

To: Oswald Garrison Villard

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 22, 1913

My dear Mr. Villard:

I hope that you will try to see the real situation down here with regard to the treatment of the colored people. What I would do if I could act alone you already know, but what I am trying to do must be done, if done at all, through the cooperation of those with whom I am associated here in the Government. I hope and, I may say, I believe that by the slow pressure of argument and persuasion the situation may be changed and a great many things done eventually which now seem impossible. But they can not be done, either now or at any future time, if a bitter agitation is inaugurated and carried to its natural ends. I appeal to you most earnestly to aid in holding things at a just and cool equipoise until I can discover whether it is possible to work out anything or not.

Cordially and sincerely yours,

Mr. Oswald Garrison Villard,
New York City.

