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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
Rec. JAN 6

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199932-05
J70374-03

Indian School, Carlisle, Pa.,
Jan. 4, 1906.

Major W.A. Mercer,
Supt.

Reports on complaint that certain pupils from the Standing Rock reservation were not enrolled for 5 years and should therefore be allowed to return as three years have expired.

6 Inclosures.

To Supt 3/7/06

E. Miller

D.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE
INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL
CARLISLE, PENNA.

2001
Jan. 4, 1906.

To the Honorable,

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

Sir:

Referring to Office letter "Education 99932/1905, dated the 20th ultimo, inclosing letters and statements from Miss Mary C. Collins and a report from U. S. Indian Inspector James McLaughlin in regard to students procured from the Standing Rock reservation for this school three years ago, in connection with which it is alleged that the term of enrollment was understood to have been from one to three years instead of five years, you are advised that these papers were referred to Special Indian Agent Edgar A. Allen, by whom the students in question were procured and brought here.

I am now in receipt of his reply dated the 1st instant, a copy of which is herewith inclosed, and which I think covers the point in dispute fully and completely. Mr. Allen states that he informed all interested that the term of enrollment was to be five years; that no one in authority was given permission to name a different arrangement, and that all the applicants were brought before the agent and physician. He further states that he has no reason to believe that any one at the agency used any undue influence with children or guardians to procure such enrollments.

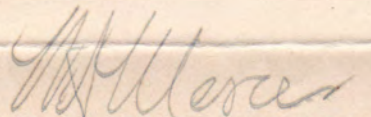
We are unable to find the applications and consents for the enrollment of this party of pupils here, but the record cards in-

dicade in each case that the period of enrollment was for five years. It is true that some of these pupils have been at the office during the past year stating that they understood the period of enrollment to be but three years, but this is not unusual for it has been true of other students from other reservations and localities in equal degree and is a contention that is frequently made by our students when they desire to be returned to their homes.

All of the students of the party in question remaining here are doing well and it certainly will not be to their disadvantage, but on the contrary will be altogether desirable, for them to remain and continue their course of instruction and training here, unless there be special reasons in individual cases for returning before the five year term shall have expired.

The papers accompanying said Office letter are herewith returned.

Very respectfully,


Major 11th Cavalry,

Superintendent.

JRW-S

Inclosures.

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Indian Office,

Incl. No. 6

1906

Copy of letter of
Spl. Agt. E A Allen,
Wyandotte I. T.
relative to pupils he
procured from Standing
Rock reservation in
1902 for Carlisle
schools.

Wyandotte, I. T., January 1, 1906.

W. A. Mercer, Maj. 11th Cav.
Supt. U. S. Indian School,
Carlisle, Pa.

Dear Sir:

Referring to your communication of the 28th ultimo enclosing correspondence relative to the enrollment of a party of Sioux pupils from the Standing Rock Agency, North Dakota, and requesting that I give my recollection of the matter, the following is respectfully offered:

In October, 1902, I visited the Standing Rock Agency in the interests of the Carlisle school and returned in company with Supt. H. M. Noble, then of the Grand River school, now of Ponca Agency, Oklahoma, and thirtyfive boys and girls. These pupils were drawn from all three of the Government schools of the agency and and from the young people of the reservation who were not in attendance at any school. Among the latter class was Grace primeau who was at the time making her home with Louis primeau, the interpreter. He requested me to take her as she was just coming into womanhood and was forming associations that were calculated to lead her astray. She was unwilling to go to Carlisle or elsewhere to school but at last complied with her uncle's urgent request and joined the party. I remember very distinctly telling her that the term at Carlisle was five years as it invariably was during all the time of my connection with the school, unless shortened by reason of graduation, ill health or expulsion.

During the ten ^{or more} days of my stay at Standing Rock the agency was visited by representatives of the Genoa and Pierre schools and one of the reasons urged by them for the transfer of pupils to their schools instead of Carlisle was that we required a five years' term whereas they would make enrollments for three and two years respectively.

