

Pension Office

Washington, D.C May 22/93,

My Dear Sir:

You will remember me as the person who visited you about a year ago. (when you was in this city to lecture) I saw you at the Ebbitt House early one morning and laid before you to some extent, my plans for the formation of a National Mechanical and industrial Association of Colored men, which you thought to be an excellent project.

You told me that you was a poor man & could not assist me in the movement yourself, but that you might interest some friends that would probably assist me.

I mail you some papers to show you that I am still at work on the project, and am as earnest & persistent as ever.

My plans are as follows: First I want to get out a pamphlet containing my lecture, & a discourse by Dr. Alex Crummell and also a plan of temporary organization & how to send delegates to A National Convention in the

(over)

city of Atlanta, Ga., some time in next September, at which time & place we purpose to organize & put in working order a National Mechanical & Industrial Association of Colored Americans, who will take up the work of promoting our work-men & women in the trades & other higher callings.

As soon as this book is printed I will start & make a 30 days tour through the principal Southern Cities lecturing & distributing the literature.

I want to have printed about 15,000 copies of this book which will contain 50 pages & will cost as follows:- To set up the matter & have it plated & print of the first 1000 - \$125. The additional copies will cost $2\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ a piece or \$25. per M.

I have seen one friend here in Washington who has assured me that he is willing to help me some, but not all of this expense of printing. I am getting up a circular to use in soliciting some advertisements from national business

houses, which I hope will prove to be another source of revenue. Now if you have any friends that will assist in such a movement, let them pay you & you can hand the money over to Mr. J. H. Murphy of #207 East Fayette St. Baltimore Md., as soon as he has completed the work of printing, & I shall have notified you.

If you want to see the indorsements of this movement, my authority for calling a convention, the manuscript which I want printed and copies of my recommendations which are on file in the Dept. of the Interior, drop me a card to that effect & I will forward them to you at once. I am anxious to get the book out at once so as to give our people time to make ample preparation for our fall convention. I can send more copies of news papers if desired.

An early reply will be appreciated by

Judge Albion W. Tourgee,
Mayville
N. Y.

Your Truly
Chas. E. Lane,
Pension Office,
Wash. D. C.