

50 A 169

Miscell

<i>P</i>	INDIAN AFFAIRS.	1880
<i>269</i>	Rec'd FEB 23	

N. W. Pratt
Carlisle

*Subs. description of
the grounds, build-
ings, Industries
of the Carlisle
School*

✓

cc

1.

Description of the Grounds, Buildings, Industries and Aims of the Carlisle Indian Training School.

The total area of land belonging to the Barracks is something over 27 acres. Of this, 15 acres are occupied by the buildings, with the school grounds proper: - the remainder can be used for agricultural instruction.

Arrangements are being made for an additional 35 acres immediately adjoining the grounds, half of which is suitable for tillage, and the remainder for raising purposes.

Carlisle Barracks, one of the oldest Military Posts in the country, was permanently established during the Revolutionary War. The Guard-house - still standing - was built by the Hessians. The Post itself went to decay; but in 1837 it was rebuilt, and permanently occupied by United States troops. For many years prior to the late war, it was a Cavalry Training School. About the time of the Battle of Gettysburg it was occupied by the Confederate forces under Gen. Fitzhugh Lee; and by them destroyed by fire. In 1865 it was rebuilt, upon the original plan, and continued as a Cavalry Training School until 1872 - since which time it has been vacant, and no material repairs have been made. It is one of the Posts named by the Adjutant General to the Indian Committee - as available for the purposes of an Indian School.

Under orders of the Department of War and of the

Interior—Pending action of Congress upon the Bill proposed by Rep. Dundy—it was occupied, in October last, as a Training school for Indian Youth; and 158 Indian Children were brought here by the Department, on the 5th and 27th of that month. The Parents of most of these children are Chiefs or Headmen on the Rosebud, Pine Ridge and Sisseton Agencies in Dakota; the Cheyenne & Arapahoe, Kiowa & Comanche, Pawnee, Ponca & Nez Percés Agencies in the Indian Territory; and the Green Bay Agency in Wisconsin.

The Buildings consist of:—

I. The South Barracks



Two stories, each $10\frac{1}{2}$ ft. high, 551 ft. long by 24 ft. wide, and 8 ft. porch north side. The building is divided into 5 rooms, of equal dimensions on both stories. The upper story is used for school rooms, accommodating all the students we now have, and would bear an increase of 25 per cent. The lower story is unoccupied.

II. The South Officers' Quarters.



a range of two story buildings, 155 ft. in length by 20 ft. in width, with three extensions to south, 27×30 ft. each, and with a porch above and below extending across the whole north front. This building is now partially occupied by Offices and Industrial Room, Teachers' Boarding House and a Store Room.

III. The North Officers' Quarters.



a two story building, length 155 ft. width 34 ft.; three projections on north side, each 28×32 ft. - now occupied as Girls' and Teachers' Quarters. There are 18 good sized and 6 small rooms above, with corresponding rooms below.

IV. The North Barracks,



of corresponding dimensions with the South Barracks, divided into 6 rooms, each story. This building is used as Boys' Dormitories, with the exception of two rooms — Bath Room and Laundry. Each "Squad Room" is under the care of one of the older boys who is responsible for the behaviour of those in the room. As this position is successive, a large number of boys will be trained to habits of care and responsibility.

V. Landress's Quarters,



a range of buildings — two story and basement — 212×24 ft. — divided into twelve tenements — now vacant.

VI. The Stables, on north side of Barracks, occupy three sides of a square, 168 ft. each side, buildings 41 ft. wide. The formerly furnished ample room for 60 horses of two companies of Cavalry. The south end of one has been turned into a room for mechanical instruction, and is of sufficient capacity for working on the manufacture of Harness, Boots & Shoes, Tin ware, etc. Another end has been fitted up as a Gymnasium where liberal provision is made for exercising the muscles and fortifying the constitution against sickness. Ample stable room still remains for all our needs.

