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OFFICE OF

INDIAN AFFAIRS

MAY 13 1892

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 Second Compa.
 May 11, 1892

Rel. to office letter of the
 4th inst. in regard to
 appropriation made for
 the support of Carlisle School
 in connection with the
 education of Indian children
 from Fort Peck, Fort Belknap
 & Blackfoot Agencies.

Noted
 File

Carlisle School.

Very respectfully,

Comptroller.

From a part of the fund appropriated for the support of the Carlisle School for the benefit of pupils from said Agencies, and will in no sense belong to the Indians at these Agencies; will be used exclusively funds so used will, of course, be accounted for as before. These Agencies may be used in like manner.

of the Indians belonging to the Fort Peck, Fort Belknap and Blackfoot Agencies appropriated for the education, civilization and improvement of the education of Ojibwa Indian children, and I am of opinion that were placed to the credit of Capt. Pratt to meet the expenses of Under this view of the law, funds belonging to the Ojibwas will authorize their education without limit as to place.

from being requested at Carlisle if other appropriations exist which that will prevent other Indian children not thereby provided for diminished, there is no express restriction by Act of Congress

Commissioner of Indian Affairs

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Treasury Department,

Office of the Second Comptroller,

Washington, D. C., May 11th, 1892.

Hon. R. V. Belt,

Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, inviting my attention to the appropriation made for the support of Carlisle School during the current fiscal year and to the language of the Act of May 1, 1888 (25 Stat., p. 114,) which provides for the education of children belonging to Fort Peck, Fort Belknap and Blackfeet Agencies in Montana, and inquiring whether there is any reason known to me why the appropriation made for the education of said children may not be used for the education of pupils from those agencies who are attending Carlisle School.

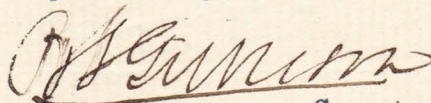
The funds provided by the Act of May 1, 1888, may be used, among other things, for the "education of Indian Children * * * in the care and support of the aged, sick and infirm, and helpless orphans of said Indians, in the erection of such new agency and school buildings, mills, and blacksmith, carpenter, and wagon shops as may be necessary, in assisting the Indians to build houses and inclose their farms and in any other respect to promote their civilization, comfort and improvement."

It appears that a similar question arose concerning the use of funds belonging to the Osage Indians and was submitted to this office October 20, 1884, by the then Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The Second Comptroller then held, in a letter to the Commissioner dated October 24, 1884, that, "While the amount of the appropriation (for Carlisle School) can neither be increased or diminished, there is no express restriction by Act of Congress that will prevent other Indian children not thereby provided for from being educated at Carlisle if other appropriations exist which will authorize their education without limit as to place."

Under this view of the law, funds belonging to the Osages were placed to the credit of Capt. Pratt to meet the expenses of the education of Osage Indian children, and I am of opinion that funds appropriated for the education, civilization and improvement of the Indians belonging to the Fort Peck, Fort Belknap and Black-foot Agencies may be used in like manner.

Funds so used will, of course, be accounted for as belonging to the Indians at these Agencies; will be used exclusively for the benefit of pupils from said Agencies, and will in no sense form a part of the fund appropriated for the support of the Carlisle School.

Very respectfully,



Comptroller.

W. M. H.