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OFFICE OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS
Rec'd. NOV 5

1885

19/39

Capt. R. H. Pratt,

Carlisle school.

Nov. 4, 1885,

Rel. to Standing Bear
who desires the return
of his daughter from
the Carlisle school to
Rosebud Agency, to her
home, &c.

Letter to Pratt. Nov. 16/85.

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Supt-

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Suggested 26050
Writ. letter - J. B. O.

U. S.

Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa., Nov. 4. 1885.

To the Hon.

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

Sir:

Standing Bear, of Rosebud Agency, has a daughter and two sons at this school. He has been trying for more than a year to get his daughter back. He is now in poor health, and has sent the money to pay her expenses. Agent Wright thinks, that under the circumstances, perhaps his wish ought to be gratified. The girl does not want to go home, and there is some evidence that the anxiety to get her home is to marry her off.

I have stated that it would be impossible, even if they provided the means, to send her without your consent. It simply means the end of her mental

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Comm.

and moral progress, and my opinion is, that parents ought not to be allowed to control the destinies of their children to their children's hurt any longer. Her condition at home will be bad enough if Standing Bear lives; if he dies, it will be much worse. She is a sturdy, healthy girl, and making good progress.

Standing Bear has been a foremost man in all our school dealings with Rosebud, and it is hard to deny him, but my judgment is that it had better be done, and I would suggest an Office letter to me expressing sympathy for Standing Bear, and commending him for his stand in favor of schools, and at the same time holding his daughter to school.

Very respectfully,
Your Obedt. Servt.

R.H. Pratt
Capt. 10th Cav. Regt.