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OFFICE OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS.
Rec'd AUG 22

1891

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Indian Training Sch. Carlisle, Pa.

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

August 19th, 1891

Rel. to wife of Josiah
Baird, now at Carlisle.

2 inc

Very respectfully,

W. H. Pratt

Capt. 10th Cav. Regt.

2nd. C.

File

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INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,
CARLISLE, PA.

August 19th, 1891.

The Honorable,

The Commr. of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Replying to yours of August 15th, marked "Education, 28786," in further elucidation of the case of the wife of Josiah Baird, and taking note of the letter of Rev. S. S. Burleson, Episcopal missionary among the Oneidas, which is herewith returned, I have to respectfully enclose to you a letter from my Mrs. Campbell written to me after reading the letter of Mr. Burleson referred to. I have just called the girl to the office and she confirms the statement that Mrs. Campbell had no influence upon her in getting her to come to Carlisle. She states that she was abused by her husband and that her grandmother, a Mrs. Metoxen, told her that she had better leave him and come to Carlisle. She confirms what Mrs. Campbell says about seeing her at her mother-in-law's, but states that Mrs. Campbell did not in any way induce her to come to Carlisle.

INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,
CARLISLE, PA.

Commr. 2,

The father seems to have taken matters into his own hands and to have sent the girl here, possibly at her own solicitation, after the influence of her grandmother upon her. However that may be, I feel assured that the intimations of Rev. Burleson of undue influence on the part of anyone from Carlisle are without foundation. The cause he represents, as well as the reverend gentleman himself, has always been inimical to Carlisle and anything else but reservation influences, so far as I have been informed. His judgment, therefore, would be clouded. The father's letter, which I enclosed to you under cover of my letter of July 25, establishes the wish of the father which was the occasion of her coming here. I have a subsequent letter from the father quite in line with the one enclosed to you above referred to.

If the girl returns to her home, there may be a truce patched up, but it will not last long.

The fact that the Hon. Commissioner referred the matter to the judgment of Rev. Burleson, subsequent to my letter, would indicate the trend of confidence, and it is now my judgment that my own expressions and convictions in reference to the matter had better be withdrawn and withheld,

Commr. 3.

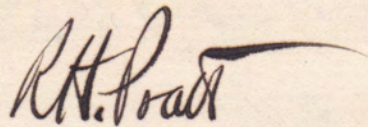
INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,
CARLISLE, PA.

and that the judgment of Rev. Burleson be followed.

Unless instructed to the contrary within a few days,
I shall return the girl to her home, her own, her father's
and her relatives wishes to the contrary notwithstanding.

Very respectfully,

Your obt. servt.,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R.H. Pratt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Capt. 10th Cav'y.,

Sup't.

30684

OFFICE OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Encl. No. 2

1891

[Faint, illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

Tuesday

Carlisle, Aug. 18, 1891.

Captain Pratt,

Dear Sir:-

I write the following statement at your request in reply to Recd. Mr. Burleson's letter received by you from the Honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

I first saw the girl Lillie Hoff or Baird at the home of Angelina Baird. I went there at Angelina's request (who was at Carlisle) to call upon her mother. This girl Lillie was sitting on a bench at the time with her face covered by her hands. She looked like a little child who was being punished. After speaking to Mrs. Baird who treated me very kindly I asked her if this girl was her daughter. She replied in the affirmative. I then asked her if she went to school and she (Mrs. B.) laughed and the girl took her hands down from her face and looked at me. Then Julia Whelock,

who accompanied me said that the girl was married. My impression was that she was Angelina's sister ^{and} was at her own home.

As soon as they said she was married, I apologized ^{and} explained that I had thought she was only a child. I said nothing more to Lillie but did I see her again at any time, until I met her in Dr. Peck's at the examining physician's office on the afternoon of July 6th.

