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OFFICE OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS
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United States Indian Service,

TRAINING SCHOOL FOR INDIAN YOUTH,

CARLISLE BARRACKS,

Carlisle, Pa., Jan. 5 1884

To the Hon.

The Commr. of Indian Affairs -
Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I respectfully suggest, that if before the end of our term in June next, I return the pupils whose term of three years has expired, or will expire before that time, that their opportunities for school privileges during the remainder of this school year will be virtually lost: they cannot build into another school and get well assimilated before the year will have expired. I suggest that all such be continued in school here until the end of the term in June.

I think, if this determination is made from the Dept., there will be no objection raised by the Indians. If objection is made

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in any special case or cases, settlement of such case or cases can be made upon the merits when presented.

I feel more confidence in making this suggestion and recommendation from the experience we had in the case of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Children last summer. The Hon. Commr. will remember that at the suggestion of Agt. Mills and recommended by me, it was determined not to return the 28 odd children whose time had expired; but to continue them for a year or more longer. I visited the Agency in Sept. and saw many of the Parents, not one of whom exhibited any dissatisfaction because their children had not been returned at the end of the period for which they came to reside.

If the recommendation of this letter is accepted I can correspond with the Agents, and in June, when School is out, can, under the authority already granted, send the several parties home at the same time with more

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economy to the Govt., and with better prospects to the Students.

Very Respect fully
Your Obedt. Servt.

R.H. Pratt

Sept. 10th 1847