Those people whose statements are taken by Miss Collins live in the vicinity of Grand River school which I did not visit. The class from there was brought to the agency by Supt. Noble, passed by the physician and the Indian agent and, I believe, transferred with the consent of their parents. They were kept at the agency school several days before we left for the east. This was necessary for the reason that about sixty applicants were examined by the physician, some of whom did not get in promptly owing to the long distances from home, etc.

I explained to Mr. Bingenheimer, Mr. Primeau and Supt. Noble the conditions connected with entry to Carlisle including the length of the term and do not believe that either of the three gentlemen deceived the Indians concerning it. Several Indians offered to send children for three years but I informed them that I had no authority to alter the length of term. You perhaps know that it is not infrequent that letters come to the school stating that children were enrolled for three years when the records and application blanks show five.

I was not aware that Miss Collins was in charge of Henry Ankle/ She was on the reservation when he was taken. I had considerable friendly correspondence with her after these children were enrolled, concerning the various churches they should attend, their home

letters, etc., but recall no special claim made to Henry. He was under the age limit set by the superintendent at Carlisle (12 years) at that time, but I took him on the request of Supt. Noble and Agent Bingenheimer and because he seemed to me an unusually promising boy.

Some of the people who complained to Inspector McLaughlin as shown in his report, sent their children by Emerson White, a Standing Rock Sioux, who brought a party of fifteen about two months after my return. His own son was of my party and I am sure that both father and son understood the length of term to be five years.

Summing the matter up, I stated the term to be five years, gave no one authority to name a different arrangement, and had every applicant before the Agent and Physician. No improper means ^{by me} were used to obtain the consent of parents, many of them bringing their children to me before I knew of their desire to enter Carlisle from other source, and I have no reason to believe that any one at the agency used any undue influence with children or guardians.

Yours truly,

Edwards
Special Indian Agent.

6 enclosures returned.

12084

DEC 1905
INDIAN DIVISION

COLVILLE AGENCY,
Miles, Washington,
Dec. 5, 1905.

JAMES McLAUGHLIN,
U.S. Indian Inspector.

Reports relative to certain
Standing Rock reservation pup-
ils at the Carlisle School.

1 Pkg. Inclosure.

(See 11645/05 herewith)

SECRETARY
DEC 19 1905
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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Incl Dm

99932

Indian Office,

1905

Incl. No. 2

Department of the Interior,
DECEMBER 13 1905

Respectfully referred to
the Commissioner of Indian
Affairs for proper action.

Shoeman
First Assistant Secretary.

1371

Indian Office,

1906

Incl. No. 3

Your obedient servant
James McLaughlin
U. S. Indian Inspector.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,

Colville Agency, - Miles, Wash.,
December 5, 1905.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, by Department reference, of a communication from the Honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs, dated the 23rd ultimo, relative to certain Indian children who were taken from the Standing Rock reservation to Carlisle School several years ago, calling upon me to give such information as I had on the subject.

Replying thereto I respectfully submit that whilst at Carlisle School in the month of February last I met and conversed with all of the pupils from Standing Rock Agency then in that school, and one of said pupils named Grace Primeau, speaking for herself and several other Standing Rock girls who accompanied her, appealed to me to endeavor to have them returned home at the end of a three year's term, she stating that they had been transferred to the Carlisle School with the understanding that the term was for three years only, but that after reaching Carlisle they were informed that they were sent for a five year's term, and they protested against being compelled to remain longer than the three years for which they were sent.

Upon inquiry I learned that the Carlisle School records showed that they had been sent for a five year's term and I so informed Grace

Primeau and the several other Standing Rock pupils who were then with her, and explained to them that under the circumstances I could not interfere in having their wishes complied with and advised them to remain contentedly at the school throughout the five years term; that they would be greatly benefitted by the two last years of a five years course, and my talk appeared to reconcile them to the longer term.

