

Miscellaneous
R. H. Pratt

125 St. Office of Army.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

1098

Rec'd SEP 6

Sept. 4. 1880

1880

79
Communication to Dr. J. S.
Bender, Physician to
Indian Training School
Carlisle Barracks, notifying
him that for reasons given
herein his services here
will cease on Sept. 30th
or sooner if he chooses.

Indian Training School
Carlisle Barracks

Sept. 4. 1880

Copy respectfully forwarded
to the Hon. Commissioner of
Indian Affairs for his
information. I will
Howd

inform the Department
what arrangements I
consider best and can
make in regard to a
Medical Attendant
here.

R. H. Pratt
1st Lt. 10th Cav'y
In charge

Filed Sept. 14. 1880

"Copy"

United States Indian Service,

TRAINING SCHOOL FOR INDIAN YOUTH,

CARLISLE BARRACKS,

Carlisle, Pa., Sept. 21st 1880

Dr. J. S. Bender
Carlisle Pa

Sir

On Thursday in conversation with you, and covering somewhat the entire ground of your service at the school, you will remember that you concurred in my statement that almost every case that went into the Hospital either died or had to be sent home, and that you acknowledged that the cause of so. cd mortality, was something you could not understand, that your medicines did not have the same effect on Indians as upon whites. When I stated that your want of success, had been a source of greatest possible distress to me, you freely acknowledged that I had reason to be distressed, and admitted that you were very much disturbed yourself. You will remember that I stated to you I had continued your services beyond my own judgement because the Department desired your practice should be tried, and you were considered to be at the head of your school here and I desired

that there should be the amplest opportunity in your favor. You will remember further that I then told you I felt it best you should retire, that I esteemed you personally and did not want to injure your practice in the town, that I suggested your resignation in your own way might serve you best and would rather you would indicate a method of retirement yourself. On Friday afternoon having heard nothing from you I addressed you the following note, "I have not yet received your desires as to the course you would prefer to be pursued in severing your relations to the School"

You then came to my house and we had something of a conversation, during the course of which, you made several remarks all evidently directed toward the accomplishment of the same object which I presume of course to have been your determination to continue your professional services here whether desired or not. Their character leads me to go over them here in order that they may become a matter of Office Record.

You said that three months from now you could continue, irrespective of my wishes, you afterwards corrected that by saying if Garfield became President

You could do. In Reply to my question you denied that you intended a threat by this. At another time in your Remarks you said that if Hancock was elected I would have hard work in keeping up this School.

I take it therefore that your Position is one of Politics and therefore objectionable to the interests of the School.

You stated further that you would not have me an unprofessional man sit in judgement on your Practices, that you should demand your Years Salary if you were compelled to vacate your Position before the year expired.

If your Recollection in regard to the Statements differ from mine and you desire to make it known, I request that you please what you have to say in writing and send it to me at an early day. I desire here to recall to you that on Sunday Afternoon I was taken violently ill with frequent spasms of pain in the bowels accompanied by stools mixed with blood, that you attended me twice daily and gave me medicine until Wednesday evening, that you informed me and others that I would be laid up for a couple of weeks, that on Wednesday evening you had proposed to give me doses

doses of Mercury, that I having told you that Dr. Gibbs of the Navy and family were coming to pay me a social visit on Wednesday, you freely and of your own accord authorized me to consult him.

That I did so and he recommended as the only medicine I needed a simple dose of Castor Oil and Turpentine, that I concluded then to take his prescription and not yours.

When you visited me Thursday morning you found me relieved from the pain and yesterday Friday I was up and about, able to attend to business in town, and to day Saturday I am able to write you this letter.

Your Mercury might have accomplished the same for me but I do not think so, and I believe that if the dose of oil had been administered Sunday night I would have been relieved the same.

In view of all the foregoing it seems best to inform you that at the expiration of the present month of September, which is also the end of the Quarter, your services as Physician for the School will end unless you choose to end them sooner. A copy of this letter I shall transmit to the Department as my only reasons for severing your relations and making recommendations.

5
for future Service. Any Reply or Correction you wish
to make I will transmit without comment if it is
limited to the substance of this letter, and if you
desire to make Reply, you will please do it through
me.

I add another paragraph to say that as the general
Faculty of the School will admit of it now you need
not make professional visits except as I notify you
they are needed and this will aid you to build up
the practice between this and September 10th which
you claim to have lost.

Respectfully
(Signed) R. H. Pratt
100 So. 10th Ave
In Charge