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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs,
Rec'd FEB 9

1893

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Capt. R. H. Pratt,
Carlisle School.

Jan. 9, 1893.

Reply to letter of
C'mr. and give
number of pupils of
the School, and refer
to their being placed
out in white families
to work and the amount
of money they have thus
earned &c.

~~F. L.~~ ✓

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Personal.

U. S. Indian School,
Carlisle, Pa.

January 9, 1893.

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Hon. T. J. Morgan,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Replying to your letter dated the 6th instant, I make categorical answer as follows:

During the thirteen years we have under instruction at Carlisle 1458 boys and 856 girls, making a total of 2323. We have on our rolls today 453 boys and 300 girls, a total of 753. These represent 43 tribes. You thus see that we have under our care about 1/20 of the Indian youth actually attend-school.

The school has been industrial from the start, giving a half day to some industry and a half day to school, with an evening study hour for the whole. We teach blacksmithing, wagon making, carpentry, harness making, tailoring, tinsmithing, shoemaking, painting, printing, baking, and the care of boiler and steam plant, methodically and persistently, to boys who select their trades, and farming to all. The girls are instructed in all household duties, including care of the house, cooking, laundry work, dress making, and plain sewing,

and a proportion are taught tailoring, and a limited number are trained as teachers and nurses. In all of these departments we can claim good success for both sexes in giving to them the ability to compete and hold their own with the whites and to earn their own living.

Every summer the greater portion of our students, both male and female, are placed out in suitable families to work. Last year out of a total of 800 we had 404 boys and 247 girls thus out. They get the same average wages that whites do. Their earnings during the year amounted to, boys \$16,698.83 and girls to \$5,170.15, making a total of \$21,868.98 earned outside the school. This money is entirely their own. We simply exercise a parental oversight in its disbursement and encourage saving. Their savings at the present time amount to \$15,868. Their expenditures of this money are largely for clothing and necessities.

The growth to reach this large result has been gradual. The first year we had ^{out} only 18 boys and 6 girls. While the monetary results are of the greatest value in giving them an opportunity to earn and save, they are still more valuable in teaching them that they have within themselves the power to compete for the good things of life side by side with the whites, ~~and~~ thus making them independent and individual. They travel alone, They live in a civilized household, mingling

everywhere with the race that leads the van of civilization. All of these experiences and results are along lines that Indians have heretofore been strangers to. The result is that I can safely say that there are very few of the students who have spent as much as three years at Carlisle who are not fairly equipped to go out from the tribes and live and contend for a living with white people. We have quite a number now who have been dropped from our rolls and who have located in the East and are doing well. The number would have been far greater but for the fact that there has always been a constant call upon us to help new schools or to provide helps at Agencies, and latterly to help with material for non-commissioned officers in the new Indian companies of the Army. As these offered good pay and seemed to them and to us along the lines of duty, we have generally yielded, to the great disadvantage of the far better showing which we could have made by requiring that all should pass out into civilization and hoe their own row independent of their people, of tribal and reservation support.

Under our experience we have long ago established the ages of 12 to 18 as the period at which we desire to take pupils. There are exceptions made at both ends of the limit. The average age of the last 100 admitted was for boys $15 \frac{2}{3}$ years and for girls $16 \frac{2}{5}$ years.

Morgan, page 4.

I could cite many of our students, both East and West, who are not only doing good work but set a good example not only for their people but for others; but these special citations only make them a mark and place them at a disadvantage with our enemies, but I always stand ready to give instances and information to those specially interested.

Our aim is, and has always been, American citizenship in its fullest, broadest, and most independent sense, and I challenge the closest scrutiny, contrast, and comparison.

Very respectfully,

R.H. Pratt

Capt. 10th Cav'y,

Superintendent.