

67584

OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
Rec NOV 25

1901

66/93
Col. R. H. Pratt,
Wernersville, Pa.,
Nov. 22, 1901.

Refers letter of Paul
H. Hayne rel. to
the investigation of
the charges he made
against Supt. Meagley
of Paplar Run Board-
ing School.
wrap.

E
H
J

Poplar Mont. Nov. 17. 07

Rayne Paul H
Industrial Teacher

Makes statements
about charges he
has made against
Supt. Meagley and
the testimony thereon.

67584

Indian Office

Incl. No.

1901

Walter Sanitarium
Wernersville, Pa,
Nov. 22nd 1907

Respectfully referred
to the Hon. Comr. of
Ind. Affairs.

Paul was at Carlisle
about six years, had
reached one of the
higher classes, went
home about five years
ago pledged to return
and graduate, but
was persuaded by
Supt. Meagley to stay
home and take a

position in the Bdg.
School. While at
Carlisle his conduct
was exceptionally good,
his purposes high,
and his character
most promising.

R. H. Pratt
St. Col. Supt.

Poplar River Boarding School,
Poplar, Montana.

Nov. 17, 1900.

Dear Col. Pratt,

Do you remember or recollect Supt. W. E. Meagley of this school when you were here on a visit with Dr. Gates.

You recollect I was working here as a teamster under him then. I have worked under him ever since. I've tried to do my best in the position that I hold now as an Industrial Teacher - trying to make myself worthy of the position I hold.

He has treated me fairly well until the last year, when for some reason or other he has been picking at me until I could not stand it, so I brought charges against him to the agent. The agent then told him (the Supt.) that charges were brought against him. He immediately flies off and sends off for an Supervisor, which I do not think was the proper thing although I do not know that he may have the right to do so. But I think that in cases of trouble between

School employees it is the Agent's place
 to send off
 for a supervisor or an inspector, although
 it does not make any difference to me
 who they send for - only that I want a
 man of right and justice, who will
 stand by the right, money or no money.
 So Supervisor Chalcraft came to investigate.
 The charges that I made against Supt.
 Meagley were sections 49 and 50 of the
 Rules for the Indian School Service
 and also under 115 for immorality.
 He admitted the charges 49 + 50 before
 Major Scobey and myself. On the charge
 of immorality I had to bring for witnesses
 three women whom he had he insulted,
 a Mrs. Mary Sears, Mrs. Joseph Culbertson
 and my wife nee Miss Lucy Gordon, who
 has been here as a teacher for the past five
 years. The first two seem to have been laid
 aside but on my wife's testimony he
 worked on the employees for affidavits
 for Mr. Meagley's character on this one

thing of insulting. Of course the employees did not know anything of the circumstances in which it happened between my wife and Meagley and they are not supposed to know ~~how~~ whether he insulted her, for what man would insult a ~~man~~ ^{woman} in public or openly. The employees of course couldn't say ^{anything} against his character on this line. So they all gave their affidavits of him as a man of good character but they all spoke very highly of my wife's character, which the Supervisor did not put down. For this - some of the employees objected and refuse to swear unless they could put in their affidavits for my wife's character, which he finally did on some. The Supervisor insisted on making the employees say or believe that my wife must have made a mistake or misunderstood Mr. Meagley but they would not. For this I think it shows that the employees have every confidence in

my wife's truthfulness as I have.
 Mr. Meagley has of course denied the charge of insulting my wife and besides his denial - he has tried to bring down her character, when all along he has recommended her highly - even recommended her for Superintendent in a special qualification cards which you will see at the Dept. if you ever have the time when there.

That is the kind of a man Supt. Meagley is who has occupied positions and is now holding a position of 1200 - as an Indian educator for twenty years and one who looks after the interest of Indian youths.

The Supervisor kept on saying that there wasn't a thing against us and did not let me see Meagley's defense. My wife insisted on knowing how Meagley made his defense on her charge - so he reads parts of it, in which

he denies and tries to bring down her character as I've written before. Of course he has to make up lies in order to make his defense. For the lies that he has made upon my wife - I think she ought to have the right to defend herself, but which were not permitted.

He is shrewd and cunning and has a master over his language so that he can outdo us, who are all Indians. But we are standing for the right and truth and purity and our consciences do not both us.

I have thought a great deal over this matter and fought hard for the right but have come to the conclusion that as right is about to be crushed to earth, I, still have two friends, who has and will stand for purity, right and justice and they are - you and Dr. Gates. I would like your advice and help in this matter most strongly. I

60.
would like to be at Washington when this investigation is examined and see whether all went in straight particularly my wife's affidavits for her truthfulness.

But if you can help us in this matter at Washington without my going - I would ask you as an urgent request or favor to do so. But on the other hand if you think it wise for me to come on to the Dept. please to inform me by wire or otherwise and advise.

Awaiting a reply at your earliest convenience,

I remain

Very Respectfully,
Paul H. Hayne

P.S. The papers on the investigation were send in to-day. I think. I will send this by special delivery.