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OFFICE OF  
Indian Affairs  
OCT 23

1899

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49084-99

Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa. Oct 21, 1899.

Pratt, R. H.,

Major 10th Cav'y, Supt.

"Education 49084-99"

Concerning party of  
pupils from Fort Peck,

Agent Sobey's letter re-  
turned.

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Department of the Interior,

INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT,

Carlisle, Pa., Oct. 21, 1899.

To the Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:--

Replying to your letter of October 20th marked "Education--49084--1899," enclosing letter from Agent Scobey, of Fort Peck, Montana, in reference to a delegation of pupils from his agency, I have to advise you that Agent Scobey and I have been in correspondence about this party for quite a number of months.

I visited Fort Peck on my return from the Pacific Coast but found that the time was not auspicious. Agent Scobey was away, and as the weather was exceptionally agreeable and no school in session, the license of vacation operated against us. By recent letter Agent Scobey advises me that there will be no difficulty in making up a good party after the weather becomes cold and the Indians are limited in their migrations. He says that his own school will then be over full and advanced pupils and those who have been to Fort Shaw and did not return and who ought still to be in school can be persuaded to come here, and so the matter rests.

I have already secured a one-half rate rail road arrangement from that point, and it is held open for this party and a party to come



from Blackfoot.

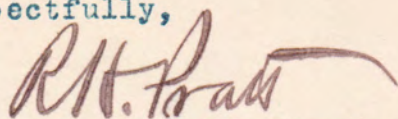
In reference to what Agent Scobey says about mortality, I find on investigation that of a party who came here some nine years ago about twenty-five per cent have died, either here or after their return to the agency; but from what I know of these Indians and their contingencies along the Canadian frontier, I doubt whether even that mortality is excessive as compared with the mortality of those who remain at home. There seems to be an especially competent physician at Fort Peck, and I have urged him to use the utmost care in examining those who are to come to Carlisle, and they will be re-examined upon their arrival here, so that we shall have the fullest knowledge of their condition when they start in. I do not find that we had this in the former party.

I am able to report that among the students of that party, of those who have remained here and those who have gone home and others employed in the Indian Service, there are exceptionally good and capable young people.

So far as I know, Agent Scobey and myself are in accord.

His letter is returned herewith.

Very respectfully,



Major 10th Cavalry, Supt.

(Dictated)

M.