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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
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1899

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Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa. Jan. 10 1899.

Pratt, R. H.,

Captain, 10th Cav'y, Supt.

Inference to Mrs. Laura
W. Pedrick, who applies
for position of field
matron.

Transfd to M. Jan. 17/99

File

To Maria Agent Jan. 17/99

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(Dictated) Mc

Major 1st Cav'y., Supt.

Per

Asst. Supt. in Chg.

To the Honorable

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D.C.

Carlisle, Pa. 9 January 1899.

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Department of the Interior,
INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,

Carlisle, Pa., January 10th, 1899.

To the Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 9th inst. marked "M" 54860-'98, in regard to Mrs. Laura D. Pedrick, I respectfully state that Mrs. Pedrick is a full blood Kiowa Indian, the daughter of a prominent Chief now deceased, and that she was one of the first Kiowa girls to enter any school, this being at Ft. Sill in 1875. She was also one of the first pupils at Carlisle, and at the time one of the best. At Carlisle she was married to Etadleuh Doanmoe, one of the Florida prisoners, who had done remarkably well at Hampton and Carlisle, and was of such sterling character as to be employed as a missionary helper by the Presbyterian Church with satisfactory results. Her husband died, leaving the wife unable to make her way alone as they had been doing, and her home and property were soon destroyed by fire. Her children died, and Mrs. Doanmoe became a helper at different schools, always being neat and tidy, and with ability for such work as she undertook. During this period of her life there were times when her conduct was not what it should be. I believe, however, there has been a sincere reformation, and she has since become Mrs. Pedrick. Of her very recent life, I am not well informed.

Mrs. Pedrick is a woman of great influence among the Kiowas, is well regarded by them, and is today the best interpreter of their

language. She has many of the qualifications requisite for a field matron, and in my judgment the desirability of her appointment would rest largely upon her record of the last four or five years.

Without being thoroughly informed as to her recent history, I could not fully endorse her for the position of field matron, but if this is correct, as I have reason to think it is, she should be a useful worker, knowing the people so well, and the aims of the Government.

Very respectfully,

R. H. Gratt

Major 1st Cav'y., Supt.

Per

A. J. Standing
Asst. Supt. in Chg.

(Dictated) Mc

Sanitels, Cal., January 10th, 1890.

The Committee on Indian Affairs,

Washington, D.C.

Department of the Interior,
INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,

Carlisle, Pa., January 10th, 1899.

Miss M.S. Cook,

Indian Office,

Washington, D.C.

Dear Miss Cook:

I have just answered a letter from the Commissioner, which I see emanated from your Department, in regard to the appointment of Mrs. Laura D. Pedrick, as field matron. The letter eventually will come to you and you will understand the case from that. Aside, however, from that letter I would like to say this much. Mrs. Pedrick is one who has had some of the hard knocks of life, being a pioneer, as far as the Kiowas were concerned, in educational work. She is of a good disposition, and what she has had to endure in various ways you will be able to realize more than anybody. Times are changed now, and the road is not so hard for anyone. If, therefore, on further inquiry from reliable and unprejudiced sources, there is nothing more found against her, I would be very glad to see her have a chance.

If she is now doing as well as she knows how, her knowledge of the Kiowa language, together with her varied experiences in life, qualify her in an exceptional manner for the work of field matron, and again, she has her ponies, owns her own conveyance, and knows the country thoroughly, and would have greatly the advantage over any white woman who might be selected for the place. Her case is worthy of very careful consideration.

Very truly yours,

A. J. Hancock