

Washington D.C.

June 3, 1913

My dear Governor:

I had the pleasure of receiving your letter of the 1st instant and am very sorry to hear that you have been so long bothered with your late complaint and hope that you will be yourself again and that we will meet soon in Chicago.

You are correct in your statement about the present situation and I believe that if all our friends stick together, we can pull our friend through without any difficulty.

The Colonel will find out very soon that it is not an easy matter to bully old political men who know about their rights and duties, both towards the Party and the country and your comparison with the 1896 situation is a very correct one and as it happened then the people ^{will} decide on the right side.

Secretary Hilles is not in town; he went to Chicago via Columbus; I will see him day after to-morrow ^{in Chicago} and give him your message.

I met Col. McCoy this morning, who is on his way to Chicago; we had a long talk about you and other friends.

I had luncheon yesterday with the President and we spoke a good deal about Porto Rican matters, mostly ~~that~~ of the Citizenship Bill pending in the Senate. He promised that he would look

up the membership of the Committee and have a talk with his friends on the Committee and see what can be done before Congress adjourns. Of course he believes that the Lorimer situation will hamper our chances in getting it through, but he promised to interest himself in the matter.

On account of the subject of more native ^{representation} ~~appointments~~ on the Executive Council of Porto Rica, (which I suggested to him in lieu of the Elective Senate provided for in the bill introduced by Mr. Jones and which the President believes is very far from having any chance of passing in the Senate,) the President was very much pleased with the suggestion and asked me if I would telegraph him just as soon as the convention adjourns, ~~when~~ he would arrange for a meeting of yourself, the Secretary of War, General McIntyre (if he is here) and myself, at the White House, to talk about different Porto Rican matters, especially this one of increasing the native representation on the Executive Council.

I hope, Governor, that this will meet with your approval and that you will help me induce both the President and the Secretary of War to make this move, just as a trial. This will be an experiment and I am sure that you will agree with me

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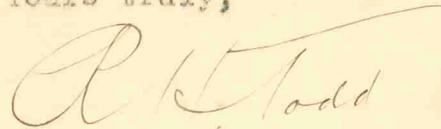
that it will not be a harmful experiment. The President himself told me that the two Filipinos appointed on the Commission are doing excellent work and you know, Governor, that you are acquainted with many Porto Ricans who would discharge certain Cabinet positions in Porto Rica with just as good, if not better, ability, than others whom I do not care to mention.

My boy took his diploma last evening and it is useless to say that I am proud of him. He is going back Saturday, the 8th.

De Diego and Correa left last Saturday on the Carolina and Mr. Sanchez is still in the country somewhere, but will be in Chicago on the 8th.

My best regards to Miss Colton. Hoping that both she and you are entirely recovered and that I will see you in Chicago as you mention, I beg to remain,

Yours truly,



Hon. George R. Colton,
Lake Placid Club,
Essex County, N. Y.