

OCTOBER • 1902

friends and he means to mark every man who deserts him in the present crisis. A day of recognizing will come -- & soon, too.

ALd BTW Papers ATT. Modifications in E. J. Scott's hand.

### From William Demosthenes Crum

Charleston, S.C. 10/5/02

My dear Mr Washington: I wrote you about a week ago in reference to the situation in South Carolina and particularly the vacancy in The Collectorship of the Port of Charleston.

I have satisfactory assurances from Mr Jno G. Capers that if the President will appoint a colored man that he will endorse me for the position not that I believe Mr Capers wants a colored man appointed, but that if the Administration sees the advisability at this time, in view of the strained political relations of our people, of appointing one of our people to this office, he will endorse me in preference to any other candidate.

I am satisfied that the people of Charleston would soon become reconciled to my appointment on account of my past services to the community and that there would be less objection to my appointment than to any other colored applicant.

President Roosevelt feels a sentiment of gratitude toward the good people of this city for the royal way in which they entertained him during the Exposition, but I am strongly inclined to think that justice to the people who have upheld him in the past and can sustain him in the future will be the criterion by which he will make this appointment.

To my mind if the President should appoint a colored man to be Collector of this Port, [it] would offset to a large extent the bitter feeling existing throughout the country against the Administration among our people while the appointment of a white man would mean the endorsement of the actions of Alabama, North Carolina and other States that are trampling upon the rights of our people.

I feel sure that Mr Capers has selected a white man of Democratic proclivities, who will turn Republican for the occasion and that