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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
RECEIVED
APR 15 1882

AUTHORITY.

No. 3997
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
RECEIVED
APR 17 1882

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OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Rec'd APR 13
1882

M. H. Pratt

Cassida.

apl. 11-82

284
B
Requests reduction
tion of Ets. for
nations & pels.
of Cons. up to
necessity of milk
+2

To Sept apl '4/84
Cassida apl '9/82

4

Pugh

United States Indian Service,

TRAINING SCHOOL FOR INDIAN YOUTH,

CARLISLE BARRACKS,

Carlisle, Pa., April 11 1882.

To the Honorable

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

There is no question more vital to the interests of Indian educational work than that of health. The development of any plan that will improve the health conditions I regard as of the greatest possible importance. Having this in view I solicited and secured a visit to this school from Dr. C. R. Agnew of New York whose professional standing and large successful experience in the advisory management of institutions is a guarantee of judgment that should be heeded. Among other recommendations he insists that I shall have for my children the greatest

abundance of pure rich milk - that I should
 have as much as the children could drink morn-
 ing ^{and} evening. Acting upon his suggestion I vis-
 ited the New York institution for juvenile delin-
 quents where in an institution containing near-
 ly nine hundred children of both sexes I found
 the most perfect health - not one single child off
 duty on account of ill health ^{and} no deaths for
 more than a year. While ventilation ^{and} other ques-
 tions come into the management ^{and} help no doubt
 largely to such success, I found that at the in-
 stance of Dr. Agnew they had for some time been using
 milk in the manner which he recommends to me,
 giving the children all they would take for morning
^{and} evening meals. I desire to try the same diet
 at this school. I find that it will be too expen-
 sive ^{and} too precarious to purchase milk from

day to day ^{and} that it will be much greater economy to own the cows ourselves. I have to request therefore that my estimates for rations for the ensuing year be reduced as follows. Rice one hundred thousand pounds, Coffee to one thousand pounds, Sugar to eight thousand pounds ^{and} that the whole amount of tea asked for be omitted. This will leave me over three thousand dollars ^{and} I would request your authority to expend a sum of twenty five hundred dollars or so much thereof as may be needed in the purchase of a herd of thirty cows, or such number as may be necessary to give us the milk we require.

After careful investigation of the subject as well as some experience at the school I deem it best to buy cows of graded blood which although higher priced will be more reliable milkers, ^{and} the increase from which will be very much more

valuable. In making this purchase I would ask that I be authorized to exchange a portion of my present herd for better cows.

By having your authority for this purpose now I can procure the cattle and pay for them after the beginning of the new fiscal year and so be able to put my plan into operation at an earlier day, which is a desirable thing to do.

Very respectfully
R.H. Ball

1st Lieut. 10th Cav.
Supt.