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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
Rec. MAY 22

1905

1205/23

Capt. W. A. Mercer,
Carlisle School

May 19-1905,
Request auth. for
the Acting Supt. to
execute contracts for
material and labor
in construction of
certain building
during absence of
the Supt.

To Supt. May 24/05.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE

INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

CARLISLE, PENNA.

J.A.M.
May 19, 1905.

To the Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

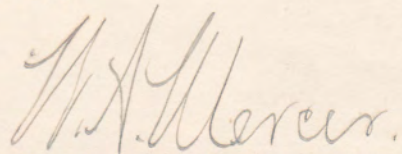
It is my intention to leave the school here for the northwest on official business the latter part of this month to be gone until about June 20th. During this time proposals for furnishing horses and mules and for materials and labor for the construction of an addition to the school chapel, as well as proposals for annual supplies to be bought here, will be opened. While the contracts for the annual supplies might be left to await my return for execution, it will be necessary, in order to insure the completion and approval of those for the livestock and for the materials, etc., for the chapel addition, prior to July 1st, in order to use funds remaining for the present fiscal year and thus prevent the same from lapsing into the Treasury, to enter into such contracts immediately after the bids are opened, and during my absence.

I would therefore respectfully recommend that the necessary authority be granted, if it can possibly be done, for the Assistant Superintendent at this school to enter into such contracts during my absence from the school at the time indicated and at any other time in the future during my enforced absence. I deem it necessary at an institution of this size, and in order to insure the execution

of the work with reasonable expedition, that some one besides myself should be qualified to execute contracts and perhaps sign other financial papers, excepting checks and those having to do immediately with my accounts and quarterly returns. I hope, therefore, that the necessary authority for the assistant superintendent to execute contracts, at least, be granted as Acting Superintendent during my absence.

Early action is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "W.A. Mercer".

Captain 7th Cavalry,

Superintendent.

JRW-AES