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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
Rec. FEB 26

1907

410292-07

Indian School, Carlisle, Pa.,
Feb. 23, 1907.

J. R. Wise,
Acting Supt.

Reports on letter of David R.
Hill, Syracuse, N.Y., relative
to forfeiture of money of Amos
Thomas, deserter from school.

1 incl.

To Supt. 3/5/07
" Hill 3/28/07

File

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT.

Carlisle, Pa., Feb. 23, 1907.

The Honorable,

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

Sir:

Your Office letter (Education 15292/07) dated the 20th instant from the Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs, inclosing a letter from David R. Hill of Syracuse, N.Y., in regard to money withheld from Amos Thomas; a former pupil at this school, is at hand. Complying with instructions for a report and recommendation, I have to state that Amos Thomas, a member of the Onondaga Senecas of New York, was enrolled as a student at this school on November 4, 1902; that he deserted from the school the last time during the month of July, 1906, and was discharged as a deserter on December 31, 1906, and the balance of moneys to his credit at the school, \$92.32, was forfeited and transferred to the Emergency Account because of such desertion and in pursuance of the practice in such cases.

The young man in question was not bright as a student and did not make much progress in his classes. He was, however, capable as a worker but for the most part was disinclined to make the required effort and for this reason was a failure in his industrial work here at the school and for about half the time while in the country. He was, however, almost constantly unsettled and was what is commonly known at this school as a chronic runner or deserter.

He had during his term of enrollment left either his country homes or the school here five or six times without permission. He was, however, apprehended and returned to the school each time. Last spring he was placed in a good country home, that of Mr. Wm. Janney, at Edgewood, Pa., but in June he became dissatisfied and left the place. The outing agent reports that this was without any cause. He was then placed in another home near by where the work was much easier, but he remained there only about two weeks when he again deserted and came in to the school. He had no valid complaint to make against his country homes and in view of his record the disciplinarian, as is the practice, informed him that he would be required to remain here at the school during the vacation months and work without compensation. As previously stated he deserted from the school in the latter part of July.

As to his account, he had, as stated by Mr. Hill, \$52.92 to his credit, all consisting of wages earned, when his Kansas Claim money was received on November 27, 1905. Between that date and the date of his discharge there was paid to him in cash or disbursed on his account the sum of \$68.15, and there was credited to his account the additional sum, consisting of wages, etc., of \$7.55. As stated, the balance, \$92.32, was forfeited at the close of the last quarter, it having become clear that the young man did not intend to return to Carlisle though he had been given an opportunity to do so.

As a disciplinary measure it is believed that the action taken with reference to his money is not only justified, but is a whole-

some and proper one, acting as it does as a deterrent to prevent desertion. As stated, the young man left each time, so far as we know, without good cause or reason, and with the full knowledge that if he left his moneys would be forfeited. It is respectfully recommended that the action taken be approved.

Mr. Hill's letter is returned herewith.

Very respectfully,

J. R. Wise

Acting Superintendent.

JRW-S

15292

OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
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Indian Office,
FEB 26
Incl. No.

1907

Feb. 12th 1907.David P. Hill, Chief
Syracuse, N. Y.Inquires re. to
financial account
of Amos Thomas
with Carlisle Schmt.

E. C. Carlisle 2/20/07

E.

D.

Route 5 Syracuse New York
Feb 12 1907

Honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir and Friend

I have the honor to inquire in the case of Amos Thomas's account (financial account) with the Carlisle Indian School, Pa. Said Amos Thomas ran away from the said school when he came home. After asking why he left the said school, after having been a student there for four years Amos stated that he was sent out into the country in May 1906 to work for a man name Mr Jm Perry in Edgewood Bucks Co Pa. Said Amos was dissatisfied of the man he worked for after he (Amos) had been there about a month. Consequently Amos left and instead of running away like so many Carlisle pupils do, away from school, Amos went back to Carlisle Indian School. Amos stated why he came back to the Disciplinarian Calgrove said Calgrove told Amos that he will work all summer without

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Jay Amos told Mr. Colgrave that he will not be there at the school after two weeks and before the two weeks was expired he left the school and came home to Onondaga Reservation in New York State.

On Dec 22 1906 There was a letter written or signed by J R Wise assistant Superintendent of Carlisle Indian School addressed to Amos Thomas in the following:

"To comply with the request of the Indian Office at Washington, D.C., the Superintendent must have immediately to place with his accounts there, the signature of Amos Thomas to your school bank statement here with, for the three months ending Sept. 30 1906"

"Please sign at once in column marked 'Signature of Pupil' and return the papers in enclosed envelope."

Very respectfully,
etc.

Said Amos signed as requested thinking that the funds he deposited which he received from the \$1000 partial payment from the Kansas Land Funds in Nov. 27 1906

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will now be forwarded to him, and did not fully understand what these papers were for and did not ask anyone to explain the same but forwarded as instructed.

At the time Amos received the \$100⁰⁰ warrant from the Government said Amos had to his credit with the Carlisle Indian School \$52.92 making now a total of \$152.92 From that date Nov. 25/05 Amos has drawn \$61.15 until he left the school. Consequently Amos has now to his credit \$91.77

The question now comes what authority have the officials of the Carlisle Indian School to hold his share of the Kansas Award which monies is entirely of another nature and source by which Amos has the sole right and share to receive? Nevertheless Amos is willing to let the \$9.23 which was deducted from the \$100⁰⁰ to make the account square.

An explanation and advice from you will be most appreciated
I am Very Respectfully Yours
David H. Hill Chief