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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs

Rec. DEC 12

1904

Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa., Nov. 30, 1904.

Mercer, W. A.

Capt 7th Cav., Supt.

Referring to allot-
ment of Julia Jarvis.

Colville a

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File

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE

INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

CARLISLE, PENNA.

November 30, 1904.

To The Honorable,
The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Your attention is respectfully invited to the enclosed copy of a letter dated November 14, 1904, from the Indian Agent of the Colville Agency, Wash., and to copy of a letter dated November 25, 1904, by Julia Jarvis, relative to the allotment of the latter on the north half of the Colville Reservation, upon which it seems an Indian named Paul has been making his home for several years, and upon which he has erected buildings and made valuable improvements.

I do not see that further comment or recommendation from me are necessary in the case. While it would seem that Paul has acquired rights it will be noted that the allottee who is bright and intelligent is somewhat opposed to surrendering what she deems to be her proper rights. It is thought probable, however, that her relinquishment for the allotment could be obtained were this deemed to be desirable. Under existing law, however, this course could not be made to work to the relief of Paul as the relinquishment could not be accepted unless another allotment should be made to the allottee, Julia Jarvis, which at the present time it is assumed is impracticable.

In behalf of Julia I have to request that I be advised of any further action taken affecting this allotment.

Very respectfully,

J. R. Wise
Acting Superintendent.

2 Enclosures.

JRW(K)

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Indian Office,

Incl. No. /

1904

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE

INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

CARLISLE, PENNA.

Colville Agency, Miles, Wash.

November 14, 1904.

Capt. W. A. Mercer,
Seventh Cavalry, U.S. Army,
Supt. Carlisle Indian School,
Carlisle, Pa.

Dear Captain:

Sometime ago you wrote me inquiring as to the status of Julia Jarvis' allotment in the north half of the Colville reservation.

I have just returned from a tour of inspection to Nespilem and Omak, and among other things I learned about this allotment.

At the time of the Sar-Sarp-Kin allotments, on the west side of the Okanogan River, in 1886, an Indian named Paul was given one of these allotments, but as it was optional with the Indians to decline the allotments and go on the Colville Reservation, to the east of the Okanogan, Paul relinquished his Sar-Sarp-Kin allotment, for a consideration I understand, and moved over on to the Colville Reservation where he selected a place and has lived on it ever since. He built a log house, a log barn and fenced about fifteen acres, all of which he cultivated, continuing to make improvements constantly. About the time of the allotments in 1900 he fenced in the entire tract and built a frame house. He is now building a large log barn, and has just learned that the place was allotted to Julia Jarvis four years ago. Paul is a hard working, industrious man and a progressive Indian, although at times intemperate. He has a wife to whom he was married twenty-five years ago by a Catholic priest; they have had two children, both now dead. He has always supposed that he owned this place and that his claim on it would be supported by the government, as he had been left in undisturbed possession for so long a time and was unaware of this allotment. Naturally he is very much alarmed and worked up about the matter, and under the circumstances it seems to me that his claim to the place is about as perfect as could be made. Julia Jarvis knows nothing about the place and has never been on it, so I am sure that when the facts are presented to the Department an arrangement will be made by which Paul will be allowed to keep the place on which he has toiled so long, and some other land assigned to Julia.

Very sincerely yours,

Jno. McA. Webster,

Capt. U.S.A. U.S. Indian Agent.

JMW(H)

Julia Jarvis

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Indian Office,

Incl. No.

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1904

(COPY)

Burlington, N. J., Nov. 25, 1904.

Capt. Mercer.

Dear friend:

I received your letter also a copy from the Indian Agent. I am certainly surprised to hear that things are as stated as I had no idea of anything like that, I would like to know what you think of it.

I do not wish to give up my allotment if I can possibly claim it as I know the friend who got it for me was particular to get it well situated and I understand by the letter the man named Paul had an allotment given him but did not accept it but came on my place (because it was more valuable I suppose) and went on improving it without knowing whom it belonged to, do you think that I should be the loser for his mismanagement? I think he is to be pitied for not learning whom it belonged to before he began improving it, but do you not think that I am also to be pitied as I left my home when very young to come to Carlisle to be well educated, my horses and cattle which I know I owned, for although so young I can remember, and the same one that got my allotment wrote to me several times since I have been here as she had care of me after my father's and mother's death to know what I wanted done with them. I did not know what to say so did not tell her what to do with them, but she is also now dead. Someone is getting the benefit of them, of course, you cannot help me with those, but it seems very hard that I should not claim my allotment when I have worked hard and left all trying to save every dollar I can, and trying to do what is right. I think it very hard that my government allotment should be claimed by another for I have looked forward to that being a benefit to me when I was through my education and even now it should be benefitting me. What do you think of trying to rent it to him for what you think would be right, and let him have the advantage of the improvements he has made, with an understanding that I am the owner, and papers to show that I can claim it when I need it for my own use. I do not want only what you think is right and I thank you for the interest you have taken in me, knowing you will work to my interest I will leave it to you. Please write me what you think I had better do, I will not write to the agent until I hear from you or if you will attend to it for me I will not write at all. I am very anxious about it.

Yours truly,

(Signed) Julia Jarvis.