

46022

OFFICE OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Rec'd DEC 29

1892

34/74

45230-92

Capt. R. H. Pratt,
Carlisle School,

Dec. 28, 1892;

Reply to letter of
27th inst. re. to request
of J. C. Williamson for
the return of his boy who
ran away from Carlisle
School.

Line

See let. to Williamson Dec. 31/92.

E. J. [unclear]

D

Indian Industrial School

Carlisle Barracks, Pa.

Capt. R. H. Pratt, 10th Cav'y
Supt.

Dec. 28, 1892

W. C. Williamson.

E

46022
U. S. Indian School,
Carlisle, Pa.

December 28, 1892.

To the Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 27th, marked "Education, 45238/92," enclosing letter from J. C. Williamson, Blue Jacket Indian Ty., in reference to his runaway boy Curtis, I have to respectfully advise you that I can give no further information in regard to him than what has been fully laid before Mr. Williamson several times from here.

In April, 1892, he, among others, requested to go out under our outing system. In the fall, as our custom is, he was allowed to choose whether he would stay out or come in, and he decided to stay out and go to school. During the winter I had letters from his father, which I responded to; but as my agent and all the reports indicated that the best interests of the boy were being served by his continuing where he was and it was his expressed desire, I continued him out through the summer of 1892, but arranged for him to come in in September when we begin school here. Curtis was informed of this fact and also knew that our agent was about to visit

him, when, on August 3, 1892, he left his country home, as the enclosed letter from Mr. Fine shows.

There is no information here, nor had we at any time any idea that Curtis was dissatisfied. Indeed our reports from the patron and the reports of our visiting agent, as well as Curtis's letters, indicate quite the contrary.

He was not a very satisfactory help, inclined to be lazy, and sometimes had to be spoken to, but there was no material reprimand, nor any immediate cause for discontent that we can find.

It has happened that our students thus out from us have written home and secured money on which they have left their places and returned to their homes, and there have been two or three instances where they were persuaded to go off with Indian medicine companies, but we have, except in this particular case and one other, always heard from them in course of time. There are two companies, or headquarters for Indians, in New York City, that go out with shows and to peddle medicines. My agent leaves here in a few days to begin a winter round of visiting, and I will have him go at once to New York and see if Curtis may not have gone there. Twice when boys have gone off with these companies they have regretted it soon and came back of their own accord. Curtis's home was one of the best on our list.

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, page 3.

I still think he will turn up somewhere.

Mr. Williamson's letter is returned herewith.

Very respectfully,

2 enclosures.

R.H. Pratt

Capt. & Supt.

Ewinget Aug 3^d 92

Capt R. H. Pratt

Supt Indian Industrial School
Carlisle Pa

Dear Sir.

This morning at about 8.30 o'clock Curtis Williamson ran away from here, going in the direction of Pennington. I am away all forenoon in the milk wagon, and when I left I told Curtis to do a letter churning and some other light work about the place during the forenoon. My wife says he churned, and went

up stairs, put on his new
suit of clothes and left
and would not say where
he was going, nor why. We
have used him the best
we knew how, and he has
not cause to run away
his work has been light,
not half that Henry Bird
has to do for my neighbor
across the way, and I can
not see why he should run
away. I had no intimation
that he intended to do so
and supposed he was satisfied.
I gave him to understand he
was to line up to the rules
and perhaps there was
too much restraint, as he
liked to roam. I dont think
he has any money. He has
on a new suit of clothes and
new shoes which he went to
Trenton and bought Saturday.
The rest of his effects are here

(over)

Jas. M. Fine
Box 272 Trenton N.J.

Can you replace him,
I wanted to keep one
this winter, a boy
one or two years younger
than Curtis would answer
for me as well
A.M.J.

46022

INDIAN OFFICE,

Inclos. No.

2

1892