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OFFICE OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS
Rec'd. MAR 19

1884

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R. H. Pratt

Careless,

Mar. 18. 84

Requests informa-
tion re. to
osage funds

Letter of Pratt March 27/84

✓

A Crossfield

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U. S.

Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa., March 18. 1884.

To the Hon.

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

Sir:

I am not clear that under the regulations of the Dept. - (See Sec. 131-132 Instructions to Indian Agents) - that I have the Osage funds in hand in such shape as will enable me to handle the money without complication in my accounts.

I am unable to see why this money could not be invoiced to us as a Credit to the "Appropriation for Support of Indian School, Carlisle Pa. 1884" in exactly the same manner as thousands of dollars are credited back to us for articles sold to Agencies from a variety of tribal Appropriations. In both cases we are simply being reimbursed for money expended from funds for our support. In one case our Carlisle Appropriation buys the

Commr.
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materials and pays the Salaries, and we get back little, if any, more than we actually pay out. In this special case we are not getting back all that has really been paid out for these children; for, as I have informed you in a previous communication, they have shared the benefit of money given to me by Charitable people.

I understand your letter of Mch. 13th transferring the Fund, which says, the "Comptroller decided that the only way to furnish you this money from the Osage Fund, was to place it to your credit to be accounted for like other Funds," to mean that I must ~~create~~^{bring} special Bills to be paid from this Fund, and secure therefore special authority. This seems an unnecessary course to pursue in the matter, but it can be done.

I would like your instructions on these points; and if my interpretation of your letter of transfer is correct, I would request authority, directing me to pay the necessary expenses of bringing in the 50 Apaches from the Osage fund, and I will hereafter ask proper authority to cover other expenses until the fund is consumed -

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant R.H. Pratt
Capt. 10th Regt
Infy