

The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers

Lincoln on November twelfth or thirteenth either in Chicago or New York. Please telegraph answer my expense.

Booker T. Washington

TWSr Con. 542 BTW Papers DLC.

To James Carroll Napier

[Tuskegee, Ala.] Nov. 2, 1903

My dear Mr. Napier: We had a meeting of about twenty gentlemen in Atlanta night before last and took up fully the recent developments in regard to sleeping cars. One of the results of the meeting was the appointing of a committee including Mr. Rucker, Mr. Proctor, Dr. Du Bois and myself to go to Chicago and have an interview with Robert T. Lincoln. The meeting also instructed me to invite you to accompany the committee to Chicago, and this I very much hope you can consent to do. Our present plan is to be in Chicago on the 12th or 13th of November. I have today telegraphed to Chicago to see if we can have an interview with Mr. Lincoln on these dates either in Chicago or New York, wherever he should happen to be.¹
Yours truly,

[Booker T. Washington]

TLC Con. 268 BTW Papers DLC.

¹ The next day S. Laing Williams wrote BTW that he had tried to see Robert T. Lincoln in Chicago to arrange for an interview but that Lincoln had refused to see him. Through his secretary, Lincoln said that a conference with blacks might do more harm than good. He also stated that he had received a large number of letters from blacks all over the country and that he was fully aware of their opinion in the Pullman car matter. (Nov. 3, 1903, Con. 249, BTW Papers, DLC.)

To James Sullivan Clarkson

[Tuskegee, Ala.] November 3, 1903

Personal

My dear General Clarkson: I have just heard that there is an effort being made, mainly by the business men of New York, to have a