

The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers

end. My love to you both. Mr. Baldwin has spoken of you several times, but he does not talk much.¹ Sincerely yours

Ruth S. Baldwin

ALS Con. 18 BTW Papers DLC.

¹ Robert C. Baldwin wrote to BTW on Aug. 2, 1904, that William H. Baldwin had said: "I have been thinking of him [BTW] so often as I have been lying here. *He* is one of the *chief* reasons for my struggling to get well." (Con. 18, BTW Papers, DLC.)

From Theodore Roosevelt

White House, Washington. Aug. 2, 1904

Personal.

My dear Mr. Washington: I had a most satisfactory talk with Durham and thanked him most heartily for the suggestion.¹ You and he, of course, will talk to Chairman Cortelyou about the matter.

The Evening Post is showing even more than its usual hypocrisy and mendacity about the colored question. Last year Rollo Ogden, on behalf of the Evening Post, pledged the support of his paper to us on this issue in the presence of John Hay.² I paid no heed to it, for I do not believe that either Ogden or Villard have any idea of truthfulness or of keeping a promise, so I was not in the least surprised at their attacking me. The plank which was put in the National platform calls for Congressional action, and not action by the President. It is in intention morally all right, but the question is one of such importance that I should not be willing to discuss it without going over the whole subject with you and best men I could get at, white and black, in the South. So I think I shall follow your suggestion, at any rate for the time being, and let it alone.

With great regard, Sincerely yours,

Theodore Roosevelt

TLSr Copy Con. 294 BTW Papers DLC. Marked "Copy for Mr. Scott."

¹ BTW had written Roosevelt a letter to be handed to him by John S. Durham suggesting that two black men, presumably including Durham, be employed to try to win over Tammany black workers to the Republican party. (Aug. 1, 1904, BTW Papers, ATT.)

² John Milton Hay (1838-1905), McKinley's and Roosevelt's Secretary of State (1898-1905).