

JU 65-702

TO BE USED ONLY AS

PERSONNEL RECORD FOLDER

FOR

WAR DEPARTMENT CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE

(201 FILE)

UPON RECEIPT OF THIS FILE, ALL PAPERS SHOULD BE VERIFIED AS PERTAINING TO THE INDIVIDUAL CONCERNED. RETURN ANY PAPERS CONCERNING A DIFFERENT INDIVIDUAL TO THE OFFICE FROM WHICH THE FILE IS RECEIVED, OR TO THE DISCONTINUED PROJECTS BRANCH, A.G.O., IF THE PRESENT EMPLOYING STATION IS NOT INDICATED.

IF THIS FILE IS MISPLACED OR MISROUTED AND THE EMPLOYING OFFICE CANNOT BE DETERMINED, OR ON SEPARATION OF EMPLOYEE FROM WAR DEPARTMENT EMPLOYMENT, OR ON TRANSFER TO A STATION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES, FORWARD FILE IN THIS FOLDER TO CHIEF, DISCONTINUED PROJECTS BRANCH, A. G. O.

Continued

ITEM NO. 53-F-4627



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY.

FILE NO. 23 2311

S

(c)

STATUS OF EMPLOYES

-o00o-

MAJOR WILLIAM A. MERCER, U.S.A.

of

*Ans
2/26/1903
Wan*
Dictated.

United States Senate,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

February 25, 1903.

Personal.

My dear Mr. President:

We are very deeply interested in having Captain W. A. Mercer, of the Seventh United States Cavalry, detailed to be Superintendent of the Indian School, at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, the position made vacant through the retirement of Colonel Pratt. Captain Mercer is in every way qualified, and we feel quite certain that his administration of the Institution will be greatly beneficial to the Indian pupils. We earnestly urge that you order the desired detail.

Very truly yours,

The President,

White House,

City.

*MS Lucy
Ber. Cannon*

MAR 4

WAR DEPARTMENT

475256

Mercer,

Capt. Wm. A.

Filed with 4337 ACP 80

MAR 10

Washington, D.C.,
Feb. 25, 1903,Hon. Matthew S. Quay,
U.S., and Hon. Boies
Penrose, U.S.,To the President: For
detail of Wm. A. Mercer,
Capt. 7. Cav., as Supt.
Indian School, Carlisle,
Pa. Telegram from Hon.
Orville H. Platt, U.S.,
recommg Capt. Mercer
for the detail, enclosed.
Rec'd. from War Dept.

1 Encl. ago.

4337 ACP 80 2 1/2

Received

A. G. O.
M. & R. D.

MAR 2 1903

DEPT. OF THE
INTERIOR
APPOINTMENT
DIVISION.RECEIVED
MAR 10 1903

WHITE HOUSE.

The within communication is respectfully
referred to the

SECRETARY OF WAR.

By direction of the President:

WILLIAM LOEB, JR.,

Secretary.

O

2nd Endorsement.

E. J. D.

Adjutant General's Office,

Washington, March 5, 1903.

Respectfully referred to the
Secretary of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

H. C. Cortin

Adjutant General
Major General, U.S. Army
for the
Secretary of War.MAR 9 1903
DEPT. OF THE INTERIORSECRETARY
MAR 9 1903
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

app 811

TELEGRAM.

White House,

Senate, February 25, 1903.

Washington.

12:25 p.m., kq

The President:

If Colonel Pratt is to be relieved at the Carlisle School, I can think of no better man to succeed him than Captain W.A. Mercer, 7th Cavalry, who has been for nine years an Indian Agent of remarkable ability and successful administration, first at La Pointe, then at the Omaha and Winnebago agency, and then at Leech Lake, following the outbreak, and now detailed to the Uintah Reservation. He has had charge of numerous Indian Schools which have been uniformly successful. Having shown unusual capacity, I think no mistake could be made in putting him in charge of this important school. He was appointed to the Army 23 years ago from New London, Conn., and I have kept track of him so that I think I am qualified to speak on this subject.

Respectfully,

O.H. Platt.