VII. The Blacksmith, Wagon-making and Carpenter Shop - 55 x 29 ft. - a stone building, is in good condition.

VIII. The Dining Room, 24 x 134 ft. is a lumber building, of cheap construction, answering all our needs, and can be enlarged to double its present capacity, without material expense.

IX. The capacity of the Bakery is 500 rations daily.

X. The Hospital is of the same size as the dining room, and is built of the same material.

XI. The Chapel -



was built under recent authority of the Indian Dept. at an expense of \$1165. Its dimensions are 36 x 60 ft. with 21 ft. ceiling; and it will seat about 325 persons.

The Store House and Coal House accommodation is ample, and good for some time to come.

Beside the aforementioned buildings, there are the "Principal's Residence" and one frame building suitable for a family; a Guard House and an Ice House. ~~These~~ buildings having been unoccupied for seven years, and no material repairs having been made in that time, *all* need to be repainted and yellow-washed; the roofs need repairing and some underpinnings replaced; many of the floors are badly worn, and need renewing.

The Laundry and Bath Room are both fitted up in a cheap, temporary manner, and it will be necessary to enlarge the capacity of both.

Industries.

The labor of getting the children free from vermin, and into habits of cleanliness, and established in school routine, has been a great drawback on the feature of the work; and it is only within the last three weeks that we have been able to give it much attention.

In the agricultural department we have engaged the services of a competent instructor; and shall be able to give every boy in the school some knowledge of this most important branch. The purpose is to so divide

common useful pursuits as will make them feel self-reliant and incite them to free themselves from the position of government paupers.

It is claimed for this school that it serves at double purpose — first as an educator of those who are here; and second as an educating and controlling influence over the Indians of the west. It is plain that they will feel a lively interest in an institution which filters and provides for their children. It is also plain that the fact of having here so many children of chiefs and head men is an effectual guarantee of the good behaviour of the tribes represented. Our buildings furnish ample accommodation for 300 students; and, by adding recitation rooms, 500 can be handled. Increase of numbers would reduce the per capita cost.

Our ordinary intelligence is now exhibited by the pupils in all the department and their progress is already greater than we had expected. Their personal influence on the Indians at home is very great, and is entirely on the side of friendship, good feeling and progress. The tide of Indian sentiment has set toward Education. Our correspondence with Agents, Educators, missionaries and Indians themselves is very large, and it all indicates that the time has arrived when almost every Indian child may become a pupil in an English school.

The Bill submitted by the Indian Committee directing the use of vacant military posts for the establishment of Industrial Training Schools ought to provide the best opportunities for thousands, and then Agency Schools would receive new impetus, and through these means most of the wild Indians can surely be placed upon a self-supporting basis before many years.

A personal letter just received from Agent Jno. D. Miles, of the Cheyenne & Arapahoe Agency, in reference to the recent return of three of the former Florida prisoners has so much of value bearing directly upon this subject, that this paper cannot be better closed than by inserting it for consideration.