I did not recognize the girl at all. I had merely a glimpse of her at Baird's as she left her face covered with her hands nearly all the time I was there. We had quite a large party at Dr. Peck's - twenty seven boys ^{and} girls who were being examined in addition to which there was a great number of their friends ^{and} relatives with them. This girl was with her father ^{and} I knew nothing about her until after the examination by the doctor. After she had passed a satisfactory examination I went up to talk with her about herself. She told me her name was Lillie Hoff. Her father then came up to me ^{and} drawing me aside explained that she was married ^{and} that her husband refused to support her ^{and} abused her shamefully. I asked her father

if her husband knew of her coming. He replied that it would make no difference to him - that he didn't live with her - hadn't been near her for six months & refused to do any thing for her. He also said that he would take Lillie away from her husband even if we did not take her to Carlisle - that he would not allow him to come back to her as all she got from him was abuse - that the man was constantly intoxicated & that Lillie was afraid of him. Lillie afterwards complained all that her father had said. Her father said that he hoped we would keep her here five years - ten years - forever - only "for God's sake never let her come back to her husband who nearly kills her."

You will please note that this was in De Pere just before starting for Carlisle & that Lillie was there, at the doctor's, brought there by her father before I arrived at De Pere. I positively deny ever asking the girl to come to Carlisle except in the presence of her mother-in-law when I thought she was a young daughter of Mrs. Baidie. Instead of wishing to "abduct" the girl, as Mr. Burham so kindly puts it, I dissuaded her coming when I found out she was married. I told her father that you, Capt. Pratt, would not like the girl to come under the circumstances. He declared her husband's perfect indifference in regard to it & assured

me that there would be no trouble to be looked for
from her husband.

Mr. Campbell was busy with the Dr. & Indian
dys during my conversation with Mr. Hoff
but as soon as he came out of the doctor's office I
sent Mr. Hoff to him to talk it over & he had no more
to do in connection with the matter. Mr. Campbell
decided to take the girl. If her husband or any
of her friends - Mr. Baird, Angelina or any one had
objected to her coming (that is any one having any
relation to her) she would not have been permitted to
come; but the girl seemed so alone, so desolate & afraid
to stay that Mr. Campbell decided to take her particularly
as her father assured us that she was separated from
her husband.

The Rev. Mr. Burleson says that "one who
was present" heard a conversation between Clara
Purcell & myself in which Clara told me that Lillie
was a married woman & ought not to go. If Clara
said this to me I have no recollection of it; but if she
had it would have made no difference as she would
only have been telling me what we had already heard
from her father & herself. Clara may have said that,
but she gave no other reasons & did not tell me
that Lillie was living with her husband. I do not
even remember her speaking at all about Lillie,

although I am not prepared to deny that she did so. Clara was interested in another girl who was to come to Carlisle & spoke against her going, but to my knowledge did not mention Lillie.

If the Rev. Mr. Burleson had any desire to do so, he could have ascertained beyond doubt that Mr. Hoff, Lillie's father was with her at De Pere & urged us to bring her to Carlisle. It is almost beyond belief that the reverend gentleman should not have heard of the presence of Mr. Hoff at De Pere & of his strong desire that his daughter should be sent to Carlisle school - & kept there. Mr. Burleson will have no difficulty in proving this to be a fact & thus removing the impression from the minds of the Anadarko people, who were so very kind to both Mr. Campbell and myself that "the young woman was beguiled from her husband by the undue & pernicious influence of Mrs. Campbell."

As for the reverend gentleman's insinuation that Josiah Baird being a drunkard is nothing unusual among the Anadarkos I know this to be untrue. That some of them are addicted to drink is true - so is it of some white people. But the majority of the people are good, honest, cleanly, industrious, temperate; but

uneducated Christian people. Of course there are exceptions. I would not by any means call them an intemperate people, but quite the reverse.

Mr. Burleson's objection to Eastern schools, was clearly stated by himself to us. The "Church of Rome" can have no more positive objections than Mr. Burleson himself.

I think I have explained fully my entire connection with what Mr. Burleson calls the "abduction of Lillie Baird".

Trusting that I have not taken upon too much of your time.

I am
Very Respectfully,
H. J. Campbell.