I thought nothing further of the matter until my attention was called to it while at Standing Rock Agency about the end of March last, when several Indians of the reservation called upon me in relation to their children who were at Carlisle, among whom were Standing Soldier, Frank Gates, Leon Primeau, Mrs. Edward Fort and High Bear, and several others whose names I cannot now recall, who stated that certain of their children had been transferred to Carlisle School in the summer of 1902, with the distinct understanding that they were to be returned at the expiration of three years, but that they had been informed by their said children that they had been entered on the Carlisle School records for a five years term; that none of the parents would have consented to a longer term than three years, and that, as was understood by them, the transfers were made out for a three years term by Mr. G. H. Bingenheimer who was their Agent at the time; that if the papers were made out for a longer period they were deceived and misrepresented by their said Agent and that they wanted their children returned at the expiration of the three years for which they were sent.

I told them that I could not interfere in the matter and suggested that they submit the facts to the Indian Office through their Agent. I also told them that I had visited Carlisle the previous month and had conversed with all of the Sioux children; that all of the Standing Rock pupils were looking strong and healthy and doing

The Sec'y of the Int. -3-

well, and that they would be greatly benefitted by remaining the additional two years, but they did not take kindly to the additional two years term and persisted in having them returned as promised.

The foregoing is all that I know about the matter, as none of the employes who were in the service at Standing Rock Agency under Ex-Agent Bingenheimer, with whom I spoke regarding this contention of the Indians, would either verify or contradict the statement, invariably saying that they did not know as to the term for which the said pupils were transferred.

The several communications forwarded me in reference to the matter are herewith returned.

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant,

James W. Laughlin
U. S. Indian Inspector.

1 Pkg. papers returned.

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Indian Office,

1906

Incl. No. /

INDIAN OFFICE,
November 22, 1905.

Recommends that Inspector McLaughlin be requested to furnish information relative to certain children who were taken to Carlisle school several years ago.

Zeus

SM

AG

Department of the Interior.
November 25, 1905.

Respectfully referred to U.S. Indian Inspector James McLaughlin, for prompt report, with such information as he may be able to furnish on the subject.

McLaughlin
First Assistant Secretary

See 12084/05 + file with

99932

Indian Office,

Incl. No. /

1905

JW

REFER IN REPLY TO THE FOLLOWING:

Education
70374-1905.
90803-1905.

Inclosures.
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

WASHINGTON. November 23, 1905.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Interior.

Sir:-

I have the honor to inclose herewith two communications from Mary C. Collins, a missionary on the Standing Rock reservation, in regard to certain children who were taken to Carlisle school several years ago, into whose case I am inquiring.

As Miss Collins says that Inspector McLaughlin knows the facts in the case, I respectfully recommend that these papers be forwarded to him, and that he be requested to give me the information he has on the subject.

Very respectfully,

F. E. Leupp
Commissioner.

J.H.D.(F)

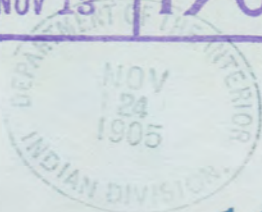
I was not able to
go to work this
year. 72

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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
Rec. NOV 13

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Indian Office,

Incl. No. 3

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M. C. Collins,
Little Eagle, S. D.,
Nov. 7-1905,
In regard to certain
children taken to Carl-
isle School by Mr. Allen,
from Standing Rock Res.

To Collins 11/22/05
Encl. Tracy 11/23/05

(Large blue scribble)

(Small blue mark)

Little Eagle S. D.

Nov. 7. 05

Hon. F. E. Leupp

Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Washington D.C.

Dear Sir

Your letter of Sept. 7. is
hand. You have been on Standing Rock agency
and can therefore understand that to see people
who are scattered all over the Reservation
takes some time. I just saw Standing
Soldier. He says that one time when
Inspector M^r. Laughlin was here that he called
in the witnesses and had all the evidence that the
children were taken either without the parents
consent or with a promise that they should
be returned in a short time. The children
were taken three years ago. Maj. Binghamton
was Agent. Lewis Pomean was interpreter he
is dead. The name of the collecting agent was Allen
they went to the Carlisle school. I think if
col. M^r. Laughlin has the facts it would be

