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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
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1897

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Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa. *Feb 15* 1897

Pratt, R. H.,

Captain 10th Cav'y, Supt.

Respect fully request-
ing official approval
for Battalion from
the School to par-
ticipate in Inaugu-
ral Parade.

File

R Pratt Feb 1897

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In reply to:

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

8129

Carlisle, Pa., February 15th 1897.

To the Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Some weeks ago I was urged by friends of the School and those interested in the Inaugural Parade to arrange for our battalion to participate. Inasmuch as the School has never been represented in the Inaugural Parades, I looked the matter up, intending to submit it to you should the way open, but the expense seemed more than I could well undertake just now and I abandoned it. Later Mr. B. H. Warner of the Civic Organization Committee, sent me several communications he had received on the subject and solicited my views and urged that we participate. I then found that all the boys who had money would be glad to pay their own way, and that if we had about \$250.00 more, and went down and back the same day, we could undertake it. I submitted this to Mr. Warner and stated that if he could see his way to help us to the \$250.00, and would get the consent of the Department, that we could undertake it. I now have from him the assurance that his Committee will help us to this balance and that he has seen the Secretary and the Commissioner and they concur. I therefore lay the matter before you.

My plan is to send the battalion and band, 260 strong, by special train leaving here at 3 o'clock on the morning of the 4th of

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March, reaching Washington at 7.40; to use the train as a stopping place and to hold the food and surplus baggage; to participate in the parade, the battalion divided into 4 companies, 8 platoons, each platoon to carry the distinctive implements and products of industry and education, the whole under the School banner and the National Flag. The band will number 27 pieces, and the whole will be under the command of Mr. W. G. Thompson, the Disciplinarian. They will leave Washington at 7.10 the same evening and be back at the School a little after midnight. They will carry prepared lunch, so that there will be no tax upon the resources of the City.

In accordance with Mr. Warner's suggestion, your official approval is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

(Dictated)
N.

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

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