OFFICE OF ADJUTANT GENERAL

MAR 4

475256

1903

WAR DEPARTMENT

| | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------------|
| | DEPT. OF THE WAR | RECEIVED |
| | APPOINTMENT DIVISION. | MAR 10 1903 |

Encl. 1 Ago

My dear Sir,

Yours Very Truly.

Wm. Grosvenor.

Rector Church of the Incarnation.
New York.

March 2. 1903.
DEPT. OF THE
INTERIOR
209 Madison Avenue
DIVISION.
RECEIVED
MAR 11 1903
3/11/1903
Mar

The President.

My dear Sir.

I understand that
Captain William A. Mercer
is being considered for the
position of Superintendent
of the Carlisle Indian School.
I know Capt. Mercer very
well personally, & many
prominent people have
spoken to me of the excellence

of his work among the
Indians. You could not
get a better man for that
particular place, I am
certain that from his past
record he would make
a most successful super-
intendent, & by his genial
strong & manly touch with
men, he would win the
cordial support of all
who would work with

him, & gain for the School many good
friends. He will, I am sure, throw his
whole heart into the work & give it the
best powers of mind & heart & unceasing
effort. His request I am sure will not
be counted unreasonable by ~~you~~ for I feel
that in helping you in this matter I get
the best man for the position - With great

Filed with 4337 ^{Mar} acp 80

475256
ago

209 Madison Ave.,
New York,
Mar. 2, 1903,

Rev. Wm. M. Grosvenor,

To the President: Rec-
ommends Wm. A. Mer-
cer, Capt. & Cav., for de-
tail as Supt. Carlisle In-
dian School, Pa.

Rec'd from War Dept.

Recorded Mar. 6, 1903, ago

475256

475256

2314

Received A. G. O.
M. & R. D. MAR 4 1903

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR | RECEIVED |
| APPOINTMENT DIVISION. | MAR 11 1903 |

WHITE HOUSE.

The within communication is respectfully
referred to the

SECRETARY OF WAR.

By direction of the President:

WILLIAM LOEB, JR.,

Secretary.



2nd Endorsement.

Adjutant General's Office,
Washington, March 7, 1903.

Respectfully referred to the
Secretary of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

A. J. Hall

Acting Adjt. General.
for the
Secretary of War.



| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR | RECEIVED |
| APPOINTMENT DIVISION | -2- MAR 12 1903 |

Mercer, Capt
a

know and in the management of Indian Schools.

I am aware that it has been thought wise to assign Captain Mercer to the Utah Agency, but it does seem as though it were much easier to find a man suited to fill that place, than the superintendency of the Carlisle School. I sincerely trust for the good of the service, that you will give very serious thought to the suggestion herein contained. It is made with absolutely no motive whatever, other than what I believe for the best interests of the service.

I am with great respect and esteem,

Your obedient servant,

J. S. Sherman



*ackd.
3-11-1903
J. S. Sherman*

House of Representatives,
Washington.

March 9, 1903.

The President,

Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President,-

Apropos of the resignation of R. H. Pratt of the Carlisle Indian School, I beg to suggest the assignment of Captain Mercer to fill the vacancy thus created.

As you are aware, the Carlisle School is the largest of the Indian Schools, and under Captain Pratt's successful management for many years has reached a high degree of efficiency. I think it requires special fitness to maintain its present standard.

Captain Mercer has had extensive experience in the Indian service, as you

Filed with 4337a60.80
475256 a.g.10
B G.P.

Washington, D.C.
March 5, 1903.

D.
Rev. G.H.M. Villiers Appleby, D.D.L.L.
Arch-deacon of Duluth, Minn. etc.

Letter to the President, recom-
mending Captain William A. Mercer,
for deatil as Supt. of the Car-
lisle Indian School.

Received from the War Dept.

* 7th Cavalry.

| | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------------|
| | DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR | RECEIVED |
| | APPOINTMENT DIVISION. | MAR 16 1903 |



Recorded March 11, 1903

Received A.G.O. M.A.R.D. MAR 9 1903

WHITE HOUSE.

Respectfully referred to the

SECRETARY OF WAR

for acknowledgment and consideration.

By direction of the President:

WILLIAM LOEB, Jr.,

Secretary.

MAR 7 1903



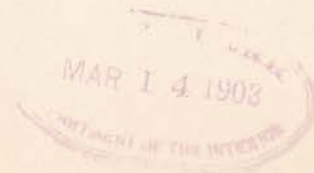
2nd Endorsement.

