

57028

OFFICE OF
India Affairs
Rec. AUG 22

1904

18/2/11

✓ 55687-04

Indian Indus. School,
Carlisle, Pa., Aug. 19, 1904.

Mercer, W. A. Capt. & Supt.

Reports that Maggie Venne starts
home Aug. 19th.
Returns enclosures.

2 in -

To McCumber 8/25/04

[Large blue ink signature]

⊕

Department of the Interior,

INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT,

Carlisle, Pa., Aug. 19, 1904.

To The Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir :

Replying to Office letter "Education 55687 - 1904", dated Aug. 18th, 1904, I have the honor to state that Maggie Veñne has been brought in from the country, as I stated she would be in my letter of the 12th instant to your Office. Her parents were notified early in the week that she would leave Carlisle Friday evening, the 19th instant, for her home.

Senator McCumber's letter with enclosure is herewith returned.

Very respectfully,

Edgawa Allen

Acting Supt.

55687

OFFICE OF
India Affairs
Rec. AUG 16

1904

57028

Indian Office,
Incl. No. 2

1904

1873

Hon. P. J. McCumber,
Wahpeton, N. D.

Aug. 12 '04

Rel. to the Maggie
Venue matter.

2 mic

To McCumber Aug. 18/04

Encl. Carlisle " " "

Filed with 57028/04

D

FIFTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS.

PORTER J. MC CUMBER, N. DAK., CHAIRMAN.
NATHAN B. SCOTT, W. VA. JAMES P. TALIAFERRO, FLA.
ADDISON G. FOSTER, WASH. THOMAS H. PATTERSON, COLO.
JOSEPH R. BURTON, KANS. EDWARD W. CARMACK, TENN.
HENRY E. BURNHAM, N. H. PARIS GIBSON, MONT.
RUSSELL A. ALGER, MICH. LEE S. OVERMAN, N. C.
L. HEISLER BALL, DEL.
REED SMOOT, UTAH.

ORMSBY MC HARG, CLERK.

UNITED STATES SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON PENSIONS,
WASHINGTON.

Wahpeton, North Dakota, August 12, 1904.

Hon. A. C. Tonner,

Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

My dear Mr. Tonner:

I here enclose you copy of letter I have just received from Dr. Graham in reference to the Maggie Venne matter. I send the letter merely as a further evidence of the boni-fides of effort to secure the return of Miss Venne to her father and mother.

Since dictating the above I have received a letter from Miss Venne, a copy of which I enclose and which speaks for itself and I do not believe that she should be kept where she is nor compelled to remain until the beginning of school. The letter of Mr. Graham shows that she is now twenty-four years of age, an age where she should certainly be capable of expressing her own wishes. The same mail also brings me your letter of August 10, in which you state:

"I have today written the superintendent of the Carlisle school that he will have Maggie Venne brought to the school and let her freely and voluntarily, without the slightest suspicion of undue influence being brought to bear upon her, decide definitely whether she wishes to return home or to remain, and I believe it is your wish as well as mine that we should abide by her unbiased opinion in the matter."

Replying to that portion of your letter will say that I think her letter, a copy of which I send herein, indicates pretty strongly what her unbiased opinion is, and in view of all her letters, which I have been sending you, and which certainly must be her opinion, written as they are entirely away from any undue influences, I think the girl is absolutely desperate and that her release ought not to be long delayed.

Very truly yours,

P. J. Mcumber

57028

Indian Office,

Incl. No. 1

1904

COPY.

Ocean City, N. J., Aug. 9, 1904.

P. J. McCumber,

Dear Senator:

I have just received a letter from Dr. Graham in which he states that you are doing all you can for my case, but I find that the time is very slow. I am almost done up and discouraged enough to let my long weary life go to the end. I've received a letter from my folks at home some time ago in which they have stated me of their poor life and health and how they are worrying about me, for I had poor health on my last monthly report. I have been very ill for the last two or three weeks I have come down here to Ocean City with my country folks just for rest and fresh air. I seemed to get along nicely the first week I came here, but felt very ill last night and today. I am not in bed now but I will be before very long. I am troubled very much with heart trouble lately that I think will make my weary life all the shorter. I hope the dear Lord will soon take me from all worryment and dreadful pains. I never felt at ease one moment of the days ever since last fall, ever since my father and mother fell ill. If I don't be with them very soon nothing but death will satisfy me; and death, I can make it come to me without any one else's help. I know it is wrong for me to say or do such a crime, but I am getting more discoursged and out of my mind that I feel very u neasy among other people that seem to be so happy. I will not write any more but hope you will look after me very soon. Dead or alive I want to be home before

(Maggie Venne 2.)

school starts or there will be trouble. I can't stand this any longer. I may write a letter to the Indian Department myself very soon and tell them all about that dreadful report they had made up at Carlisle some time ago about my father and mother. My father knows you Senator as he told me in one of his letters.

Well I will end my letter and hope to receive an answer very soon.

I am yours respectfully.

(Signed) Maggie Venne.

Mt. Holley, N. J.

55687

Indian Office,

Incl. No. 2

1904

COPY.

Walhalla, North Dakota, August 9, 1904.

Hon. P. J. McCumber,

Wahpeton, North Dakota.

My Dear Senator:

Your very kind and satisfactory letter came to me in good time and in reply, as I stated in a former letter, I have not the slightest interest in the matter of Maggie Venne being returned to her home except an act of kindness to her old parents and on their account and as an act of courtesy to myself. I thank you sincerely for your interest in the matter. I admire a man who does things and must say, without flattery, that you have filled the bill in this case.

Maggie will soon reach home. She is 24 years old, was induced to leave here by flattering promises of a musical and polished education and was compelled to miss-state her age. She wrote me that she only got \$5.00 of her money a month, and that was not available as it was laid away. She is sick and under a Dr.' care and is no doubt very homesick.

Many thanks for your favor and kind work in this matter.

Very truly and sincerely yours,

(Signed) W. J. Graham, M. D.