letter addressed to Mr. Robert C. Ogden. I had a talk with Mr. Ogden about the matter; did not show the letter or send it to him, because it would seem like a criticism, whereas the whole matter is thoroughly understood and the feeling is all right. Mr. Dabney is spending all his money in his work, and Mr. Alderman the same. I think that the money you receive should be kept for that purpose, and when