

43794

OFFICE OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Rec'd DEC 9

1892

43344-92

34/136

Indian Training School Carlisle Pa

Capt. T. H. Pratt, 10th Cav U.S. Regt.

In reply to letter from
Department in regard to
complaints from some
New York Indians on
account of lack of
food at this school.
3 enclosures.

See letter to Betty White
Dec 14. 1892.

2

File

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6

43794
U. S. Indian School,
Carlisle, Pa.

Dec. 7th 1892.

To the Honorable,
The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 6th marked "Education, 43344" enclosing letter from Mrs. Betsy White of Versailles, New York, in regard to the return of her grandson Eli Parker to his home, which letter is herewith returned, I have respectfully to enclose a statement of my school physician to whom I referred the case for reply. We have on Sunday a fruit pie for dinner.

I am in the kitchen and dinning-room almost daily, pass about among the pupils at table, observe the food and ask the students in reference to the quality and quantity and have constant reports from the matrons of the dining-room and kitchen. We are feeding the full rations allowed by the Department and a quantity of potatoes and other vegetables in addition. I have asked more than twenty of our students today if they had plenty to eat and if the food was sufficient and well cooked and encouraged them to tell me if there was deficiency or defect in the food and there was not one but what expressed themselves satisfied. Several of those whom I asked were New York pupils from the same locality as Eli Parker. I gave instructions today that every New York student should be weighed

43794

Commr. 2.

in order that I might find out if there has been gain or loss, but when I came to examine our descriptive lists I found that only fourteen had been weighed before coming to Carlisle and we have no record of the weight of the others. These fourteen show variations in weight as follows:

Name.	Age.	Weight.	Weight.
	On arrival.	On arrival.	Dec. 7 '92.
	Oct. 10th '92.	Oct. 10th '92.	
Boys.	Yrs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Alex Kettle-----	16-----	140-----	155-----
Abner Patterson-----	19-----	160-----	171-----
Isaac Johnny John-----	16-----	139-----	157-----
Jacob Jamison-----	18-----	152-----	165-----
LeRoy Kennedy-----	18-----	150-----	157-----
Girls.			
Lillie Eels-----	15-----	105-----	110-----
Nellie Kennedy-----	16-----	132-----	148-----
Nancy Senica-----	16-----	144-----	148 1/2-----
Bertha Fatty-----	13-----	109-----	112-----
Boys.			
	Nov. 18. '92.	Nov. 18. '92.	
Stansil Moses-----	15-----	116-----	135-----
Lovett Halftown-----	15-----	105-----	122 1/2-----
Hayes Williams-----	15-----	131-----	142-----
Nicholas Parker-----	14-----	90-----	114-----
Frank T. Crouse-----	13-----	100-----	116 1/2-----

In reference to the statement that others besides children who have visited the school find a lack of food I have to say that only one visitoe, a Mrs. Eels, could possibly have made such a report. She came here unexpectedly to me and demanded that she take her son away from here. There was no ground except that she just wanted him at home. As both she and her husband and son had agreed that

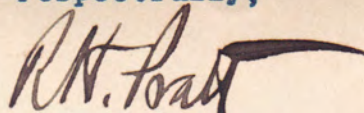
Commr. 3.

her son should be here five years and this agreement had been in writing on a form like the enclosed I refused to let him go. She staid here one or two days, looked all over the school, and expressed herself as satisfied. But I have been told by those who know her that she is a very unreliable character and she may have changed her mind from its original attitude before or when she got home.

I have made this report thus ample because these complaints have been continued so long that something must be done to make the authors shut up. I feel there is nothing in Eli Parker's complaint but an effort to find a reason to leave the school. He can read in the second reader but knows scarcely anything of arithmetic and consequently he is in the lowest department of the school.

As previoudly suggested I think a visit to this school from some of the intelligent fathers and mothers of the complaining children would have some effect to quite their complaints. It is my intention to extend an invitation to them and make arrangements for cheap rates at our coming commencement in February next.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. N. Pratt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Capt. & Supt.

43344 OFFICE OF
INDIA AFFAIRS, 1892
Rec'd DEC 6

43794 INDIA
Incls. N

NO OFFICE
1892
No. /

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Betsy White,
Versailles, N. Y.
Dec. 2, 1892,
Rel. to the complaint
of her grandson Ely
S. Parker that he does
not get enough to eat
at Carlisle School, and
wishes his return to his
home.

Encl. to Carlisle Dec 6 1892
Aust Dec 14. 1892

E. S. File

To Capt Pratt for
report

Versailles Batt. Co. N. Y.
Dec 2nd 1892.

