#### A. KENSLER Quartermaster

SPICE OF INDIAN AFFA

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# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

CARLISLE, PA.

Nov. 8, 1907

Subject: Error in item of collar buttons.

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The Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Replying to your Office letter (Finance 70732, File 281) dated the 5th instant in regard to error in an item for the purchase of collar buttons contained in the contract with William H. Bennethum, dated May 13, 1907, you are advised that the buttons in question have been delivered here at the school and receipted for. It is not therefore possible to adjust the matter in the way suggested by your Office by cancelling the item and authorizing the purchase of the buttons in open market.

Referring to our letter of August 20th I now have to add the further information that we awaited answer to said letter until the last moment before closing our accounts for the first quarter 1908, and feeling that the contractor should not be compelled longer to wait for his pay, the bill for the buttons was settled in the sum of \$28.80 as per voucher No. 166. This action was taken because we felt, in view of all the circumstances, that your Office would no doubt grant the necessary authority for the settlement.

It is respectfully recommended that the matter be submitted to the Secretary of the Interior with the recommendation that the prohibition contained in article 8 of the agreement be waived in this case and the settlement authorized and approved. If this cannot be done it is suggested that the contract covering this item

be amended so as to core the error. Should it be necessary to have all the parts of the contract to accomplish this we will, upon being so advised, procure Mr. Bennethum's copy and forward it to you together with the one on file here.

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We could return the buttons to Mr. Bennethum, secure a refund for the the amount paid and drop buttons upon our returns at the end of the present quarter, the buttons still remaining unused in our storehouse. In this case, however, it would become necessary to get authority to purchase the required buttons as the same will be needed for issue during the present school year.

Very respectfully,

Acting Superintendent.

JRW-Sch.

### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Finance. 70732. File 281

## OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, WASHINGTON.

Subject:

Error in item of collar buttons.

November 5, 1907.

Superintendent,

Carlisle School, Pennsylvania.

Sir:-

This Office has considered your letter of August 20, 1907, calling attention to an error in the item of collar buttons in William H. Bennethum's contract of May 13, 1907, and asking that an authority be issued to cover the amount involved.

Your letter says that the item "20 gross buttons, collar, at 12 cents, \$2.40" is a clerical error and should read "240 dozen buttons, collar, at 12 cents, \$28.80."

An examination of the William H. Bennethum bid shows that he offered these buttons at 12 cents per dozen and the clerical error seems to have been made in the preparation of the contract. As the contract has been approved, however, after all the preliminaries had been gone through with, the Office does not see its way clear to change the instrument so as to give the additional compensation involved in the change. Article 8 of the agreement prohibits this simply because it involves additional compensation.

If the buttons have not been delivered and receipted for, there is a possibility of our being able to arrange for an adjustment of this difference by cancelling the item, which is permissible,

#### Superintendent Carlisle School.

and authorizing the purchase in the open market, should the necessity continue to exist for the buttons mentioned. Whether this can be done will rest with you and the recommendation you may hereafter make. Please inform the Office of the status of the matter at present.

Very respectfully.

F. M. CONSER

CHS (H)

Chief Clerk.

MIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL .

Carlisle, Pa., August 20, 1907.

W.A. Mercer, jor 11th Cavalry, Supt.,

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

CARLISLE, PA.

August 20, 1907.

The Honorable,

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



Sir:-

Referring to contract of William H. Bennethum for dry goods and notions, dated May 13th, 1907, I beg to state that item No.33 of schedule of articles, viz:-

20 gross buttons, collar,-quoted at 12¢ per gross, \$2.40 is a clerical error. This item should read:-

240 dozen buttons, collar, at 12 per dozen \$28.80.

Authority is hereby requested to cover the above amount.

Very respectfully.

Major 11th Cavalry.

Superintendent.

SJN/EFW

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