

INDIAN OFFICE.

FILES.

CAUTION!

Positively no papers to be added to or taken from this file, except by an employee of the Mails and Files Division.

By order of

E. B. MERITT,

Asst. Commissioner.

0-1244

See 104031-20

63586, 1918.

CAUTION

File No.

825

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63586-18

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Washington.

FEB 28 1923

Mr. Richard R. Kasetta,
Care Earley Printery, 112 W. Main St.,
Carlisle, Pa.

My dear Mr. Kasetta:

In response to your recent inquiry concerning your rights as a person of Indian blood, this Office requests that you furnish the following data:

1. Names of your parents and their degree of Indian blood.
2. Whether your parents were ever enrolled and recognized as members of any tribe or band of Indians. If so, name the tribe or band.
3. Date and place of your birth, and places and approximate dates of your past residence.
4. Whether you ever sustained tribal relations with any tribe of Indians. If so, name the tribe and state when and where and for what period of time you lived in affiliation with the Indians.
5. Give the names of relatives, if any, who are enrolled or who have been enrolled and received benefits as Indians; their address and the name of the tribe or tribes with which they are or were enrolled.
6. Your statements should be corroborated by affidavits of two or more persons who have knowledge of the facts in your case.

A person of Indian blood who has the necessary qualifications, may under certain conditions obtain an allotment on the public domain under the general allotment act of February

INITIALING COPY - FOR FILE.

8, 1887 (24 Stat. L., 388), as amended, or a homestead under the Act of July 4, 1884 (23 Stat. L., 76-96). It is essential, however, that an applicant under either of these acts shall obtain a certificate from this Office showing that he is eligible to make such an application. It may be added, however, that there are many persons residing in different parts of the United States who no doubt possess some Indian blood, but who have never lived on an Indian reservation or affiliated with Indians in any way or been recognized by any tribe as a member thereof. Such persons are not entitled to the benefits of either of the above mentioned acts or to share in any other benefits provided by law for Indians. Such persons are classed as citizens and usually have no claim to Indian rights that can be substantiated.

Respectfully,

(Signed) E.B. Meritt

Assistant Commissioner.

THE EARLEY PRINTERY

112 WEST MAIN STREET

CARLISLE, PA.

J. P. CULBERTSON, Proprietor



Carlisle, Pa.

Wed, Feb. 14. 1923,

Dept. of the Interior.
Wash, D.C.

FILED BY G. F. F.

Dear Mr. Burk: I have been wanting to write to you for some time but it seems as if I didn't have the time. What I want to inquire about is my own personal self. If I am not mistaken I think there is a little piece of land that I am entitled to have. The reason I want to know is that I am about the age that I will soon take up life's battle and I ought to have something to fall back on. I do not exactly know whether you were in Office when the Indian School broke up or not but, I was the youngest Indian boy that ever entered the Carlisle School, and I suppose you have my name on the record. My Mother was among the first eleven Indians brought to the School

under, General R.H. Pratt. who now resides in
your city. I once had a talk to Cato Sells who
once looked after the Indians and he said I
was entitled to land on account of being
the last of my tribe. Mr Pratt states that I am
the last of the Lapan Indians who roamed
the Southern part of Oklahoma. I am now
twenty years of age and am living with a
lady that took me in when the school left
and gave me a home, infact I nearly made
my home there, as her daughter was matron
of the boys quarters when I first come to
the school. Mrs Martha Sharp. I am quite sure
her name is on the record. Mather Sharp
requested me to write and see what I
could do as she is eighty three years of age,
she doesn't expect to give me a home all
my life. Mrs Sharp has been very kind to
and almost raised me from a babe (over)

I am now working for Mrs Sharps Son-in-law
Mr Culbertson who is in the Printing business
and he wants me to learn the trade.

Carlisle is a lost town since the Indian
School left, it was the only thing that
ever held Carlisle to pieces and now it
is going. I wish if you ever got to see
Capt. Pratt. that you would have a talk
with him about my affairs as he is the
only father of the Indians.

Mr Bush I am hoping you will take
my case in to consideration and see
what you can do for me, and I know
there isn't any body that would appreciate
it more than I. And I am sure Mother
Sharp could rest in peace if she thought
I could get along through this rough
World. I will wait patiently for an
answer I remain

Richard R Kasetta.
G. Carley Printery
Carlisle Pa

THE EARLEY PRINTERY
CARLISLE, PA.



Mr. Charles H. Burke, Com.
Dept of Interior,
Washington.
D.C.

Ed-Schools
88138-21
K N

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87133-21.

NOV 25 1921

Mrs. Martha Sharp,
133 West Pomfret Street,
Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

FILED BY G. P. F.

My dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of October 24th, relative to the enrollment of Richard Kisatta in Haskell Institute. This Office is sorry it cannot accommodate you in this matter, but all our schools are practically filled and especially Haskell Institute.

Your stamp is returned herewith.

Very truly yours,



Assistant Commissioner.

23 DEC 11

I have done my best to
train him up in the way
we should go. I think he would
not give trouble: now will
you see what you can do
and please let me know
soon: your friend, for the
Indian: Mrs Martha Sharp
133 West Pompey St
Carlisle Pa

2561-11
11-2-21

W.B.

Carlisle Oct. 24, 1921

RECEIVED

Mr Cato Sells:

NOV 1 1921

FILED BY C. P. Dear Sir;

I am writing
Education-Schools

you concerning Richard Ksatta
who has made his home with me
since the Indian School was
removed from here. I think it
best for the lad to be sent to
Haskell Institute, he is 18, on
May 22, and I think he could
learn a Trade, he is a smart boy
good boy to work, I am too old to have
the care of him. I am in my 82 year
too old to take care of him. I would
like for you to take charge of him
and see that he is cared for, he needs
some one. I hope you will do something
for him. Could he have transportation
from here to Haskell perhaps you
could write to the Superintendent
out there to see when he could
come

Ed-Sch.
2561-21
K N

Mr. J. P. Culbertson,
112 West Main Street,
Carlisle, Pa.

JAN 24 1921

My dear Mr. Culbertson:-

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of
January 8 relative to Richard Kessetta. You are advised
this Office does not feel it can interfere with the
procedure of the State Court in this matter, and it is
probable that a hope for his reformation will be afforded
through the means of such institution as the Court commits
him to.

Very truly yours,

E. B. Meritt
Assistant Commissioner.

1-WC-20

INITIALING COPY - FOR FILE

THE EARLEY PRINTERY

112 WEST MAIN STREET

CARLISLE, PA.

J. P. CULBERTSON, PROPRIETOR

January 8, 1921.

To the Hon. Cato Sells,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I take the liberty of addressing you relative to Richard Kasseti. As a son-in-law of Mrs. Martha Sharp and a member of her household, I am in a position to know fully all the facts of his case.

I was helping Major Mercer at the Small Boys quarters when Richard was brought to the school and it was I who received him and entered his name upon the books and I have been in constant touch with him ever since. He was one of the best trained little fellows at the school when he came there and could have been made a useful person had the mistake not been made of turning him over to Mrs. Sharp. She is an old woman in her dotage and not capable of managing her own affairs, much less of handling him. For a long time she has had absolutely no control over him and will permit no member of her family to exercise any authority over him. He has been loafing around, coming in at all hours of the night and doing just as he pleases.

Now he is in the hands of the law for Burglary. It appears he has been associated with a lot of toughs, gambling etc. Last Monday night a store was entered and robbed of money. The police have fastened the crime on him and he is now under their charge. He made a full confession yesterday, in my presence. Unless you can send an agent here to take him away and put him in one of your schools, I fear the Reformatory or Penitentiary is waiting for him.

Mr. Denny has tried to get him away from his unhealthy surroundings, but Mrs. Sharp has succeeded in thwarting every effort that has been made to do what is best for him.

In justice to the boy and to the Indian Service, I am writing you these plain facts in the hope that you will yet be able to save him from himself and his evil companions.

I will add that I have enjoyed the warm personal friendship of ever Superintendent of the Carlisle Indian School and am prompted solely by a desire to save the boy.

Very respectfully yours

J. P. Culbertson



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Schools?

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JAN -3 1921

Mrs. Martha A. Sharp,
133 West Poinfret Street,
Carlisle, Pa.

My dear Mrs. Sharp:

Referring to your letter of December 22
in regard to your desire to place Richard Kesetta
in an Indian School, please advise the age of
this boy, his tribe, the reservation from which
enrolled, his grade in school, and if practicable
his degree of Indian blood. This will enable the
Office to determine what Indian school, if any,
Richard is eligible to attend.

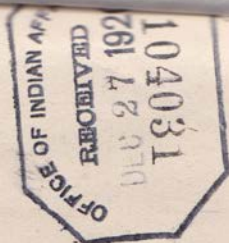
Very truly yours,

(Signed) C. F. Hauke
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

12 ABC 30

Initialing Copy - For File

FILED BY W. G.