R. H. Pratt
1st Lt. 10th Cav., In Charge

DARLINGTON I. T.
FEB. 12th 1880

MY DEAR PRATT,

Yours of the 26th and 31st were duly recd. Charlton White-Man and Little-Chief reached home all right. The Agency carriage that took Mr. Pugh to the R. R. brought the 3 boys home. There was great rejoicing among their friends. Charlton is still unwell. White Man accompanied myself and wife to the Cheyenne Sabbath School on last Sabbath, and Little Chief attended the Arapahoe School. Each made excellent talks to full houses, which was well received by the children and camp Indians. The scope of ideas taken in by them in their discourses, gave evidence of the purity of their motives and the extent of the earnest christian labor that has been given them. We know that the transforming power of God alone, could have wrought such a miraculous change as has come over these boys. To state what that change consists of, I only need to call your mind back 5 years to the time when we saw these men bound in shackles and chains, loaded in a wagon at midnight (for fear of trouble) and carried whither they knew not. White Man and Little Chief each took the Bible for their texts, and a more beautiful thought could not be presented than that by White-Man, which was in substance, "From this Book we obtain ALL knowledge of good." I will say what better endorsement of the Bible could we ask? I know their influence will be for good. I shall endeavor to furnish them some kind of employment. Can we not work Little Chief into the position of "Aset. wagon master" to accompany the trains to R. R. after supplies? You will know better of his trustworthiness and capability than any other person. Their advantages must be utilized in some way, and by placing them (such as are capable) in positions of trust, they will grow in usefulness rather than retrograde. I can assure you we have excellent workers in "Star" "Ment" and "Nocomista." And in the Police Service "Little Medicine" and others are deserving of praise for their efficiency. I see no reason why the balance of the Florida Boys should not be permitted to come home, provided you are willing, and take smaller youth in their place, and you can now get all of this class of youth that you may desire. We have now in school at this agency 170 Arapahoe children and 162 Cheyenne, and ought to have 500 more children receiving same advantages. The children must be taken from the camps if we expect them to advance from savage life, and I count it money about wasted to continue the large annual appropriations to feed and clothe these children in camp and under camp influence. Congress may go ahead from year to year and appropriate means to supply the youth in camp and they will still be the same dirty, ignorant camp Indians, while if it would increase the appropriation just sufficient to clothe and support them in school (Industrial schools) and make it only available while in attendance at school, either on their reservation or at "Training Schools" similar to the Carlisle School, then we might expect a decided forward movement from our present Indian status. There are so many

points gained in placing Indian children in school, that I cannot forbear speaking of them briefly, for I know you are anxious to get all the points to be gained in the management of Indians looking towards their improvement. 1st the child being in school the parents are much easier managed, are loyal to the Govt. to the Agent, and take an interest in the affairs of the agency, and never dare or desire to commit a serious wrong. I am yet to know of the first individual Indian on this reservation who has joined in a raid, who has had his child in school; and I know the "Dull Knife" raid would never have occurred had the children of his band been placed in school. 2d, Had there been sufficient accommodation on this reservation for school children at the proper time while the "Dull Knife" Band were here I could have secured the attendance of at least a majority of their children of school age: this may look to you like COMPULSORY education: well, what if it is? is there any serious objection to such a course? was not the taking of 33 Cheyenne braves and chiefs from this reservation in CHAINS in the Spring of 1875 compulsory in the superlative degree? Who is there to-day that would question the justness and Charity of that measure? if there is one, let him come to this agency and take a seat in the assembly-room of our own schools and listen to the discourse of some of these same men pleading with their more UNFORTUNATE (yes in a certain sense) people to come out from their heathen degradation and step up into a higher and more enjoyable scale of existence. 2nd, The agency schools are made the principle feature of attraction for the Indians, as by having their children in school the parent becomes personally interested in the progress of his child and the prosperity of the school, and he soon begets a desire to locate in the vicinity of the agency, and his habits are consequently localized: And this effect is still more apparent in the case of those who have children away at Carlisle and other points in the States. The parents of these children are as completely committed to the general welfare of the whole people of the United States as any other loyal citizens, and by this mixing and blending of common interests they will the sooner be prepared to enter into and take upon themselves the duties and responsibilities of a common citizenship. 3d, In the management of the school upon the reservation, the service of the police is called into requisition—looking up truants, absentees &c., and in this way the police force becomes interested in the school and its progress.

No greater mistake could have been made than was made last summer by the Hon. Commissioner in relieving "Little Chief" and his band of Northern Cheyennes from the necessity of placing their children in school. It has interfered with their management at this Agency, and has had its effect upon the other Indians. It was a great mistake and should be corrected at once. Trusting that you may secure ample appropriation for Carlisle and other similar schools, and that your efforts in the future may be crowned with success, as in the past, I am

Your sincere friend,
JNO. D. MILES.

