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OFFICE OF

Indian Affairs

Rec NOV 15

1900



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Indian Industrial School,

Coplay, Pa. Nov. 13 1900

Pratt, R. H.,

Major 10th Cav'y, Supt.

Asking authy - Purchase of one car  
load of anthracite river  
coal @ not to exceed \$1.72  
per ton.

To Secy. Nov. 17/1900  
" Supt. Nov. 23/1900

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AUTHORITY

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OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.	NOV 20 1900

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Department of the Interior,  
INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,

Carlisle, Pa., Nov. 13, 1900.

To The Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir :-

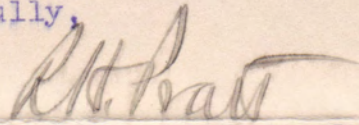
Recently in talking with a business man in Harrisburg I discovered that a number of the factories, heating and electric light plants and trolley companies in that city are running their boilers with anthracite coal gathered from the bottom of the Susquehanna, being the wash from the mines carried down the river by the current and deposited in pockets in the rocky bottom, <sup>that it</sup> and makes both a satisfactory and economical fuel. It is gathered at various points along the river above Harrisburg and shipped to the city in canal boats carrying about 120 gross tons each. It is delivered by the parties who handle it to the factories, light plants, etc. at \$1.25 per ton, but will be delivered in the cars at Harrisburg ready for shipment by rail at the same price. The cost of shipment by rail from Harrisburg to Carlisle is 47¢ per ton, delivered on the Indian school siding.

I find that this coal is used exclusively by some of these firms and by others mixed with bituminous. When used unmixed, it does not give out the objectionable smoke that bituminous coal does. I would like to make a thorough test as to its economy and utility, used exclusively or mixed with bituminous, with reference to future purchases. I therefore respectfully request authority to purchase one canal boat load of 120 tons of this anthracite coal at a total cost

of not to exceed \$1.72 per gross ton, delivered on our siding.

I may say for your information that there are four firms gathering this coal along the river, and that the one I have been corresponding with has gathered about 5000 tons this year.

Very respectfully,



Major 10th Cavalry, Supt.

Dictated(P)