

OCTOBER • 1907

stant, steady influx of Negro immigration from the southern shore of the Ohio River has brought to this whole region of southern Ohio, under somewhat changed conditions and with different motives, the same struggle for the adjustment of the races that one meets elsewhere. If in other parts of the country Negroes have been made to feel that they were alien and intruders, here, where they are firmly planted in the soil, they have been able to feel at home.

One of the subtle charms of Wilberforce is that in this place a people that for almost 250 years has been almost without a tradition of its own is beginning to make a history. This is, no doubt, why so large a number of the students who have gone out from here into the world have returned to make their homes. It is one of the things that make the Negro communities that are growing up elsewhere in the South and in the West interesting and important.

World's Work, 14 (Sept. 1907), 9361-67.

From Roscoe Conkling Simmons

New York Oct. 2, 1907

Personal

Dear Uncle Booker: I have not before written you on the "Conference" because I wanted to get my editorial matter out of the way for the current week & I am not to write you voluminously; yet I want to write intelligently.

The "Conference" was interesting. Besides Mr. Milholland, who presided, there were present: A. B. Humphries; Miss M. W. Ovington; a Major Gardner¹ (?) (white) O. M. Waller; G. F. Miller; R. C. Ransom; Wilford H. Smith; Gilchrist Stewart; J. L. Curtis; B. F. Thomas, several white men who were not introduced; Granville Martin (Guardian) and myself. Dr. Sinclair² could not remain over. The Rev. Messrs; W H Brooks, M. W. Gilbert and C. S. Morris sent letters, subscribing to any action the "Conference" might take. My presence was anything but pleasant to several of the brethren, who talked at me until I arose to reply. As to what I said, or how I said it, perhaps some time Mr. Smith might tell you. I served notice on the Constitution League that it could never hope to win anything, not even the respect of men, unless it ceased