Adjutant General's Office.

Washington. March 12, 1903.

Respectfully referred to
the Secretary of the
Interior, Washington,
D.C.

W.T. Hull
Acting Adjt. General.
for the
Adj. Secretary of War.



| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| DEPT. OF THE INDIAN | RECEIVED |
| ASSISTANT DIVISION | MAR 12 1903 |

OFFICE OF THE
BISHOP OF DULUTH,
2131 E. SUPERIOR STREET,
DULUTH, MINN.

5th March,
1903.

Sir.

A vacancy has oc-
curred in the Superintendent-
ship of the Indian School
Carleton Place, Ont. and I
beg to bring to the notice
of Your Excellency the
name of Capt Wm. A. Mercet
of the W.S. Cavalry, as a
person eminently fitted
to fill the position with
credit. Captain Mercet
was for some years
the acting Indian

Agent in charge of the
Leech Lake Carr. Lake
and Red Lake Reservations.
These places are all
within my diocese and
I have six Indian
Missionaries on these
Reservations. I had
a good opportunity there
fore of observing Capt.
McKers work. HE is
the only official I ever
found among the Ojibways
who understood the
problems and could
solve them. HE established
law and order where there
had been chaos. HE was
the terror of the lumberjack

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| | RECEIVED |
| APPROPRIATE DIVISION | MAR 12 1903 |

OFFICE OF THE
BISHOP OF DULUTH,
2131 E. SUPERIOR STREET,
DULUTH, MINN.

2

and bootleggers, who
corrupt the Indians, men
and women, with whiskey
and he was equally ferred
by the rich thieves who
try to steal the Indians
pine. He inspired the
Indians with the idea of
self help, and at Ojibwa
his headquarters he transformed
the ragged drunken Indians
into a well dressed, hard-
working community with
really attractive little homes.
With swift and prompt de-
cision he controlled the
dangerous element on the
North side of Red Lake

which he has to had always
been deficient of authority
and would permit no
sign of condignation in their
environment.

He, established boarding
schools, well equipped
and officered, at Onigum,
Bena, Cass Lake, Red
Lake (South shore) and Red
Lake North shore. He filled
them with Indian children
and the work has been a
great success. His military
training, firmness, patience
good nature and down-
right honesty are
attractive to the Indian.
After two or three years
of splendid work he

| | |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| RECEIVED | DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR |
| MAR 12 1903 | APPOINTMENT DIVISION. |

Mercer, Capt. Wm.

Supt. Bureau.



AM bnr

3.

OFFICE OF THE
BISHOP OF DULUTH,
2131 E. SUPERIOR STREET,
DULUTH, MINN.

resigned, to our great
regret. I might add
that the Agent was
nobly seconded by
his family. Mrs Mercer
built with the aid of his
friends St John's Merc
Memorial Chapel, near
the Indian School,
and was the main
influence in the
establishment of the
Indian home for aged
and destitute women.
Believing Capt Mercer
has had a wide experience
among the Indians

in other parts of our country
with equal, if not happy results.
But of that I have ~~no~~ knowledge.
I regret that there is no Indian
school at Carlisle.

I think all our Ojibway
children should be ed-
ucated in Northern Min-
nesota, and the schools
like Carlisle should
be here at home.

But if the Institution is
to be continued, it should
be under the control of a
Man like Mercer, who
has the confidence
and esteem of the Indians,
who has had wide ex-
perience in the
Establishment

of Indian children, and
from the observation of years
has learned what is needed
to make the training at Carlisle
really useful to the Indian
after he goes back to his
Indian home and friends.

Very Respectfully,

Wm. M. Mearns,
His Excellency, Governor of South
Dakota.

man
The President
of the United States.

Wider Caticula Cmt.
Archdeacon's Residence.
Duluth, Minnesota.

Washington D.C.
March 5th 1903.

Dear Sir,

I understand that the Superintendent
of the Carlisle Indian School has resigned.
I would therefore respectfully call your
Excellency's attention to the sterling merits
of Captain William Allen Mercer of the US
Seventh Cavalry, & would earnestly commend
him to your favorable notice as a man who
is eminently fitted for the responsible position
of Superintendent of said School.

