

1828

OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
Rec'd JAN 12

1895

50746-94,

41/247

Indian Indus. School,
Carlisle, Pa., Jan. 10th 1895.

Pratt, Capt. R. A., 10th U. S. Cav'y.,
Superintendent.

Replies to Office Letter
"Education, 50746-1894",
and advises that
Shield Thunder Bull
be kept in School.

True -

Letter to Pine Ridge Jan 14/95

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File ✓

In reply to:
Education
50746-1894

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

1828

Carlisle, Pa., January 10th 1895.

To the Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Replying to your letter of the 2nd marked "Education, 50746-1894" enclosing letter from Thunder Bull, Lt. of Indian Police, of Pine Ridge Agency, S. D., requesting that his son Shield Thunder Bull be allowed to go to his home, I have to respectfully report that Shield is a small boy and is in the beginning of his school life, instead of in the end of it. He is contented and happy here and is in good health. He came here February 19th 1891 and consequently his term of five years is not yet up and I see no reason, other than that which applies to all Indian children, why he should return.

I note in his letter that he states that when you were at Pine Ridge you asked him if he wanted his son to come home. His letter seems to be the outgrowth of that question. I suspect if you asked the same question of the parents of the children at the Agency boarding schools that nine out of ten would say they wanted their children at home. It is not in many of the Indian parents to do as the whites do and compel their children to attend school and make the necessary sacrifices for that, so that it is a duty resting upon us to

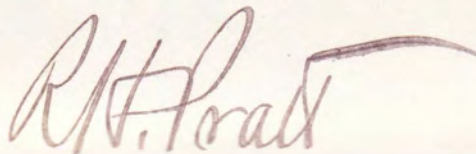
Hon. Commr. of Indian Affairs, page 2.

hold both the parents and the children to the school life and encourage them to make the necessary sacrifices.

The letter referred to is herewith returned.

Very respectfully,

(Dictated)

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read "R.H. Pratt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

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

Supt.