

DECEMBER
3, 1912.

My dear Sothenes:-

Just a line or two to confirm the short conversation we had today.

After we parted on Sunday night, I recalled our conversation about the Auditorship (in case it should become vacant) and gave the matter some thought. In fact I came to the conclusion of talking to you and ask you not to propose my name for the position.

There are many reasons why my name should not be presented:-

First:- I like my present job better than any other, and would not leave it except by force. ^{circumstances} It is an elective place, with two years more to serve, and I am very much interested in the public improvements to be commenced next year by reason of the proposed bond issue.

Second:- My appointment would fail confirmation in the Senate, and this would work against both my party and myself. The old story of a few months ago, that the appointment was the paying of a political debt, would be brought up again by the Democrats in Porto Rico and the Progressives in the States. You must remember that there are a few Progressive Senators on the Committee, among them our old friend Pointdexter.

Third:- I intend to help pull wires myself for the appointment of a Porto Rican, and I want to have my hands free to put my shoulder to the wall and help you push the fellow whom the Party may decide upon. I remember that one of the last things the President said to me after that conference in Washington, was, that I should write him direct the first time a vacancy occurred, and I am going to do so and remind him of his promise.

The LAST but not LEAST of the reasons, I will whisper in your ear the first time we meet.

I hope you will see things in the same light as I see them; in any event I want you to please take these reasons of mine as a final decision reached after matured thoughts.

Suyo siempre affmo. amigo y paisa.