Bring to attention
Commissioner

2
better for him to give them. I should
not have taken up the matter had you not
asked me to do so, as there were a large
number of the children and from all
the schools it would take a great deal
of travel and work for me to get all the
names and ages. Mr. Hugh Noble went on
with Mr. Allen and the children to Cochs
there is no doubt but that the statements of
the parents are true. However the Interpreter
being dead it will be a hard matter to
prove. Some of the children have died. Some have
returned home sick and some of them are
still at Cochs. Col. Mr. Laughlin would be a proper
one to look it up as he knows the people.
Col. Downs could do so but he may be gone
I have not heard lately, whether he is still
here or not.

I am sorry I could not go to Indrook, see
you there this year. I have seen no report
that was a sad thing that happened at the Poveungie
District. Antoine de Ruckbraun is there acting farmer
and if he does me drinks will be a good one. He
would be acceptable to the Indians. Yours truly M. C. Cochrane

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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
Rec. SEP 5 1905



11645

1371 Indian Office,
Ind. No. 3 1906

Mary C. Collins,
Standing Rock.
Aug 26. '05

Trans. statements of
various parties rel.
to alleged irregularities
in collection of
funds for non-reservation
schools.

1 inc. ✓

To Collins 9/7/05
Encl. Tracy 11/23/05.
Encl. Carlisle 12/20/05

Dear Mr. Leupp.

You asked me to take the statements of these people and I have I think there are plenty of witnesses to substantiate these facts. There are more of them who went off with the same party but the parents have not been to me lately. You will remember that you promised Standing Soldier to look into the matter. A great injustice was done and has ever since been a hindrance to securing pupils for our reservation schools.

Sincerely yours

May C. Collins.

Little Eagle S. D.

Aug. 26. 05

11645



70374

Indian Office,
Incl. No. /

1905

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Indian Office,
Incl. No. 4

1906

100

Mrs. Brave Thunders, statement.

I did not know that they had taken my son off to school. I was at Oak Creek. They came along with a lot of boys and girls. They had not asked me. I did not want William to go, but they took him. I followed him to Ft. Yates. They made me consent. I consented to one year. Crying with a sad heart, I am a widow. I need my son.

Yellow Earrings Statement.

I did not know that they had taken my son Daniel but they sent for me to go to Fort Yates. I live at the head of Grand River about a hundred miles from Ft. Yates. My horses were poor. I could not travel fast. When I reached there they had gone. I did not consent. I am an old man and feeble. I have cattle and have no one to help me. I need Daniel and want him to come home.

Mrs. Goddaman's Statement

I am Joe Leardbear's Grandmother. He has no mother. I brought him up. I was not asked if he should

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go and did not consent, I need him
as I am old and live all alone
he is all I have.

Hashorn's statement.

They started with my boy Daniel,
I did not want him to go as
he was doing well in the Grand
Ruin school. He had always
been delicate, but upon
pressure I consented to one
year. I want him to come
home. I wanted him to go to
Santee to school nearer home
when he should go away.

Mrs. White's statement.

I consented to Moses going,
for one year. I am a widow
with fifty head of cattle and
no one to help me. I want
Moses to come home.

Standing leader's statement.

He says he consented to two years,
and wants his child to come home.

There were others in the party
but one not near enough to
make statements now.

One boy a little fellow named
Henry Ankle had been put in
my care in Grand River school
to remain until I could send
him to Santee. He was sent
to Colville without my consent
or knowledge. I should like
to have him returned to Santee
Normal School Nebraska.

Mary C. Collins
Little Eagle S. D.
Aug. 26. '05

Mr. Ditch

When I was at the
Standing Rock Reservation
I was told by several Indians
that the former agent, Mr.
Bingenheimer, in gathering chil-
dren for non-reservation schools
told the parents that the sep-
aration was for only a short
period & then bound the
children out for a long
one. I told them I would
look into the question; & as
it would have embarrassed
the present agent to delve
into the acts of his pre-
decessor, I suggested that
they go to Miss Collins &
give her their statements.
When you have read
these, consult with me,

F. L.