Description of the Grounds, Buildings, Industries and Aims of the Carlisle Indian Training School

The total area of land belonging [to the] Barracks is something over 27 acres. Of this, 15 acres are occupied by the buildings, with the school grounds proper: the remainder can be used for agricultural instruction. Arrangements are being made for an additional 35 acres immediately adjoining the grounds, half of which is suitable for tillage, and the remainder for grazing purposes.

Carlisle Barracks, one of the oldest Military Posts in the country, was permanently established during the Revolutionary War. The Guard-house – still standing – was built by the Hessians. The Post itself went to decay; but in 1837 it was rebuilt, and permanently occupied by United States Troops. For many years prior to the late War, it was a Cavalry Training School. About the time of the Battle of Gettysburg it was occupied by the Confederate forces under Gen. Fitzhugh Lee; and by them destroyed by fire. In 1865 it was rebuilt, upon the original plan, and continued as a Cavalry Training School until 1872 – since which time it has been vacant, and no material repairs have been made. It is one of the Posts named by the Adjutant General to the Indian Committee as available for the purposes of an Indian School.

Under orders of the Department of War and of the

[page 2]

Interior – pending action of Congress upon the Bill proposed by Rep. Pound – it was occupied, in October last, as a Training School for Indian Youth; and 158 Indian children were brought here by the Department, on the 5th and 27th of that month. The Parents of most of these children are Chiefs or Headmen on the Rosebud, Pine Ridge and Sisseton Agencies in Dakota; the Cheyenne & Arapahoe, Kiowa & Comanche, Pawnee, Ponca & Nez Perce Agencies in the Indian Territory; and the Green Bay Agency in Wisconsin.

The Buildings consist of:

I. The South Barracks, [photo attached]

two stories, each 10 ½ ft. high, 251 ft. long by 24 ft. wide, and 8ft. Porch north side. The building is divided into 5 Rooms, of equal dimensions on both stories. The upper story is used for school rooms, accommodating all the students we now have, and would bear an increase of 25 percent. The lower story is unoccupied.

[page 3]

II. The South Officers' Quarters, [photo attached]

a range of two story buildings, 155 ft. in length by 20 ft. in width, with three extensions to south, 27x30 ft. each, and with a porch above and below extending across the whole north front. This building is now partially occupied by Offices and Industrial Room, Teachers' Boarding House and a Store Room.

III. The North Officers' Quarters, [photo attached]

a two story building, length 155 ft. width 34 ft.; three projections on north side each 28x32 ft. – now occupied as Girls' and Teachers' Quarter. There are 18 good sized and 6 small rooms above, with corresponding rooms below.

[page 4]

IV. The North Barracks, **[photo attached]**

of corresponding dimensions with the South Barracks, divided into 6 rooms, each story. This building is used as Boys' Dormitories, with the exception of two rooms – Bath Room and Laundry. Each "Squad Room" is under the care of one of the older boys who is responsible for the behaviour of those in the room. As this position is successive, a large number of boys will be trained to habits of care and responsibility.

V. Laundress's Quarters, **[photo attached]**

a range of buildings – two story and basement – 212x24 ft. – divided into twelve tenements – now vacant.

[page 5]

VI. The Stables, on north side of Barracks, occupy three sides of a square, 168 ft. each side, buildings 41 ft. wide. This formerly furnished ample room for [the] horses of two companies of cavalry. The south end of one has been turned into a room for mechanical instruction, and is of sufficient capacity for [illeg.]ing on the manufacture of Harness, Boots & Shoes, Tinware, etc. Another end has been fitted up as a Gymnasium where liberal provision is made for exercising the muscles and fortifying the constitution against sickness. Ample stable room still remains for all our need.

VII. The Blacksmith, Wagon-making and Carpenter Shop – 55x29 ft. – a stone building, is in good condition.

VIII. The Dining Room, 24x134 ft., is a lumber building, of cheap construction, answering all our needs, and can be enlarged to double its present capacity, without material expense.

