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OFFICE OF  
Indian Affairs.  
Rec'd FEB 24

1894.

3/8/94

Capt. R. H. Pratt,  
Carlisle School,  
Feb. 21, 1894.

Reply to letter of 20<sup>th</sup>  
inst in reference to  
Della F. Botford and enc.  
copies of correspondence  
to explain his letter to  
the Commission.

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In reply to:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,  
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT,

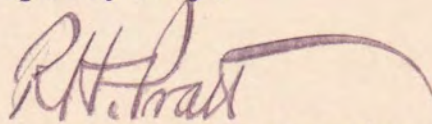
Carlisle, Pa., Feb. 21, 1894.

Dr. W. N. Hailmann,  
Supt. Indian Schools,  
Department of the Interior,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Replying to yours of the 20th numbered 6,470 in reference to Miss Della F. Botsford I enclose you copies of correspondence, which will explain my letter to the Hon. Commissioner. I have not been satisfied that Miss Botsford should leave us two weeks before Commencement and just before general promotions and transfers for the term occur. It was to be anticipated that there would be discontent on account of the change of the Principal Teacher, which occurred last year, but the Principal Teacher came before the close of the last fiscal year, and Miss Botsford accepted a place for the current year with this fully understood and also with the full understanding that there would be longer hours.

Very respectfully,



Capt. 10th Cavalry, Supt.

Enclosure.







At a teachers' meeting several weeks ago, Prof. O. H. Bakeless expressed a wish that each teacher would give a talk to the students at opening exercises held twice a day in the chapel. He further said that he would not be arbitrary in the matter, and asked those willing to do so to raise their hands. I raised mine, as several others did. Each teacher was to choose her own subject. A few days after that he issued an order to the effect that every one must contribute something and that the topics chosen must be submitted to him on a certain date. Several teachers, being unaccustomed to public speaking, had not made their selection and failed to comply with his demands, I being one of the number. The following day in chapel, before the school, he reprimanded the teachers, saying that if the subjects were not handed in by noon he would assign them. Is not this a violation of Section 47 in Rules for Indian Schools? My first talk was prepared and given on Jan. 17. On Jan. 31, he told me my turn would come again the following Friday. I declined, giving as my reasons that all my spare time was spent in drilling seven boys to take part in the regular monthly exhibition, which was to come off on the evening of that day. He gave me no alternative, although some of the teachers had not yet given a first talk.

This is my explanation of the charge preferred against me.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) Della F. Botsford.

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Respectfully referred to Prof. O. H. Bakeless,  
Principal Teacher, for his information and such further





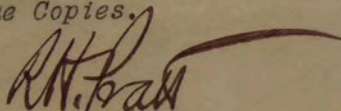
argument she has quoted on almost every occasion that any demand was made upon her this year. I told her again she could take any substitute she wished, and again she refused point blank to do anything. She had the alternative of changing dates, or of having the matter postponed, as others have done again and again, to her knowledge.

(5) All the teachers had taken their turn up to Feb. 2, except Miss McAdam, who was prepared, but became ill, and asked to be excused. I excused her and took her place myself, discussing a subject that needed the attention of the pupils.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) O. H. Bakeless.

True Copies.



Capt. 10th Cavalry, Supt.