Captain Mercer has had vast experience in the Indian service. He has had general supervision of 19 boarding and day schools on 16 Reservations. He has started and superintended the construction of several of said boarding schools.

Captain Mercer is a man of large common sense, is most able & efficient in the management of Indians, & readily inspires confidence among them. His executive ability is undoubted.

Bishop Morrison of Duluth, I am sure will endorse all I have stated in regard to Captain Mercer.

With highest respect & esteem
I remain

Yours very sincerely

J. W. Wilcox Esq. D.D.

Archdeacon of Duluth & General Superintendent of
Indian Missions in Minnesota

Refer in reply to the following:

Accounts,
38280-1903.
1 enclosure.

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

WASHINGTON, June 22, 1903.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Interior.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a communication from William M. Grosvenor, Rector of the Church of the Incarnation, New York, relative to the appointment of Capt. William A. Mercer as Superintendent of the Indian School at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, for such action as may be deemed proper.

Very respectfully,

Commissioner.

(K)

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR | RECEIVED |
| APPOINTMENT DIVISION. | JUN 24 1903 |

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

June 22, 1903.

Transmits communication
from William M. Grosvenor, Rec-
tor of the Church of the Incar-
nation, New York, relative to
the appointment of Capt. Wm. A.
Mercer as Superintendent of Car-
lisle School, Pa.

1 enclosure.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a communication from
New York, relative to the appointment of Capt. William A. Mercer
William M. Grosvenor, Rector of the Church of the Incarnation;
for such action as may be deemed proper.

Very respectfully,

Commissioner

(K)

WASHINGTON, JUNE 22, 1903.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Department of the Interior

Spokane

38280

OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
Rec. JUN 19

1903

| | | |
|----------|--|-------------------------|
| 70 18 | DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR APPOINTMENT DIVISION. | RECEIVED JUN 24 1903 |
|----------|--|-------------------------|

Wm M. Grosvenor,
City, Mar-2-10,
Letter of rec. favor
Capt. W. A. Mercer.
wraps

To Secy 6/22/03

R. Olive

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Rector Church of the Incarnation | RECEIVED |
| APPOINTMENT DIVISION | JUN 24 1903 |

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|------|
| 38280 | Indian Office | 1903 |
| Incl. No. | | |

March 2, 1903.

209 Madison Avenue.

Hon. The Commissioner
of Indian Affairs.

My dear Sir,

I understand that
Captain Wm. A. Mercer.
is being considered by
you for the position of the
Superintendent of the
Carlisle Indian School.
I have reason to know
of him both personally

& from many prominent
people who have learned
of his work among the
Indians & I am confident
that he would admirably
fill this responsible place,
& by his strong, kind &
gentle touch with men
would not only success-
fully carry on the School
but win for it the esteem

& the interest of many people whom it
would do well for the School to have as
friends. & I sincerely trust that he may
get this place for his past record &
interests this present place & purpose
could call out for it all his best powers
there. I am, Dear Sir, Truly,
Yours,
Wm. A. Spooner.

Copy sent
to Indian
Office

72

*File for Capt. Mercer
as Capt. at Carlisle.*

off

SPECIAL ORDERS, {
No. 187.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, June 11, 1904.

Extract.

* * * * *

14. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved July 13, 1892, Captain *Chalmers G. Hall*, 5th Cavalry, is detailed as acting Indian agent at the Uintah and Ouray Agency, Utah, to take effect July 1, 1904, vice Captain *William A. Mercer*, 7th Cavalry, who is hereby relieved as of that date. On application from the Interior Department Captain *William A. Mercer*, 7th Cavalry, is detailed, under the provisions of section 7 of the act of Congress approved June 23, 1879, for special duty with reference to Indian education, to take effect July 1, 1904, and will then report to the Secretary of the Interior for duty as superintendent of the Indian Industrial School at Carlisle, Pennsylvania. The travel enjoined is necessary for the public service.

15. Brigadier General *Richard H. Pratt*, U. S. Army, retired, who while serving as 1st lieutenant, 10th Cavalry, was detailed, under the provisions of section 7 of the act of Congress approved June 23, 1879, for special duty with reference to Indian education is relieved from the further operation of paragraph 7, Special Orders, No. 194, August 23, 1879, Headquarters of the Army, and from all duty under the Interior Department, to take effect June 30, 1904.

