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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
Rec. JAN 30

1902

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Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa. Jan 20 1902

Pratt, R. H.,

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

Enclosing letter
of Benj Caswell
who desires appt. of
Jerusha Cornelius as
Seamstress in his school.
To Leech Lake Feb. 1/02

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Department of the Interior,
INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,

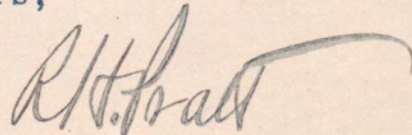
Carlisle, Pa., Jan. 20, 1902.

Hon. W. A. Jones,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Commissioner :-

I send the enclosed letter from Benjamin Caswell which contains an item or two you might care to learn of in this way. He wants his wife's sister, Jerusha Cornelius, as seamstress. She has never been a pupil here, and I know nothing about her, neither do I know anything of the rights Ben's school may have to another teacher. I note with great satisfaction that instead of seven pupils as the white man had who preceded him, Ben has forty-two, more than his complement.

Very truly yours,



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Incl. No.

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In reply to:

Department of the Interior,
INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT,

Cass Lake, Minn.

Jan. 13, 1902.

Col. R. H. Pratt,
Carlisle, Pa.

Dear Colonel; -

We have just received Cornelius's letter in which he said among other news, that you was anxious to know how we are getting along with our school and how many children we have in school. I thought we were so small that a Supt. of the largest Indian School of the World! could not be anxious over us remote from civilization as we are.

These Indians (Cass Lake) are far behind than some of their own tribesmen, who are more fortunately located, consequently they are over cautious about the new mode of life which are thrust upon, thrust upon them! yes thrust because they never sought it.

I have now forty two on the rolls which is two above the capacity of our school but I wish to take two more so that my ~~average~~ attendance for the year may

come as near as forty as I can well afford.

I have written to the Hon. Commissioner to allow me an assistant teacher, as I can not teach all day and look after my duties as Supt. of the school and perform all clerical work for the same.

If I have two or three pupils, I will be entitled a seamstress and this I wish to have. I you would kindly explain to the Commissioner why I wish Miss Jerusha Cornelius, my wife's sister, as seamstress I will owe you a lasting obligation. First, She is a dress maker by trade, hence fit for the place. 2nd. She speaks other language than the Chippewa. 3rd She is my wife's sister and as my wife is a matron, they would naturally get along well together.

I don't very often beg for myself, but I confess I have done this for my pupils about as good as any and as a result some good people made our little band as merry as any body.

On ^{the} 20th of Dec. last, a baby boy was born to us. Of course it goes without saying that he will be a football man. A foot-ball man (true) is, now days, a synonym of an active and energetic man both body and mind. Margaret would hardly ^{allow} any one to touch her brother.

Kindest regards to you all,

Yours cordially

Ben Caswell.