

16567
Reply to:

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

Carlisle, Pa., April 30th 1894.

To the Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Replying to your letter of April 28th marked "Education, 14558," in order that you may get a complete understanding of the case as I have it, I enclose copies of all the correspondence, both from your Office and from Lt. Plummer, in regard to the employment of Staley Norcross as tailor for the Navajo Agency. By Lt. Plummer's telegram to you dated the 27th of March and your letter to me dated March 28th, a good Indian tailor was wanted. As "good Indian tailors" go Staley is one among the best. We have produced very few who are better than he is, and yet he is not a thoroughly competent tailor. My letter to you of March 29th and my message to Lt. Plummer of the same date were in response to your letter and his telegram. You did not object to it at the time. Lt. Plummer, probably being advised by his Supt. of School, Miss Merritt formerly teacher here, as to the probable qualifications of Staley Norcross, wired me on April 1st, - see his message. Staley was prepared to go, and entitled to return home by reason of the expiration of his school term, and as per my letter of April 2nd I sent him. He understood well the probabilities that he would not receive

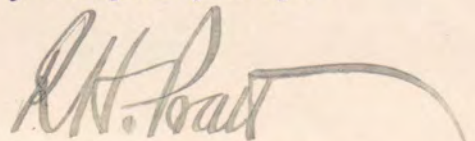
Hon. Commr. Indian Affairs, page 2.

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the appointment and the possibility that he might be of some use and might be an assistant of some kind. To that letter I received Lt. Plummer's reply, dated the 10th, thanking me for the good attention which I had given to his interests. If your letter of March 28th and Lt. Plummer's telegram of March 27th had not specified "Indian tailor", and had stated that the salary was to be \$840.00, I would have known at once the quality of person required and that no Indian tailor within my knowledge either from Carlisle or from any other quarter would fill the bill.

The reason I sent Staley Norcross I think is fully given in my letter to Lt. Plummer of April 2nd. I do not now see even slight irregularity in sending him. I was simply doing the best I could to help Lt. Plummer, which was what I supposed you desired by your letter of the 28th of March.

Very respectfully,

Dictated.



Capt. 10th Cav'y., U.S.A.,

Supt.

1. V. O.

(Signed)

Commissary Genl.

R. H. B. Esq.

Asst. Commissary Genl.

tion is returning in the first place was given in the report of the Major's report of the 10th inst. and is as follows:

I may not make known as a competent witness.

stores that he is not a competent witness. I may not make known as a competent witness. I may not make known as a competent witness.

21.:

Col. J. G. B.

Superintendent Indian School.

Col. J. G. B.

1828-1831.

Benington

Col. J. G. B.

Superintendent Indian School.

Col. J. G. B.

1828-1831.

Benington

Benington, March 28, 1831.

Office of Indian Affairs,

Dept. of the Interior,
(Cohasset, Mass.)

21.:

Col. J. G. B.

Superintendent Indian School.

Col. J. G. B.

1828-1831.

Benington

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INDIAN OFFICE

Inclos. No. /

1894

Acting N. S. Indian

Genl. J. G. B.

Asst. Commissary Genl.

R. H. B. Esq.

Asst. Commissary Genl.

Benington, Mass.

Acting N. S. Indian

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Genl. J. G. B.

Asst. Commissary Genl.

March 10, 1831.

Benington, Mass. (Cohasset, Mass.)

(Cohasset, Mass.)

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C O P I E S .

Education
11836- 1894.

Dept. of the Interior,
Office of Indian Affairs,
Washington, March 28th 1894.

Capt. R. H. Pratt,
Supt. Indian School,
Carlisle, Penn.

Sir:

I inclose herewith a telegram from Lieutenant Plummer, Navajo Agent, in which he states that he would like a good Indian tailor from the Carlisle School. Can you furnish him one?

Very respectfully,

(Signed) D. M. Browning,
Commissioner.

J.R.G. (A)

(Enclosed telegram)
Gallup, N. M. Ty., March 27, 1894.

Hon. Commr. of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

Would like good Indian tailor from Carlisle if one available. Unable to secure suitable man here.

(Signed) Plummer, Agent.

(Copy Telegram.)

Indian School, Carlisle, Pa.,
March 29th 1894.

Lieut. Plummer, Indian Agent,
Gallup, New Mexico.

Your message to Commissioner about tailor referred. Will send you Staley Norcross, Navajo, leaving here Monday next.

(Signed) Pratt, Supt.

(Respectfully forwarded by mail.)

(Copy Letter)

Indian School, Carlisle, Pa.,
March 29th 1894.

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

Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 28th instant marked "Education, 11836," I have respectfully to advise you that Staley Norcross, Navajo, student of this school who has had five year's experience in our tailor shop will leave here on Monday next to report to Lieut. Plummer.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) R. H. Pratt,
Capt. 10th Cav'y., U.S.A.,
Supt.

(Copy Telegram)

Gallup, N. M., April 1st 1894.

Capt. Pratt,
Indian School, Carlisle, Pa.,

I do not want Staley Norcross unless he is a thoroughly competent tailor. The work is behind and heavy, over 120 boys with much new clothing to be made and old to be repaired.

(Signed) Plummer, Acting Agent.

(Copy Letter)

Indian School, Carlisle, Pa.,
April 2nd 1894.

Lt. Ed. H. Plummer,
Fort Defiance, A. T. via Gallup, N. M.

Sir:

Your telegram received. Staley is not by any means a competent tailor; he can cut, fit make and mend, cutting by pattern, and is a fair workman. From the statement of your needs

I should think you ought to have a good tailor with five or six boys to help. Staley is entitled to return home and his mind is made up for that, and as he will go home anyway it seems just as well to send him along and let you make what use you can of him: he could serve you to some extent and might be assistant tailor. Staley understands the situation. I read him your telegram and talked it over. He knows he cannot fill the place and I very much doubt the finding any competent white tailor who could. Staley has made no progress in books for several years but he is a good, steady industrious workman. I have kept him in the country a good deal for some time past so that he has been no material expense to the Government for some years.

Very respectfully,
(Signed) R. H. Pratt,
Capt. 10th Cav'y., U.S.A.,
Supt.

(Copy Letter)
Navajo Agency, Fort Defiance, A. T.
April 10, 1894.

Captain R. H. Pratt,
10th U. S. Cavalry,
Superintendent U. S. Indian School,
Carlisle, Penna.

Sir:--

I have the honor to inform you that the Navajo boy, Staley Norcross, arrived safely, on the 6th instant. My absence has delayed acknowledgement of your kind favor.

I thank you for your interest in the matter and the good attention which you have given it.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) E. H. Plummer,
1st Lieut. 10th Infantry,
Acting U. S. Indian Agent

(Copy Letter.)
Dept. of the Interior,
Office of Indian Affairs,
Washington, April 28, 1894.

Education
14558- 1894.
Capt. R. H. Pratt,
Superintendent Indian School,
Carlisle, Pa.

Sir:*

I am in receipt of a descriptive statement of changes of employes, from Lt. E. H. Plummer, in which he nominates Staley Norcross, Tailor, with the remark that he thinks that Staley should not have the authorized salary of \$840 per annum, as Capt. Pratt states that he is not a competent tailor.

I wish you would inform me, why you sent Staley Norcross to the Navajo agency, if he is not a competent tailor. Your action is sending him in the first place was slightly irregular.

Very respectfully,
(Signed) D. M. Browning,
Commissioner.

J. R. G.