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OFFICE OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS
Rec'd. DEC 17

1886

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Capt. R. H. Pratt

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219 Carlisle, Pa.

Dec. 15, 1886.

Reply to letter of

13.th inst, rel. to the
request of Agt. ShuchanWhite Earth A. for the
return of Henry Hudson
and Charles Martin
from Carlisle School.

1/11/87

To Pratt Jan 3-87

" Shuchan " " "

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U. S.

Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa., Dec. 15. 1886.

To the Hon.

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

Sir:

In reply to yours of the 13th inst.
marked Education - 32668 - 1886, and
inclosing communication from T. J. Sheehan,
U. S. Indian Agent, requesting the return of
Henry Hudson and Charles Martin from this
School, that they may make homes for
themselves and engage in farming at
White Earth, I have to inform you, that
Henry Hudson is a pupil of the "Education-
al Home" in Philadelphia. Charles Martin
is one of five boys admitted to this School
Feb. 11, 1884,
from a School at Peoria, Ill. They were
taken there by Rev. J. A. Gilfillan, the
Episcopal Missionary at White Earth, and
rejected because of opposition by the other.

pupils, and I was asked to take them here. I understood, of course, that they came for the required five years' term, and accepted them accordingly. Recently, I had a letter from Rev. Gilfillan, saying that he promised the parents that their children should return in three years, and asking me to conform to his promise. I informed him of the ruling of the Department, that students, who entered during term time, should remain in the schools to the end of the school term next following the expiration of the period for which they came, and that, although we had accepted the boys with the understanding that they came for our regular five year term, I would, at the close of the school, in view of his promise, ask the Department to allow their return, and that I had no doubt it would be granted. I have since received a letter

from him, stating that my promise to have the boys returned at the end of the school year was perfectly satisfactory to him, and he would endeavor to make it so to the parents. He further states that it would be much better for them to stay here, than to go home during the winter.

The sending of Charles Martin and Henry Hudson home at this time would lead to a demand for all the others, which, to be consistent, would have to be complied with.

Charles is the oldest of the five and is 17 years of age. White boys, as a rule, do not start out at that age to make homes for themselves. Charles is in the fourth reader and otherwise moderately advanced; but that his quitting school, ~~in~~ taking up a piece of land, and making a home for himself, is anywhere near as important, in its bearing upon his future,

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as two or three years more in school would be, is impossible. Of the other four, three are 15 and one 14 years of age.

It seems to me it would be better that the Department's rule to hold students to the end of the term be adhered to, and then their return be based entirely upon the grounds of Mr. Gilfillan's promise, and not because of any graduation from the school, or maturity of years or preparation to engage in making homes for themselves.

Agent Sheehan's letter is herewith returned.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.

R. H. Pratt
Capt. 10th Calif.
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INDIAN OFFICE.

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OFFICE OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS
Rec'd. DEC 10

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White Earth Agency

White Earth Dec 4/86

J. J. Sheehan
Acting Asst. Supt

Requesting the return of
Harry Hudson ^{and} Charles Minter.
from the Carlisle Training School.

to Pratt Dec. 13 86
to Pratt Jan 3 - 87
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To Pratt: Boys remain
in accordance with his
suggestion.

To Sheehan: Boys will
not be allowed to return
until school closes.

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United States Indian Service,
White Earth Agency,

Minn Dec 4th, 1886

Hon J. L. C. Atkins,
Com^r, Indian Affairs
Washington, D C
Sir:

I have the honor
to report that Mah go goon ab^{and}
Harry Martin, both Leech Lake Indians,
^{and} good worthy men have made application
to me for the return of their sons,
respectively, Harry Hudson ^{and} Charles Martin
from the Carlisle Training School.

The reasons given by the fathers of
these boys, for their return, is their
desire to engage in farming at White
Earth reservation their intention being to
select their Land ^{and} settle on this
reservation whether the late treaty or
agreement be approved or not. I respectfully
request that these boys be allowed

to return, ^{and} join their parents at Leech Lake
preparatory to arranging to make homes for
themselves.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servant
S. J. Shuckan
U. S. Indian Agent