* * * * *

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

ADNA R. CHAFFEE,

Lieutenant General, Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

F. C. AINSWORTH,

The Military Secretary.

*Appointment Clerk
Department of the Interior*

ICE
INTERIOR



The President:

I have the honor to request that Capt. W. A. Mercer, 7th Cavalry, now Acting Indian Agent at the Uintah ^{and Ouray} Agency, Utah, be detached from duty there, and be detailed, under provisions of Section 7, of the Act approved June 23, 1879, for special duty under this Department, as Superintendent of the Indian Industrial School at Carlisle, Pa.

Captain Mercer has had about eleven years' experience as Indian Agent, and has had the supervision of, and been responsible for, the discipline and efficiency of twenty-two Indian schools, and I know of no one who is better equipped for the superintendency of the Carlisle school.

Immediately following your placing Colonel Pratt upon the retired list of the Army, he tendered his resignation as Superintendent of the Carlisle school, but no action was taken thereon by me. The time has now arrived when the good of the Indian service and the proper administration of the laws of Congress, and the rules and regulations of this Department demand a change in the superintendency at Carlisle.

It is desirable that Captain Mercer be detailed so

that he can enter upon duty with the beginning of the new fiscal year, July 1, 1904. To succeed Captain Mercer as Acting Indian Agent at Uintah, ^{and Ouray Agency} Utah, it has been arranged, after a personal conference with the Secretary of War and General Chaffee, that Captain C. G. Hall, of the 5th Cavalry, now on duty at Fort DuChesne, Utah, (which is within the limits of the Reservation) shall be detailed to this duty.

I respectfully recommend that your approval be given to the detail of these officers.

Very respectfully,

E. A. Mischeck.
Secretary.

APPROVED.

Theodore Roosevelt

| | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------------|
| | DEPT OF THE INTERIOR | RECEIVED * |
| | APPOINTMENT DIVISION. | JUN 23 1904 |

Mercer, Capt W. O.

Supt. Carlsruhe

Copy filed for
Capt Hall.

POSTAL TELEGRAPH-CABLE COMPANY IN CONNECTION WITH THE COMMERCIAL CABLE COMPANY.



16.

CLARENCE H. MACKAY, President.
J. O. STEVENS, Sec'y. WM. H. BAKER, V. P. & G. M.

CLARENCE H. MACKAY, President.
ALBERT BECK, Sec'y. GEO. G. WARD, V. P. & G. M.



(1807)

TELEGRAM

The Postal Telegraph-Cable Company transmits and delivers this message subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back of this blank.

Ha 23 Collect govt, Received at
12:50 P.m.
Carlisle Penna,
(WHERE ANY REPLY SHOULD BE SENT.)
July 1st 1904.
Secretary of the Interior. Wash DC.

*I report for duty, and have assumed
charge today. Reside here.*

*Marcus
Capt, Inspt in charge.*



FORM 16.

POSTAL TELEGRAPH-CABLE COMPANY.

This Company transmits and delivers the within message subject to the following

TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

To guard against mistakes or delays, the sender of a message should order it REPEATED; that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. For this, one-half the regular rate is charged in addition. It is agreed between the sender of the message written on the face hereof and the Postal Telegraph-Cable Company, that said Company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any UNREPEATED message, beyond the amount received for sending the same; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any REPEATED message beyond fifty times the sum received for sending the same, unless specially insured, nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of its lines, or for errors in cipher or obscure messages. And this Company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward any message over the lines of any other Company when necessary to reach its destination.

Correctness in the transmission of messages to any point on the lines of the Company can be INSURED by contract in writing, stating agreed amount of risk, and payment of premium thereon, at the following rates, in addition to the usual charge for repeated messages, viz: one per cent. for any distance not exceeding 1,000 miles, and two per cent. for any greater distance.

No responsibility regarding messages attaches to this Company until the same are presented and accepted at one of its transmitting offices; and if a message is sent to such office by one of this Company's messengers, he acts for that purpose as the agent of the sender.

