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58988

OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
Rec. AUG 29

1904

F. W. Brounter,
Carlisle, Pa.

July 2, 1904,
Rel. to the removal
of Gen. R. H. Pratt.

To Brounter 7/31/04

File

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Couville Pa.

July 2, '04

Dept of Interior,

Office of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

It is a general law in nearly all our states that when a man is charged with libel or slander, he is given a chance to prove whether the alleged libelous statement is true or not true. If true the case fails. How have you given Gen. R. H. Pratt the chance that every American is entitled to. No. As an Army officer she has not been given even a court martial.

Oh but it looks small to remove such a man as

Col. Pratt without the best possible cause. Four Grapes.
It looks like child's play.

I have been in close touch with the Carlisle Indian School for a long time. I know the ins and outs of the system. I have been a careful observer of results and methods, I have been connected with other institutions and feel competent to say this; That if some of ^{you} high salaried theorists who believe in disposing of the Indian question by sitting in your comfortable chambers in Washington with your feet cocked up on a desk, would take a day off, visit the Carlisle Indian School, poke

your care around in the re-
mote corners, examine the
system, listen to the band, get
acquainted with and have a
long interview with some of
the "good-for-nothing" Indian
students who will surprise you
in more ways than one,
spend about a week, get down
deep into the matter, take
off your high collar, use your
gray matter, get into the
school rooms, get into the
shops, don't be afraid if the
smoke, study the athletics,
get into the gymnasium take
a peep in the laundry, observe
the discipline, watch the
company drill, Get on the
public square in Carlisle on a

Sunday morning. Examine systematically, investigate thoroughly and then intelligently reconsider the greatest, most babyish, blundering mistake that it would be possible for you to make. Don't act like a crowd of children on a teeter. If the truth has been stated, admit it and better your system. If Col. Pratt is at fault show us where, make out a case, find at least a true bill. Don't fail to ~~see~~ recognize the fact, ^{that} no man in American history has had the same experience in the management of Indians that Col. Pratt has had. His whole life and soul is in the work, he has made it a study, results speak

for themselves and now because
he has been brave enough to
show up a few flaws in your
system and speak the truth
concerning your actions on certain
occasions, now you forget all
the good he has done, you forget
what you owe to him, you don't
remember the day, twenty three
years ago, when he landed at
Carlisle with 84 ~~Indian~~ boys and
girls with the same idea of
education then that he advances
to-day but with more than twelve
times as many followers now as then.

Worst of all you are placing
a crown of thorns over the
brow that has earned laurels
by its honest sweat. You are
putting out the spark that for

Twenty five years has struggled
to burn in realization of hopes
and now Col. Pratt a brave and
valiant soldier, a public spirited
promoter, a brave, kind, grand
man and citizen is to pass
his declining years in sorrow
because he has dared to speak
the truth.

Do we live in a republic or a
monarchy?

Respectfully

Wm. Brewster G.D.

Department of the Interior,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Not at Ind. School

S. 304

WASHINGTON, D.C.
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J. N. Browntree, L. L. D.

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Refer in reply to the following:

Education
58988 - 1904.

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

WASHINGTON, August 31, 1904.

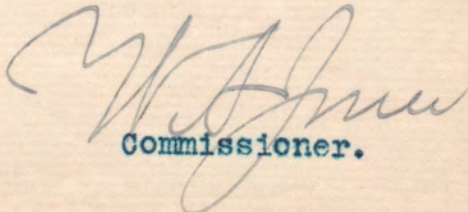
F. W. Browntree, L.L.D.,
Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

Sir:

Your letter of July 2nd, concerning the removal of Genl. R. H. Pratt, is received, and placed on file for future reference if deemed necessary.

I wish merely to state that in my opinion, and I believe in the opinion of unprejudiced observers, no injustice or illegality has been done Genl. Pratt in accepting his resignation from the superintendency of the Carlisle Indian school.

Very respectfully,


Commissioner.

J.H.D.
WRH