Carlisle Dec. 22/1920

Mr Cato Sells:

Dear Sir:

Cash

I think
it is best for to give
Richard Kessette in to
your care, he has arrived
to the age to learn a trade
you know best where to
send him. This summer
he worked on a farm
he is good worker. I am
now too old to do for

he begged to stay here
when the Indians left
said if I would give him
a home, he would support
himself, but there is no
place near here that
is a free trade school
so now you can perhaps
help him to get some
trade I don't know how
Haskell Institute would
be. I hope he will be a
good useful man.
If you can arrange
the matter, I am 80
years old, and I can't
take care of any one but

myself, perhaps you
would like to take a day
of, and visit us, and
see Richard, will close
this, and please write
me what to do.

Ever your friend

Mrs Martha A Sharpe

Address Martha A Sharpe
Carlisle

(33 West ^{Pa} Cornfield St)





E. A. & G. H. SMILEY
PROPRIETORS

WILDMERE HOUSE
MINNEWASKA, ULSTER CO., N. Y.



*Hon. Lato Pells,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Washington, D.C.*

Dear Mr Pells.
We feel so sorry not
to have seen you when
you were in Pauline,
I have been so much
interested in Richard
Nassetta and anxious
to know what will be
done with him *T. J. Smith*

Dear old Mrs Sharp, who has had him since he was four years old, (Richard is now fifteen) and Mrs Sharp is seventy five, she is too old to have the care of him, for he is allowed to run the streets and do as he pleases. I feel he would be so much better at Haskell with Mr Pierce. for he is just at the age where he needs a firm hand.

Richard failed completely in his studies last year and it would be just the same next year if he is permitted to run the streets of Lowell. If he is ever to amount to anything, he must get away from his present surroundings.

We love him very dearly, for he is a very lovable boy, and make a fine ^{man} if the right influence is thrown around him. Mrs Sharp has made a complete failure of her own son, and it would be the same with poor

little Richard if he
should remain with
her.

I would ask you to
please not let either
Richard or Mrs Phelps
know I have written
you, but I feel it
my duty to do so.

May God bless you
in the great work you
are doing.

Sister unites with
me in our best wishes
to you.

Very respectfully yours
Anna M Richards,
Carlisle Pa.

JUL 27 1918

Mr. Claud V. Peel,
Travelling Auditor in Charge,
Carlisle School.

My dear Mr. Peel:

Your letter of July 24, 1918, regarding
the case of Richard Kesetta is at hand. I consider
it advisable to allow Mrs. Martha A. Sharp custody
of the child, and you may make the necessary arrange-
ments with her.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Cato Sells

7-LW-25

Commissioner.

INITIALING COPY - FOR FILE

File with 63586-18

July 20 1918

Mr. Peck,

Dear Sir:

I will try to tell you as well as I can how old Richard was when I took him into my home. He was about three and half years old, I sent him to school when about six years. he passed through each Grade, and last Oct entered High School

was in Freshman class
he is a good boy, and
wants to Graduate from
Carlisle High School. he
is of a very mechanical
disposition. think him
of industrious disposition
Mr Peck I hope this
will be all right.
please excuse all
~~errors~~

Respectfully yours
Martha A Sharp.

P.S Richard was
fifteen years old on
May 22, 1888



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

UNITED STATES INDIAN SCHOOL

CARLISLE, PA.

July 24, 1918.

FILED BY G. P. F.

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

Sir:

Mrs. Martha A. Sharp, a respected resident of Carlisle, has requested that Richard Kesetta, one of the pupils of this school, be permitted to remain with her and attend the schools in the town of Carlisle.

I have to advise that Richard is now fifteen years of age and previous to this last year has been with Mrs. Sharp since he was four years old and attended the public schools in Carlisle until he is now in his second year at the High School.

Richard's mother was an ex-student of Carlisle and while on the Outing married a white man whom, I am informed, afterwards died. The mother died, leaving Richard an orphan when he was four years old and it appears that subsequent to his return to Carlisle Major Mercer turned him over to Mrs. Sharp at her request.

Last year Mr. Francis was informed by neighbors of Mrs. Sharp that Richard was running wild, so to speak, and that Mrs. Sharp was getting too old to be able to control him, whereupon Mr. Francis brought him back to the school. Mrs. Sharp protested and I understand from time to time requested that Richard be returned to her. Our efforts with him at the school this past year


were, more or less, a failure as he failed to pass his examinations at the High School.

Mrs. Sharp loves Richard like a mother and shortly after Mr. Francis left she called upon me and pleaded for his return to her. She says she will see that Richard gets a good education and is taken care of even should she die.

I requested Mrs. Sharp to write me a letter in regard to the matter, and, although it contains very little information, I am enclosing it herewith. I am inclined to think the boy will do better in the future and recommend that he be allowed to remain with Mrs. Sharp in order that he may continue in the Carlisle schools. If he graduates from the High School he can then attend Dickinson College.

An early consideration of this matter will be appreciated.

Very respectfully,



Trav. Aud. in Chge.

P/S
encl.