Messages will be delivered free within the established free delivery limits of the terminal office. For delivery at a greater distance a special charge will be made to cover the cost of such delivery.

This Company will not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission.

This is an UNREPEATED message and is delivered by request of the sender under the conditions named above. Errors can be guarded against only by repeating a message back to the sending station for comparison.

No employee of this Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

WILLIAM H. BAKER,
V. P. and Gen'l Manager.

JOHN O. STEVENS,
Secretary.

CLARENCE H. MACKAY,
President.

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| RECEIVED ★ | JUL 2 1904 |
| DEPT OF THE INTERIOR | APPOINTMENT DIVISION. |



Handwritten signature: J. H. M.

Refer in reply to the following:

Accounts

43255/1904

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

WASHINGTON, July 2, 1904.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Interior.

Sir:

I have the honor to state that Capt. W. A. Mercer re-
ceived to Major R. H. Pratt for all public property, etc., and
assumed charge of the Carlisle Industrial School, Pa., on the
first instant.

Very respectfully,

H. G. Donner
Acting Commissioner.

(B)

(B)

| | | |
|--|--|-------------------------|
| DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR ACCOUNTS DIVISION | | RECEIVED JUL 14 1904 |
| 43255/1904 | | |
| Refer in reply to the following | | |

Office of Indian Affairs,
July 2, 1904.

Advising that Capt. W. A. Mercer received to Major R. H. Pratt and assumed charge of Carlisle Industrial School, Pa.

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

WASHINGTON,

July 2, 1904.

The Secretary of the Interior.

I have the honor to state that Capt. W. A. Mercer received to Major R. H. Pratt for all public property, etc., and assumed charge of the Carlisle Industrial School, Pa., on the first instant.

Very respectfully,

Acting Commissioner.

Approved
JUL 5 1904
DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

| | | |
|--|--------------------------|------------|
| | DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR | RECEIVED |
| | APPOINTMENT DIVISION | OCT 3 1904 |

My dear Mr Lee
 This
 is the letter
 that I would like
 to have filed in
 your appointment
 drawer. It
 relates to Capt.
 Turner.
 Sincerely
 W. H. Brown

file
 East.

J. H. H.

Refer in reply to the following:

Education

11358-12207-1903.

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

WASHINGTON, June 10, 1904.

The Honorable,
The Secretary of the Interior.

Sir:

Referring to the resignation of Col. Richard H. Pratt as superintendent of the Indian school at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, tendered on February 17, 1903, and also to the personal conversation with you relative to this matter, I have the honor to recommend that the Honorable Secretary of War be requested to recall the detail of Colonel Pratt as acting superintendent and in charge of the said Indian school at Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

I further recommend that the Honorable Secretary of War be requested to detail Capt. William A. Mercer, U. S. A., present acting United States Indian agent at the Uintah & Ouray agency, Utah, for duty as acting superintendent of the Indian school at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and that he be allowed the compensation of \$1,000 fixed by law for any military officer acting as such superintendent.

I would further recommend that the detail of Capt. Mercer take effect so that he may assume charge of the Indian school at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, on July 1, 1904.

Very respectfully,

W. A. Jones
Commissioner

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, June 10, 1904.

| | | | | | |
|----------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| RECEIVED | DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR | APPOINTMENT DIVISION | 11558-12207-1903 | Education | For a reply to the following: |
| | OCT 1904 | | | | |

Referring to the resignation of Col. Richard H. Pratt as superintendent of the Indian school at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, tendered on February 17, 1903, and also to the personal conversation with you relative to this matter, I have the honor to recommend that the Honorable Secretary of War be requested to recall the detail of Colonel Pratt as acting superintendent and in charge of the said Indian school at Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

I further recommend that the Honorable Secretary of War be requested to detail Capt. William A. Mercer, U. S. A., present acting United States Indian agent at the Uintah & Ouray agency, Utah, for duty as acting superintendent of the Indian school at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and that he be allowed the compensation of \$1,000 fixed by law for any military officer acting as such superintendent.

I would further recommend that the detail of Capt. Mercer take effect so that he may assume charge of the Indian school at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, on July 1, 1904.

