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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
Rec'd MAR 9

1898

Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa. March 8. 1898.

Pratt, R. H.,

Captain 10th Cav'y, Supt.

*Regarding returned
Students.*

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Department of the Interior,
INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,

Carlisle, Pa., March 8th, 1898.

To the Honorable,
The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of Feb. 21st marked "M", I have to respectfully advise you that I do not just see how I can accomplish any material showing of our returned students except by taking very considerable time. Our records show that we have dismissed from the school 2463 pupils. These have gone to so many different places and are now so scattered that it would be a work of no little time and search to get at anything like accurate information. For the graduates we can do fairly well, and come reasonably close to actual conditions. If the time will allow I can make lists for each locality, and send to some one on the grounds, asking returns as promptly as possible; but this would not be entirely satisfactory, because the inquirers may not be in many cases persons of such judicial character as to enable us to rely on their judgment. It seems the only way, unless I should send a visiting agent, which would take still more time and quite a little money. When I started here I established a book of record which was intended to follow every student so long as the school lasted; but the amount of labor connected with that in the number we have had under our

care has proved more than I could add to the duties of any of my clerical force. To bring it up to date, I should have a special clerk, and an assistant, for several months.

Please advise me whether a report of the graduates alone will serve, and if not, whether I may have the time to make the more particular inquiry in regard to all.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in brown ink, appearing to read "R. H. Pratt", with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Capt. 10th Cav'y., Supt.

(Dictated) Mc