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INDIAN DIV.

AUTHORITY

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OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.	MAR 9 1895

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Indian Industrial School,
Carlisle, Pa., March 4th 1895.

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

Answers Office Letter marked
"Finance, 5276, 9125." covering
application for additional \$3,000.
for transportation of pupils to
and from their homes during the
current year.

Teacy ltr 8/95 ✓
Pratt ltr 9/95 ✓
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Finance:
5,276, 9,125-'95

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

9824

Carlisle, Pa., March 4th 1895.

To the Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Replying to your letter of March 1st marked "Finance, 5,276 and 9,125-'95," covering my application to expend \$3,000.00 additional for transportation of pupils to and from their homes during the current year, I have to respectfully advise you that my vouchers Nos. 6, 8, 20, 21, and 56 for the First Quarter, and Nos. 18, 19 and 72 for the Second Quarter '95, now on file in your Office will show how the \$6,453.24 were expended.

I find on examination of my accounts that 192 pupils, not counting escorts, have been transported either to their homes or brought to the School for this amount, \$6,453.24, showing a per capita cost for transportation of about \$33.00. I have been hopeful that I should reach 800 pupils before the year closed, but the delay in furnishing transportation has materially blocked my way.

The criticism that this expenditure has not been sufficiently guarded" hardly applies to Carlisle, inasmuch as I have received no criticism on my accounts and am satisfied that an examination of

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of the prices paid would show that we had the very lowest rates for the services from all quarters.

It must be remembered that we are carrying by far the largest number of pupils of any school in the service and that by our methods we are greatly reducing the per capita cost. We shall average above 700 this year. Our total appropriation is \$105,000.00 which includes repairs and transportation. This divided among 700 students gives a per capita cost of \$150.00, or \$17.00 per capita less than our appropriation allows, including these items we are allowed by the law of appropriation to leave out of the per capita cost. If we take out \$10,000.00 for transportation and \$5,000.00 for repairs and improvements, as we are entitled to, it will leave us \$90,000.00 and our per capita showing would be less than \$130.00.

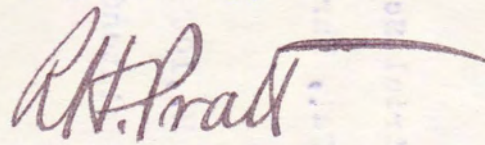
It must also be taken into account that if the students were not transported to the east, then the food and supplies, and in many cases the school building materials also, would have to be transported to the west; and any fair comparison on these just lines will show that the transportation expenses are greatly in our favor.

I trust there may be no further delay in giving us this authority. It is imperative that we have it promptly if we are to conduct the business of the School properly and accomplish all that we can accomplish with our appropriation. Congress has placed no criticism or restriction on us in these matters and unless there are reasons of which I do not know I cannot see why the Department should.

Hon. Commr. of Indian Affairs, page 3.

Very respectfully,

(Dictated)

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

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

Supt.