

Capt. R. V. Pratt
Carlisle School
July 23, 1885

Relative to trans-
portation for pupils
to & from school -
Incloses proposals
from B. O. and
Pa. R. R. Cos.

Zinc

To Pratt July 24th 1885 -

© H 18/49

Tanner

16780

Two inclosures.

U. S.

Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa., July 23^d 1885.

To the Hon.

The Commr. of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I am in receipt of yours of the 22^d inst, marked B. + E. informing me that you "desire to have it distinctly understood, that all the necessary agreements with the Railroad Cos. providing transportation for the Pupils both to and from the school, will be arranged for by this (your) Office in all cases except those where you (me) are officially advised to the contrary."

I have already asked the competing roads to make bids for bringing forty to seventy five Pupils from Pine Ridge and Rosebud, Dakota, fixing Wednesday, August 12th at noon as the day on which I would open bids, and inviting their Agents to be present. Having proceeded this far in the matter, I shall carry it out

as arranged unless you specifically order to the contrary.

Although I have not been called upon for explanation, I deem it proper, in view of recent events, in connection with the revoking of this authority, to lay before you a matter of which I had partly written you some time ago, and afterward abandoned as too trivial - When wanting transportation for the recently returned parties of students to the West, I submitted the list, and requested bids which would be opened at noon on the 25th day of June, to both the Baltimore + Ohio and the Penna. Railroads, requesting that their representatives might be present at the opening of the same. They were present, and I inclose to you the two original bids which I received at that time and opened and read in the presence of the Agents of the two roads. Immediately thereafter they began to expatiate on what their bids meant, and I asked them

if they had stated what they desired to in their bids, and they both said they had. I then stated I would determine the matter on their written bids. The bid of the B. & O. gave us no half rate, because we had no children under 6 years. The bid of the Penna. Road gave us quite a number because of their fixing the half rate at 12 years. This carried the business to the Penna. Road, and I notified them. The local agent of the B. & O. at once attacked me, declaring that it was an error, and that I should have taken him as he meant, and not as he said, and has indulged in a good deal of barber shop bravado about it. Some days afterwards my office was visited in my absence by a loud, ungentlemanly travelling agent of that line, named Braid, or M. Braid, who, had I been present, I should have sent outside of the Barracks by my Indian guard. He openly to my employer's declared, on the same basis, that is, that I should have known they meant 12 years instead

16250
16291
mmv.

of six — his intention to carry the matter to the Department, and now I have your letter as before stated.

It is the custom of the B. & O. road to make singular bids. On one occasion in 1882, they fixed a rate of \$26.⁹⁹ for full fares, and \$15.²¹ for half fares, on a bid they made to the Indian Office for transporting students for us. It is quite common, in our experience, when Railroads fix a low rate to have them say, "No half fares." Having submitted their written bids, and, after the opening, declared their willingness to stand on them, it seems absurd that any cavil as to what they meant, or did not mean, should have any effect; but it seems more singular still, if my supposition is correct, that action should be had upon their representations, without my having at least an equal chance of statement before the Judge. I have experienced continually, since being here, the fact that

the D. & O. Railroad had one termination in the Indian Office, and can obtain a ready hearing and action against a subordinate official of the Government upon the slightest allegation of cause of complaint.

When the two agents were in my office, I stated to them before the bids were opened, that if the bids were equal, the business would go to the Penna. Co., for the reason that we are on their lines, and they have been lavish in kindnesses for our local business. Hundreds of our students have gone out to farms on their lines at half rates. Four different times they have given me a special train from Washington on special time, to bring officials of the Interior Department, Congressmen, and other influential people, to see our school, and they have repeatedly given transportation to large parties of children to Philadelphia and New York on occasions to rouse an interest in the education of the Indian.

16890
mmr.

If there is any allegation in regard to my management of the transportation matters of this school, ~~other than I have here seen~~ ~~first~~, I invite the most searching scrutiny under the fullest auspices of the algeer, and I am sure that I can fully show that anyone stating that I have managed such matters here in a way to merit the imputation your letter recalling authority implies, fabricates a mendacity, and I shall prove beyond a peradventure, that I have uniformly saved on every transaction, and the savings will cover thousands of dollars. After getting the lowest rates possible in every case, I have in many instances secured in addition free passes for the persons in charge.

Very respectfully
Your Obedt. Servt.

R.H. Pratt
Capt. 10th (Arg).
Sept.

Cumberland Valley Railroad.

C. F. SHOWER,
CARLISLE, PA.

Office of Agent,

Gleg. Junction June 25th 85

Capt R. H. Pratt

Super Indian Training School
Carlisle Pa.

Dear Sir

Below please find rates
for Indian children enroute to
their homes, from Gettysburg Junction
to the following points.

Station	State	Rate	Station	State	Rate
Caldwell	Kan.	20 40	End of S. C & P. R. R.	Neb.	27 58
Arkansas City	"	20 15	Bancroft	"	18 35
Coffeyville	"	17 55	Detroit	Minn.	20 44
Laguna	N. Mex	50 45	Wichita Falls	Texas	33 17
Valentine	Neb.	27 58			

The above rates are for first class
limited tickets, children under twelve
years of age half the above rates.

Yours Truly

C. F. Shower

Agent Penn. R.R. Co

16780

INDIAN OFFICE

INDIAN No

2

1885

BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD COMPANY.

Carlisle Pa June 25 1885

Subject: Rates for Indian Scholars.

Capt R F Pratt.

Dear Sir,

Will be pleased to forward your Indian Scholars to the several destinations named below from Carlisle Pa, at the rates named -

To.	Caldwell	Kas.	\$ 21.80
	Valentine.	Neb.	24.40
	Coffeerville	Kas.	18.65
	Arkansas City	Kas.	21.30
	Wichita Falls	Tex.	29.05
	Laguna	New Mex	41.20
	Bancroft	Neb.	17.65
	Detroit	Minn	19.75

Via B&O. "Limited" Train. Children under 6 years. $\frac{1}{2}$ of above rates.

Very Respectfully Yours,

D B Jackson.

412 Depot B&O. Ry.