

32573	OFFICE OF Indian Affairs. Rec'd AUG 27	1894
6066	INDIAN DIV.	

40/94

Carlisle, Pa.,

Aug. 23/94.

Capt. R. N. Pratt.

Fords letter from
Rev. J. J. Methvin
rel. to bad influ-
ence of one James
Mooney among the
Kickapoo Indians

enclosed.

see 4692/94

P

M.C.P.

Department of the Interior.

Aug. 25 1894

Respectfully referred to
the Commissioner of Indian
Affairs for

report.

J. M. Reynolds
Acting Secretary.

In reply to:

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

Carlisle, Pa., August 23rd 1894.

*Hon. Hoke Smith,
Secretary of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.*

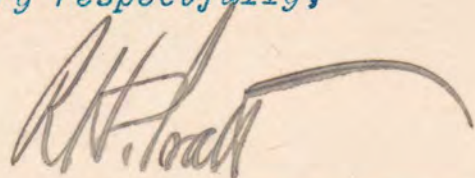
Sir:

Referring to my letter to you of June 25th covering information in regard to Assistant Commissioner Armstrong aiding students to desert and enclosing letters from one James Mooney of the Smithsonian Institute, I forward herewith letter from Rev. J. J. Methvin, Missionary under the auspices of the Southern Methodist Episcopal Church at Anadarko, which establishes my statements against Mr. Mooney received from other sources and covering the baneful character of his intercourse with the Indians. From all I hear of Mr. Mooney he is not a fit person to be allowed among the Indians for any purpose, much less as a representative of your Department.

Very respectfully,

Dictated.

1 enclosure.



*Capt. 10th Cav'y., U.S. Army,
Superintendent.*

Aradurho O. Y. 8/13/91

Capt R. H. Pratt,

Carlisle, Penn.

My Dear Sir,

As I believe you
to be a real friend to the Indian
I write you. There is one J. M. Mooney
here an agent of the Smithsonian
Institute who is doing much hurt
to the Indian. He encourages the
Indians in both the heathenish
dances peculiar to them ~~and~~ also
in the "mescal" dissipation. Last
year when he was here he participated
in the mescal revelry with them and
I hear that he is doing the same
thing this summer. When we
try to get the Indians to quit
these dissipations their answer
is that this man Mooney sent
here by "Washington," meaning the
government, says that there is no

harm in it, but that it is good
for the Indian, that the "Mescal" had
been submitted to a Chemical
analysis at Smithsonian Institute
and had been pronounced harmless
and more of an article of food
than otherwise. We know here
that this so-called Mescal is
fearfully ruinous to the Indian
both morally and physically, and
there is nothing now that hinders
his advancement to civilization
like this Mescal dissipation.

There is an order here from the Com^r
of Indian Affairs (issued about 4 yrs ago)
to the agent to treat the "Mescal"
where found just as he would
spirituous liquors &c, but the
instructions were disregarded from
the first, and have never been
followed since, and the Indians
have gone on in this evil

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till now and with increased
impetus since an approved agent
as they think, from Washington teaches
them that it is good for them &
and engages in it with them.

Now what can be done to put a
stop to this business and stay the
destructive influence of such
men as this man Mooney. I don't
know what to do. I have appealed
to the government with such poor
results in the past that I feel
discouraged to represent this
matter at Washington. what can be
done? This man seems to be an
enemy generally to Indian advance-
ment although he poses as a great
friend to the Indians. he is an
enemy to the government schools and
especially to Carlisle, giving it a thrust
(over)

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at every opportunity. Can you
anything or suggest any means
which this man can be stopped
his iniquitous work. Official
instruction from Washington to the
Indians with reference to the
mescal would do good and if
you see proper you can show
this letter to the Comr. of Indian
affairs, and for advice. If nothing
can be done by the government
we can only go on here working
as missionaries helping ^{up} the few,
while the many under the fell
influences that destroy go on to ruin.
The Indian's case is pitiable enough
at best but these additional influences
of evil introduced among them but
make their case still more hopeless.
Let me hear from you, Truf. J. J. Methwin.