

*The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers*  
To Frank Harris Hitchcock<sup>1</sup>

Hotel Manhattan, New York City, March 1, 1908

Personal

My dear Mr. Hitchcock: Since talking to you over the telephone last night, I have decided to recommend to you the following persons for the work that we discussed:

Gov. P. B. S. Pinchback will call to see you tomorrow. The Governor is one of the few old time politicians who still retain the entire respect and confidence of the Southern colored people and who has great influence on them. The mere fact that it is known that he favors Secretary Taft will count for much. His presence in a community will always carry large weight, and I advise that he be permitted to circulate quietly through the South in the way I suggested. He has about as much influence in one state as another. He is a good "mixer," and I strongly advise that he be permitted to spend as much money as you can afford in entertaining friends where he goes.

2. Mr. S. Laing Williams, 184 Dearborn St., Chicago. Mr. Williams is a lawyer in Chicago but is well acquainted with the South, having taught school in Alabama and traveled in other sections. He is a thoroughly honest man and an admirer of Secretary Taft. He can be depended upon to do effective work. In his case it may be that you will have to pay him \$125 or \$150 a month as I hardly think he could afford to leave his office for less than that.

The third man is Mr. Ad Wimbs, of Greensboro, Ala. Mr. Thompson can tell you about him. He is wide-awake and an experienced man in such matters as you want attended to and is well acquainted throughout the South.

While Mr. Williams lives in Vorys' territory, I understand that you want the work done in the South and I do not suppose that would be an objection.

Since telephoning you last evening I have also reached the conclusion that Thomas J. Calloway, 1732 V St. N.W., Washington, D.C., will be a good man for the work that you have in mind, I mean the newspaper work.

I also believe that Col. Lewis will do good work in the direction you mention. While he is not as outspoken as some other parties