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OFFICE OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS
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Pratt, Capt. R. H.

Carlisle, Aug 18/83

Wants authority to go
West about middle of
September to collect 90
children for school.

File
Letter to Secty. Aug. 25/83
ans. in A. Aug. 30/83

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209

Miss Cook

United States Indian Service,**TRAINING SCHOOL FOR INDIAN YOUTH,****CARLISLE BARRACKS,**Carlisle, Pa., Aug. 18th 1883.

To the Honorable
The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Sir:

After having returned to their homes the pupils who must go this fall we shall have remaining in the school about 320 or 25. I purpose carrying ^{with the appropriation allowed} the ensuing year, as I wrote you, something over 400, and to fill us to that number we shall require 75 to 90 new pupils. You have already authorized 30 from Pawnee & Ponca. The 12 authorized last fiscal year to make up the balance of 20 from the Crows are still pending, and I wrote you yesterday in regard to 3 or 6 from the Onondagas. Should all these reach us we might still take say 50 more. As I wrote you some time ago I have en-

2. Commr.

couraged Cheyenne & Kiowa agencies to think that I would request your authority for delegations from them this fall. I desire to go after these new children myself.

Mr. Haworth seemed to think it not advisable to bring too many from Cheyenne & Kiowa agencies because he wanted to fill up Chilocco & Lawrence. But this seems not a sound objection, because the Cheyenne & Arapahoe agency alone has school population sufficient to fill Carlisle (400), Cheyenne agency schools (240), Lawrence (300), and Chilocco (200), a total of 1140; and I would not propose to bring more from those agencies than I return.

It would hardly be fair not to accept of some at Carlisle, because of the encouragements already given, and

3. Comm'r.

it would be easy to get the balance from Rosebud and Pine Ridge.

I would be glad to receive your authority to go west after these children, and covering the expense of bringing them in, together with the necessary expenses of a male and female assistant. It was my intention to bring in Mr. Standing and his wife as assistants; but it may be that Mr. Standing will prefer to go to Genoa, after he hears from Supt. Haworth. In that event I will take someone else.

Now that matters are well in our own hands and the pupils come to us for five years, it will be best to exercise much more care in selecting than we have in the past; and it will be much better to fail of getting a particular number from a particular agency, than to bring those who for any

4. Comm'r

reason are not suitable. And I would suggest that the authority given may be sufficiently ample and flexible to admit of increase or decrease from any particular agency.

Your authority for the Pawnee and Ponca agencies is of that character.

We shall open school on Monday the 3rd of Sept, and I do not care to start west before about the middle of September.

Since dictating the foregoing I have yours of the 17th, marked "L. A. 5897." I see no reason to change the letter, but will say that if you make the authority from the Territory to cover 40 new pupils, including such old ones as may return & if authorized say 50 from Dakota, I have no doubt we shall get the children. In this

5. Comm'n.

connection, I see a note in your letter that the smaller children can go to the Kansas schools. I am very glad of that; and should it be deemed advisable after those schools are established to make an exchange of 50 or more of our small boys and girls for larger ones, I should be in favor of it. Our industrial facilities and the advantages of the "planting out" system, call upon us to work upon larger pupils.

Very respectfully,

R. H. Pratt
Capt^{re} & Supt.