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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
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1898

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Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa. *June 6* 1898.

Pratt, R. H.;

Captain 10th Cav'y, Supt.

Regarding return home
of Sophia and
Alice American
Horse.

File

E.H.

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Department of the Interior,
INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,

Carlisle, Pa., June 6th, 1898.

To the Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Replying to your letter of June 3rd, marked "Education 24, 372" enclosing letter from Maj. Clapp, Acting Indian Agent, Pine Ridge Agency, stating that American Horse desires his two daughters, Alice and Sophia, to be returned to him, I have to respectfully advise you that American Horse was here last year, and took away at that time a daughter and a son, whom he said he had to take home because of their mother's wanting them. He stated that the mother of Sophia and Alice was dead, and that he wanted them to continue here at school, the girls, themselves, both desiring to remain.

As is the case every year, after the term of five years has expired, we submit to the students the question as to whether they wish to go home, and if they express themselves as wishing to continue and making an effort to graduate, we, under an old rule of the Department, allow their conclusions to govern. Both girls signified their desire to continue another year at least, and on their own request have already gone to the country under our Outing for the summer.

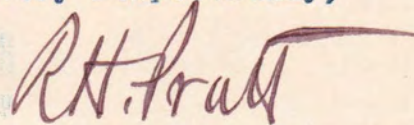
When American Horse took his children home last year, he stated that he would return his daughter at the end of the summer after she had made a visit to her mother; but my agent was out there for

children, although there seemed no difficulty in getting children , so far as parents' consent was concerned, there was influence of some sort brought to bear which broke up the party entirely.

I suppose Maj. Clapp understands both why that party did not come to Carlisle, and also the influences that led American Horse through him to ask for the return of these children contrary to his expressed wishes last year.

My judgment is that the girls had better remain here. They are in excellent health and eager in their school duties.

Very respectfully,



Capt. 10th Cav'y., Supt.

(Dictated) Mc