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OFFICE OF  
INDIAN AFFAIRS  
Rec'd. DEC 16

1885

19/130

Capt. R. N. Pratt  
Carlisle School

Dec. 15, 1885

Trans. vch. for ex-  
pense of bringing  
back to the School

certain run-away  
pupils - recites the  
circumstances which  
caused these pupils to  
abscond, and urges the  
necessity of establish-  
ing a reformatory at  
the school.

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Trans. to "4" *General*  
Dec. 19 '85

Secretary Dec. 22 /  
R. N. Pratt Dec 20 /  
1885

6026	DEPARTMENT	RECEIVED
	INDIAN DIV	DEC 24 1885

AUTHORITY,

No. 11818	RECEIVED
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIR	DEC 26 1885

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Expansion  
approx. J. 26 O.

U. S.

Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa., Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 1885

To the Hon.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs  
Washington D. C.

Sir;

I transmit herewith, for your action, the Account for traveling and incidental expenses of Mr. Harris, one of my employes, in bringing back to the School, two runaway boys. The circumstances are these. For more than a year past, we have been particularly troubled, with petty stealing among the large boys, they losing little articles, prized by them, and also small sums of money. The stealing, was so shrewdly accomplished, that we could get no further than suspicion, that rested on three or four boys, finally, the loss of a pair of gloves, led to the exposure, they were found in the possession of Charles Redmore, a half breed Cheyenne, nineteen years old, who came to us, two years ago, with a party from Rosebud Agency, Dakota, a search of his belongings, found in his

profession, a considerable number of the articles, that had been lost, from time to time by the other boys, and it was developed, that he had a quantity of money buried, and altogether, that he was a most skillful, and systematic thief. I had him duly tried by a Court, composed of the more advanced students, who found him guilty upon many counts, and from his own confession, and sentenced him to be publicly whipped, in the presence of the other boys, and to have a good sized block of wood, upon which the word "Thief" was painted, chained to his leg, and be confined in the guard house, at nights, and compelled to break stone, during the day time, for one month. This sentence I approved, and after it had been under execution six days, a Sioux boy "Dana Long Wolf", from Pine Ridge Agency, released him from the guard house, broke off his chain, and they ran away together. I heard of them just before they reached Pittsburg, and telegraphed the authorities, to arrest them. They did so, and this account, covers the expense of going after, and bringing them back.

I have been thus minute, in describing this case, in

order, that I might urge upon your attention, a scheme for a Reformatory, which originated in the Department, and was advocated to Congress, some years ago. The presence in the school, of such boys as Redman and Long Wolf, is a serious influence, against the best interests of the students. There ought to be, a Reformatory under the management of the Government, where such cases could be taken care of. It is equally wrong to remand them to the reservation, where the appliances of discipline are much weaker, than ours and the Government Officials already overloaded. Since Redman's crimes at the school came out, his character at the Agency is made public, and <sup>it is</sup> found that he was a thief there, a number of times having stolen Horses, or ponies, and ran them off and sold them. A Penal Institution, remote from the tribes to which the schools might, with the approval of the Department, send incorrigibles, and also <sup>where</sup> the Agencies, through the Courts of Indian offences, <sup>might send offenders</sup> would be an invaluable aid to the management of Indian Affairs.

Very Respectfully  
Your Obedient Servant

R. H. Pratt  
10 Apr 10<sup>th</sup> Cary Sept