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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
Rec. APR 27

1904

77/118

Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa. April 25, 1904

Pratt, R. H.,

Col. & Supt.

Case of Eugene Estoppey, Jr.
cook. - Reason for not continuing.
Returning copy of Mr. Estoppey's
letter to The President.

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Department of the Interior,

INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT,

Carlisle, Pa.,¹⁹⁰
April 25, 1904.

To The Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir :

Replying to your letter of April 23rd marked "Education - 25587" enclosing a letter from Eugene Estoppey, and directing that I make a brief report to you on the statements made by him, returning the copy of his letter, I have to advise you that there being no available cooks on the eligible list of the Civil Service Commission, I was authorized by your Office under date of Feb. 26th to look for a cook myself. As our needs were emergent, I advertised in the Philadelphia and New York papers and received about forty applications. From these I selected six, Mr. Estoppey being one, and asked for their credentials. Mr. Estoppey's were exceptionally good and from eminent people. He was unemployed and could come at once. I therefore invited him to come and take the place, but his abilities and qualities as demonstrated here were directly at variance with his credentials and his erratic and voluble characteristics made him an unsuitable employe. He was not regularly in the service, although his nomination was called for and in my absence sent in. Had I been present at the time I should have explained the facts and advised against his appointment even at that early date in his period here. However, had he come to me from Civil Service I should have been compelled to take the same course.

-2- Comm. of Indian Affairs.

Your enclosure is herewith returned.

Very respectfully,

R.H. Pratt
Col. & Supt.

(COPY)

April 11th, 1904.

My Dear Mr. President:

I am an employee in the Indian School Service, and as cook of the Carlisle Indian School, Pa. I have just received notice without any cause to my knowledge to leave said school on the 15th of April by Col. R. H. Pratt who is the Supt. of said school. Now, my Dear Mr. President as a Civil Service employee I wish to ask you if he has a right to discharge me on such short notice and without my full month's pay.

I believe, Dear Sir, in justice and I hear it's not the first time he did so even on shorter notice, as I am a young man from New York and a hard, strenuous worker, who is honest, upright and believes in fair play the same as you do. I therefore beg of you to try and investigate or let me know at least if I can hold my position till the 1st of May as an American citizen and claim my full month's pay. I got this office through hard honest labor, no political pull of any kind as I know of no senator or congressman to give me my fighting right. I appeal once more to your manly character for the above information

Hoping to have the pleasure of voting once more for the First Citizen in this land of the Free

I remain respectfully,

(Signed) Eugene Estoppey, Jr.,
Cook at Carlisle School,
Carlisle, Pa.

P.S. As Tuesday is my birthday and I'll be 33 years of age you therefore see what a sad one this will be for me. I also wrote to Mr. Block at Washington to find out if there was any flaw to my papers but according to last statements they were O.K.