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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
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Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa.

July 18 1901

Pratt, R. H.,

Lt. Col. 15th Cav'y, Supt.

Asking authy purchase of
band instruments.

AUTHORITY

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OFFICE OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS.

JUL 24 1901

To Secy. July 20, 1901.
+ Supt. July 25, 1901

F. Schuyler
SPECIAL

38873

Department of the Interior,
INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,

Carlisle, Pa., July 8, 1901.

To The Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

After much expense and the best of training we now have a band that is far better than any ever produced among Indians. By special arrangements with the authorities of the Pan-American Exposition I have an engagement for our band from the 29th of July to the 25th of August, four weeks, for which we are to receive \$3,500. This does not begin to cover the expense I have been at in collecting the band, keeping it together, and in paying an especially competent instructor fifty dollars a week since January; but it will, I am sure, place the standard of music that may be produced by Indians on a far higher plane, and will greatly advance the general cause of Indian education by compelling among the visitors at the Exposition a recognition of the refining qualities of music that may be developed in Indians.

The government does not and never has owned a set of instruments at the Carlisle School. It ought to own a set equal to the quality of the band. My appropriation this year warrants such an expenditure and I respectfully request authority to purchase a set of silver plated best instruments as follows:-

- List*
- 1 pr. Tympani.
 - 1 Bass Drum.
 - 2 Snare Drums.
 - 2 Bbb Helicon Tubas.
 - 2 Eb Upright Tubas.
 - 4 Bb Slide Trombones.
 - 3 Bb Euphoniums.
 - 4 French Horns.
 - 3 Saxophones 1 Alto, 1 Tenor, 1 Baritone.
 - 2 Bass Clarinets.
 - 1 Alto Clarinet.
 - 11 Bb Clarinets.
 - 2 Eb Clarinets.
 - 1 Concert Flute.
 - 1 Db Flute.
 - 2 F. Flutes.
 - 2 Db Piccolos.
 - 2 Oboes.
 - 2 Bassoons.
 - 2 Sarrusophones. 1 Bass, 1 Soprano.

I have submitted this list and the kind of instruments needed to one of the foremost and most reliable dealers, and his lowest rate for all is \$3,540; but I can buy the same instruments second hand and but little used and entirely satisfactory for \$2,700. I therefore respectfully request that I have open market authority to make this latter purchase, and trust that inasmuch as the time is so near for our Buffalo engagement I may have the authority promptly.

Very respectfully,

R.H. Pratt

Lt. Col. 15th Cavalry, Supt.