

The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers

family at once. As soon as the mob assembled, the white neighbors clustered around the house of this one colored man and his family and told the mob that in order to disturb the Negro family they would have to pass over their dead bodies, and of course the mob dispersed. There were more than half a dozen equally heroic examples. Both Dr. Bowen and Dr. Croghan stood by their posts heroically.

The main thing now is to keep the colored people from becoming discouraged. All of us should bend our efforts as far as possible in that direction. At present many of the best element feel like pulling out and leaving Atlanta.

I hope you will read to-day's New York World which gives a reasonably fair account of the riot, except I do not believe with the writer that the labor question is at the bottom of the trouble. Neither of our races in the South has reached the point where it is willing to fight for the opportunity of working. Most of us want to let the other fellow do all the work he is willing to do without let or hindrance. The editorial in the World is also worth reading.

Of course all this is confidential. Yours truly,

Booker T. Washington

TLpS Con. 32 BTW Papers DLC.

¹ James Warren English (1837-1925), a former captain in the Confederate Army, was the owner of a brick company and a banker in Atlanta. English was active in Atlanta politics beginning in the 1870s and served as mayor from 1881 to 1883. During the Atlanta Riot he was head of the police commission. At the outset of the riot he tried to calm the mob but was shouted down as a "nigger lover." (Crowe, "Racial Massacre in Atlanta," 155.)

To Henry Hugh Proctor

[Tuskegee, Ala.] Oct. 1, 1906

Dear Mr. Proctor: I suppose you have learned by this time that B's¹ name was not exposed through the treachery of the World, but he was foolish enough to send a telegram to the World requesting that his name not be used in the article, and the Atlanta