Very respectfully,

Commissioner

J. H. D.
RGE

| | | |
|--|---------------------------|-------------|
| | DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR. | RECEIVED X |
| | APPOINTMENT DIVISION. | DEC 30 1907 |



SPECIAL ORDERS, {
No. 302. }

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, December 27, 1907.
Extract.

* * * * *

21. Major *William A. Mercer*, 11th Cavalry, is relieved from special duty with reference to Indian education and as superintendent of the Indian Industrial School at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, to take effect not later than February 1, 1908, and will then proceed to join his regiment. The travel directed is necessary in the military service.

[1318587, A. G. O.]

* * * * *

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

J. FRANKLIN BELL,
Major General, Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

HENRY P. MCCAIN,
Adjutant General.

Noted for Dept. Registers 1-2-1908
By Appointment Division,

*The Commissioner
of Indian Affairs,
thru
Secretary Dept. of the
Interior.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY.

C H A R G E S

FILE No. 23 2311

STATUS OF EMPLOYEES

-00-

MAJOR WILLIAM A. MERCER, U.S.A.

of

Education

December 26, 1907.

SUBJECT:

Major W. A. Mercer's request to be relieved from duty at Carlisle School.

The Secretary of War.

Sir:

I have the honor to say that the Commissioner of Indian Affairs is in receipt of a letter from Major William A. Mercer, U. S. A., Acting Superintendent of the Carlisle Indian School, of date December 10, asking to be relieved from duty at that school to take effect December 31, 1907, and that he be ordered to join his regiment when he shall have completed the transfer of public funds and property for which he is responsible.

In his letter Major Mercer says:

"Though in good physical health, I have, for several months past, experienced at frequent intervals severe pains in my head, with consequent temporary loss of brain power, and I find the daily annoying responsibilities all more than I can stand and am advised by my physician that I should have relief from them, and take a few months leave of absence. Such a course, followed by a change back to the more out of door military life, I am convinced is a necessity, and that relief as above will best suit the conditions."

I am informed by the Commissioner that Major Mercer has been written that as he so urgently requests to be relieved from his present duties you would be asked to revoke his detail as Acting Superintendent of the Carlisle Indian School,

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Secretary of War

but that owing to the magnitude of the fiduciary responsibilities incident to the control of so large an institution, and the limited time between now and December 31, it would be inadvisable to have him relieved on that date, though it might be possible to relieve him between the middle and the last of January; and that if his successor has not been selected and become qualified the school would temporarily be placed in charge of either a Supervisor or a Special Agent, so that he might return to his regiment not later than February 1.

As Major Mercer has asked to be relieved of his present detail, I respectfully recommend that the War Department take the necessary steps for its revocation, to take effect as soon as his successor can be appointed and become qualified, but in no event later than February 1, 1908.

Very respectfully,


James D. Smith
Acting Secretary.

J.H.D.(F)

5-66
2

Education
100265-1907
File 163

December 28, 1907.

SUBJECT:

Recommendation that the detail
of Major W. A. Mercer as Acting
Supt. of Carlisle School be
revoked.

The Secretary of War.

Sir:

Referring to my letter of December 26, recommending the
revocation of the detail of Major W. A. Mercer, U. S. A., as
Acting Superintendent of the Carlisle Indian School, I have the
honor to say that Major Mercer informs me that instead of "being
ordered to join his regiment" he wishes to be ordered to report
to the Secretary of War.

If consistent with the policy of your Department, I
respectfully ask that my recommendation be changed to read as
requested by Major Mercer.

Very respectfully,


Acting Secretary.

J.H.D.(F)

S. M. BROSIUS,

AGENT

Indian Rights Association,
and Counsellor at Law,
McGill Building, 908 G St., N. W.,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

TELEPHONE, MAIN 1952.

March 27, 1909.



Honorable Secretary

Of The Interior.

Sir:

We understand there is some probability that Major W. A. Mercer, U.S. Army, formerly Acting Superintendent Carlisle Indian Training School may be again placed in charge of that institution.

We are in possession of charges of a very serious nature reflecting upon Major Mercer, which, if true, show him to be absolutely unfit for the position named, or any other position in the Indian Service. These will be specifically stated in event there is any move looking to Major Mercer's appointment.

Very respectfully,

S. M. Brosius

Agent Indian Rights Association.

*Filed by Brosius
in person
Carr*