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AUTHORITY

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OFFICE OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS
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Green Bay Agency
Keshina Jan 12-1882

E. Stephens

file

U S Ind Agt

Has learned through
Gen Armstrong that a
Menominee student
Chas^s Soman is addicted
to strong drink. and has
decided to send him -
home.

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Making an application
for his transfer to Carlisle
Barracks under Lieut Pratt
instead.

His mother deploras
his conduct. but thinks
his discharge in disgrace will
surely result in his ruin

90. Sects Jan. 19/82

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Letter to Armstrong, Jan. 1961

Del. to Armstrong Jan 27/82

United States Indian Service,

Green Bay Agency,

Keshena Jan 12th, 1882.

Hon Com^r of Indian Affairs
Washington D C

Sir

I am in receipt of a letter from General S. C. Armstrong Principal of Hampton N & A Institute. stating that "Charles Soman a Menomonee Indian student. Good in his studies. good at his trade, and fairly good in general deportment. This boy is - ruining himself and contaminating the other students by indulging in strong drink". That he has endeavored to save him and nullify the influence of his example, but that he is convinced that the only way to solve the problem is to send him home.

Kind words, threats and all punishment proper to be given there. have been resorted to, but without avail. That he wants to

United States Indian Service,

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Agency,

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to do right. but has not the moral strength to enable him to resist - temptation. That he appears to be keenly alive to his advantages there.

That the punishment of sending him home may save him, and the best interests of the school demand it.

Concerning this boy I desire to say that he was selected from a wild band of the Menomonees who have been slow to avail themselves of educational advantages. and his return home in disgrace. would very likely seal his ruin. I therefore respectfully ask instead of sending him home in the manner stated. that he may be immediately transferred to the Training School for Indian Youths at Carlisle. and put under the care of Sient Pratt. at least for trial.

United States Indian Service,

Com^r 3

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this will probably bring the boy to reflect upon his past conduct. and change in his habits for the future. This widowed Mother. who I this day informed of the conduct of her son. and the action of the Principal of the Institute concerning him. she greatly deplores the conduct of her boy. but she cannot endure the thought of having him discharged in disgrace. And with tears streaming from her eyes. she applied to me to help her in ^{her} great trouble. and prevent this terrible blow upon her boy. who is now about 18 years of age. she has this day wrote to him imploring him to save himself from the terrible disgrace that is sure to fall upon him. and his widowed Mother. unless he reforms in his habits. Under this condition of things. a transfer

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to Carlisle. where he would be under the watchful eye of Lieut Pratt. would probably result in making a man of him. I hope this will be accomplished.

I will also write to General Armstrong stating that I have made an application for this transfer. and request him to keep Charles Soman at the Institute untill he receives instructions from the Hon Commissioner of Indian Affairs concerning him.

Very respectfully

E. Stephens

U. S. Ind Agt