

JUNE • 1907

To Arthur E. Whatham

[Tuskegee, Ala.] June 1, 1907

Personal

Rev. Arthur E. Whatham, I come into contact in one form or another with the discussion of the subject which your letter raises almost constantly, and especially during the last two or three years.¹

I can remember some years ago when the subject was first brought up of having a Negro Bishop in the Episcopal Church, quite an element of colored people in that organization were opposed to it. I have noted the change in recent years, so much so that I know of no members of the Clergy who would not favor a Negro Bishop. Some have gone so far as to state that the membership of the Episcopal Church, as far as the Negro is concerned, has grown about as large as it can be without a Negro Bishop. I am quite sure if I were asked to give my opinion on the subject it would be in the direction of electing a Bishop of our race.

If I can be of further service, please let me know. Yours truly,

Booker T. Washington

TLpS Con. 363 BTW Papers DLC.

¹ Whatham, of St. Peter's Church in Louisville, asked BTW's opinion on the question of Negro bishops "for our colored work." He deplored the increase of racial discrimination in the South and in the Episcopal Church, but as though frightened by his own words he underscored at the top of his letter, "Both present letter and reply, private." (May 25, 1907, Con. 363, BTW Papers, DLC.)

John A. Hertel to Emmett Jay Scott

Chicago 6/1/07

Dear Mr. Scott: I am wiring you as you suggest that \$600. won't buy it. There are other people that would snap at it at this price, whether or not they would have the ability to make it a success is the question.

To make a long story short, Mr. Scott, I am heartily in sympathy