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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
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Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa.

July 17, 1902

Pratt, R. H.,

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

Stating decision of Alfred M.
Venne, student, relative to ap-
pointment as teacher & band
leader at Fort Totten, N. Dak.

To H. Totten July 21/02

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Department of the Interior,

INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,

Carlisle, Pa., July 17, 1902.

To The Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir :

Replying to yours of the 16th instant marked "Education " advising that the superintendent of the Fort Totten Indian School has a vacancy as teacher at \$600 per annum and desires a band leader, and that he suggests the name of Alfred M. Venne, a pupil of this school, for the place, I have to respectfully advise you that Mr. Venne is employed during the vacation at Chautauqua, New York, but is to return to the school at the beginning of September. About two weeks before going to New York Mr. Venne told me he had a letter from the superintendent of the Fort Totten school offering him the position referred to. He stated that before coming here he had been an employe in the Indian service, but found himself too deficient in education to give satisfaction and that his ignorance stood in the way of his promotion; that he came to Carlisle for the purpose of advancing his education and felt it would be more valuable to him to continue until he graduated, and that he would therefore decline the position.

I know of no change in his mind in this respect, and as his equipment is not equal to the position for which the Superintendent at Fort Totten suggests him, my judgment coincides with the view taken by Mr. Venne.

Very respectfully,

R.H. Pratt
Lt. Col. 15th Cavalry, Supt.