

1488

DEPT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

9752

OFFICE OF THE  
Indian Affairs  
Rec'd FEB 25 1898

Camille, La.

Feb. 21/98

McConnell, Inspected

Encl. sample of harness leather, with remarks

(1 Encl)

Ind Div

Refer to Ind Office for attention

Free

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Coakum

C. E. W.

Department of the Interior,  
July 26 1898

Be respectfully referred to the  
Commissioner of Indian  
Affairs, for attention

Shorlyan  
Act Secy



Department of the Interior,  
INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,

Carlisle, Pa., February 21st, 1898.

Honorable Secretary of the Interior,  
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Since writing you this morning, I have been inspecting the supplies, and I enclose you under separate cover a sample of the harness leather, which you will see is almost worthless, being entirely devoid of life and can be torn almost as easily as a piece of paper. As the Commencement will be held beginning Wednesday, March 2nd, I wish you could come to this school and examine for yourself these goods, and urge upon the Commissioner of Indian Affairs that he accompany you. He has trusted some one to inspect this leather, and whoever the man may be he has betrayed the Commissioner and the Department. In plain English, he is either a fool or a knave. It is impossible for the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to do all this work himself, and he must necessarily trust others, and when so clear a case of either rascality or incompetency is apparent, the party should be found out and removed.

There are many reasons, Mr. Secretary, why you should come here. I am satisfied that this plant and its management will be a revelation to you as it has been to me. Capt. Pratt is one of the most capable, in fact the most capable man I have found in the Service, and I would like to have you meet him and talk to him on the ground.

Respectfully suggested,

*W. J. Connell*  
Indian Inspector



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