IX. The capacity of the Bakery is 500 rations daily.

X. The Hospital is of the same size as the dining room, and is built of the same material.

XI. The Chapel, **[photo attached]**

[page 6]

was built under recent authority of the Indian Dept. at an expense of \$1165. Its dimensions are 36x60 ft. with 21 ft. ceiling; and it will seat about 325 persons.

The Store House and Coal House accommodation is ample, and good for some time to come.

Beside the aforementioned buildings, there are the "Principal's Residence" and one frame building suitable for a family; a Guard House and an Ice House. These buildings having been unoccupied for seven years, and no material repairs having been made in that time, all need to be repainted and yellow-washed; the roofs need repairing and some underpinnings replaced; many of the floors are badly worn, and need emending.

The Laundry and Bath Room are both fitted up in a cheap, temporary manner, and it will be necessary to enlarge the capacity of both.

Industries.

The labor of getting the children free from vermin, and into habits of cleanliness, and established in school routine, has been a great drawback on this feature of the work; and it is only within the last three weeks that we have been able to give it much attention. In the agricultural department we have engaged the services of a competent instructor; and shall be able to give every boy in the school some knowledge of this most important branch. The purpose is to so divide

[page 7]

the available land that each boy may have a portion under his especial care; – and in order that he may be encouraged to do his best it is designed to give him half the crops – which the school will purchase from him at their market value.

In the Shops (if we may be allowed to turn over to the Indian Dept. for issue, such suitable articles as we may manufacture) we shall be able to furnish Wagons, Carts, Harness, and Tin ware; and in addition make and repair the Boots & Shoes required for the School. These several branches of mechanics in operation will enable us to give all the older boys instruction in some particular trade. In addition to the foregoing the boys will be required to perform police and such other duties as good order and cleanliness may demand.

The Girls are under Industrial Training in the manufacture and repair of garments, both for themselves and for the boys; and they are also detailed on Kitchen and dining-room work – it being proposed to thoroughly instruct them in these female duties. An enlargement and rearrangement of the Laundry is needed to meet the increased demands of the school; and this will be made with a view to having the girls do the greater part of that work.

The aim of the School is to give Education in the common English branches, adapted to the condition in life of the students; to inculcate habits of industry and thrift; and to impart to them such knowledge in

[page 7]

common useful pursuits as will make them feel self reliant and incite them to free themselves from the position of government paupers.

It is claimed for this school that it serves a double purpose – first as an educator of those who are here; and second as an educating and controlling influence over the Indians of the West. It is plain that they will feel a lively interest in an institution which shelters and provides for their children. It is also plain that the fact of having here so many children of chiefs and head men is an effectual guarantee of the good behaviour of the tribes represented. Our buildings furnish ample accommodation for 350 students; and, by adding recitation rooms, 500 can be handled. Increase of numbers would reduce the per capita cost.

An ordinary intelligence is now exhibited by the pupils in all the departments and their progress is already greater than we had expected. Their personal influence on the Indians at home is very great, and is entirely on the side of friendship, good feeling and progress. The tide of Indian Sentiment has set toward Education. Our correspondence with Agents, Educators, missionaries and Indians themselves is very large, and it all indicates that the time has arrived when almost every Indian child may become a pupil in an English school.

[page 8]

The Bill submitted by the Indian Committee directing the use of vacant military posts for the establishment of Industrial Training Schools ought to provide the best opportunities for thousands; and their Agency School would receive new impetus, and through these means most of the wild Indians can surely be placed upon a self-supporting basis before many years. A personal letter just received from Agent Jn. D. Miles of the Cheyenne & Arapahoe Agency, in reference to the recent return of three of the former Florida prisoners has so much a value bearing directly upon this subject, that this paper cannot be better closed than by inserting it for consideration.

R. H. Pratt

1st Lt. 10th Cav'y, In Charge

[typed copy of letter appended, dated Feb. 12, 1880, Darlington, Indian Territory, from John D. Miles to Richard H. Pratt.]