Gen Thomas J. Morgan.
Dear Sir. —

I write to
you, to have you inform me, if
the United States Government
does not supply enough money
to furnish sufficient food for the
children at the Carlisle Indian
Industrial School? The reason
why I ask you this question
is this. — My Grandson Ely S
Parker stayed there about five
weeks and then he ran away
on account of having so little
and such poor food, he said
he could stand it no longer.
So when he came back he

stayed home to his mothers
about two weeks, when he
was looking and feeling better
his mother Mrs Sarah A John.
Decided to send him back to
Carlisle and have him honor-
ably discharged. So he went back
very much against his wishes.
Now he has been back ²⁰ to
Carlisle about two weeks and
he has written back to his
mother and stated that there
is no change in the food or
the quantity and he says - that
if his mother does not help
him to come back home is going
to commit suicide as he is
hungry and something must
be done. Now it is not only
my grandson and the School
children that make this comp-
laint but folks from here,
that went there to see for

themselves and came back and
stated the same thing over again
Now my grandson has always
been use to good food and plenty
of it, but now he finds it very
hard to get along where he
does not get enough to eat.
He says he likes the school
and the place very well if
there was only enough food.
Now I ask you if you will
try to have my grandson
sent back to us as we can
take better care of him here.
if you will be kind enough
to look into the matter for
me you will greatly oblige.
his Grandmother.

Very Respectfully
Mrs Petsy White

P. S. Please let me hear from
you soon.

43794

INDIAN OFFICE,

1892

Incls. No. 2

Copy of

43791

Indian Industrial School,
Carlisle, Pa.

Dec. 7th 1892.

Capt. R. H. Pratt

Sir

In reference to the charge that Ely S. Parker does not get enough to eat. I report as follows:

I have within the last week inspected the supplies that are being furnished on this years contract. and find them generally superior in quality to any year of the last three. The Storekeeper assures me the regulation ration is issued and the cook and dining room matron assert that it is prepared and served in in manner and quantity as has been customary throughout the history of the school.

I have interviewed Ely S. Parker today. as set forth below.
Does your table have the same on it that others do? Ans. Yes sir.

43794

Indian Industrial School,
Carlisle, Pa.

Do you get your share of what is on the table? Ans. Yes sir.

Did you ever ask the matron for more? Ans. No sir.

Do you ever see anything left on the tables? Ans. Yes sir.

Do you ever get enough to eat?

Ans. Yes sir On Sundays I get enough to eat.

What do you have on Sundays different from other days. Ans. Minced Pie.

Do you get all the meat you want?

Yes sir. unless it be a gristly, which is not often the case.

Do you get enough gravy? Ans. Yes sir.

Do you get enough bread? Ans. I get 2 pieces

Is that the same others get? Yes sir.

Do you go to school regularly? "Yes sir"

Do you work regularly? "Yes sir"

Do you sleep well? Yes sir

Do you feel well? Yes sir

Indian Industrial School,
Carlisle, Pa.

Does your Stomach ever hurt you? No Sir
Are your bowels regular? Yes Sir.

Ely S. Parker is fourteen years of
age and weighs 144 lbs. He looks well
and in good condition. And I take it
from the general tenor of his talk that
preserves, Jellies, Farts, and Pies &c are
the articles longed for in the case.

There being no complaint of ill health
from any source I pass that with the
above incidental allusions.

In general I may say that I have no
doubt some at least of these pupils are
accustomed to a home table far more
varied in its make up than possible at a
Government School. and none of them
have been schooled to any regulation of their
eating except the capacity of their stomachs
and the supply in sight.

Respectfully

W. D. Dixon

Sch. Physician.

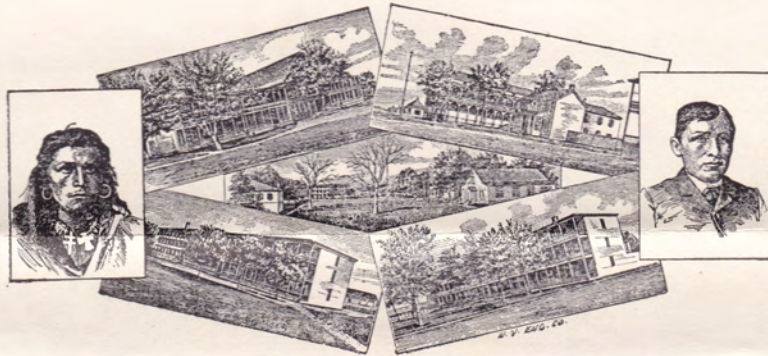
43794

INDIAN OFFICE,

Inclos. No.

3

1892



I, _____ of the _____ tribe

of Indians, being in good health and of good character, years of age, acting for myself and with the full knowledge and consent of my parents (or guardians) do hereby make application to be admitted as a pupil in the Carlisle, Pa., Indian Industrial School, and do agree, if so admitted, to remain for the period of five years unless graduated sooner; and I do further agree to obey faithfully all the rules and regulations of the School.

_____, _____ being the _____ of _____ and as such duly authorized thereto, do hereby consent and agree to this act of my _____ and I do further promise to co-operate with the officers of the Carlisle, Pa., Indian School to enforce this agreement to the end that my _____ may receive the greatest benefit possible from attendance at the school.

Reserve,

189 .

On behalf of the United States and in consideration of the promises and representations above made, it is hereby agreed to accept of _____ as a pupil of the Carlisle Indian Industrial School for the term named.

Capt. 10th Cav., Supt.