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Indian Affairs  
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Hon A. M. Teller  
U.S. Senate

July 23-03

Retention of Col.  
R. H. Pratt

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...I think it is possible to get a man as valuable to the school as Col. Pratt. The school has been built up by the personal zeal and efforts of Col. Pratt and that is the reason he has been retained. I don't think I have visited the school or several occasions and I think that established but while I was secretary of the Interior and I think that I have been familiar with that school every since it has been established and his services his relation with that school. created by the Department or not, I cannot but repeat that there is a subject, although going into the question whether he has been properly

...the high character which he has given it, and the public will certainly suffer. I hope you will see your way clear to retention him in the service and in the meantime which he has so well filled. Yours truly, *A. M. Teller*

United States Senate,

WASHINGTON, D. C. Feb. 23rd, 1903.

Hon. W. A. Jones,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Dear Sir:

I understand that Col. R. H. Pratt of the Carlisle Indian School has sent in his resignation as Superintendent of that institution, without going into the question whether he has been properly treated by the Department or not, I cannot but regret that there is a possibility of his severing his relation with that school.

I have been familiar with that school every since it has been established, and while I was Secretary of the Interior and since that time I have visited the school on several occasions, and I think that Col. Pratt has done great service to the country--infinitely greater than any active duty to which he could have been assigned. I don't think it is possible to get a man as valuable to the school as Col. Pratt. The school has been built up by the personal zeal and enthusiasm of Col. Pratt, and I am certain that if he leaves it, it will lose the high character which he has given it, and the public will seriously suffer. I hope you will see your way clear to continue him in the service and in the position which he has so ably filled.

Yours truly,

H. M. Teller