

File

INDIAN OFFICE.

FILES.

MARtha CORNSilk Case

41982-08

Carlisle 928

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

WASHINGTON

December 31, 1908.

Education  
86349-1908  
E.A.F.

*[Handwritten signature]*

41982/08

SUBJECT:  
Report regarding Miss  
Martha Cornsilk.

Mr. Moses Friedman,  
Supt. Indian School,  
Carlisle, Pa.

Sir:

I have your letter of December 21 reporting that Miss Martha Cornsilk, since her dismissal from the German Hospital of Brooklyn, has conducted herself in a very satisfactory manner, and has now been accepted for admission to the Training School of the Worcester City Hospital, Worcester, Massachusetts.

I am very glad that this opportunity has opened for Martha, and hope to have good reports as to her progress, and in due time to learn that she has been successful in completing the course. Please convey to her my good wishes, and assure her of my interest in her advancement.

Very respectfully,

*[Handwritten signature: F. E. Leupp]*  
Commissioner.



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,

Carlisle, Pa., Dec. 31st, 1908.

Subject:  
Forwarding letter of  
information regarding  
Martha Cornsilk.

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



Sir:-

I respectfully report that Martha Cornsilk who was formerly a student at the Nurses' Training School of the German Hospital of Brooklyn, and concerning whom some correspondence has been carried on with your office, has been accepted for admission into the Training School of the Worcester City Hospital, Worcester, Mass.

Since her discharge from the German Hospital of Brooklyn, Miss Cornsilk has conducted herself in a very satisfactory manner, and because of her great desire to complete the nurses' training course, I assisted her to obtain admission into the Worcester Hospital.

I have had a long and earnest conversation with her, explaining the difficulties which she would experience, and urging her if she entered another Hospital, to do so with a firm resolve to satisfactorily complete the course.

Her present attitude seems to be a sane one and I hope that her work and conduct will be such as to enable her to graduate as a trained nurse.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,

73

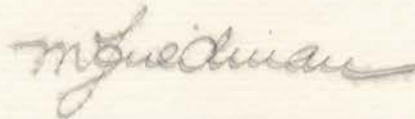
The Honorable,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

I shall report her progress to your office from time to time.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M. Guedin".

Superintendent.

MF/BMW.

West Chester Pa.

Oct. 30. 1908.

Commissioner Indian Affairs  
Washington D. C.

Dear Mr. Leupp.

I have decided

remain in the north and  
do the best I can with  
the duties which are before  
me. I have taken every  
thing into a consideration  
and thinking it to be for the



READ BY COMR.

Bring to Comr's attention



best. I have done what I know to be right.

I have also made an application to another Hospital for entrance. But having been told that will be no room just present.

But I will try another hospital before long. It is the best thing I can do just now.

Mr. Leupp do you suppose the German Hospital would take me back again

if I should want to go there?

I am now in town here with my country mother. Hoping to hear from you soon.

Yours Respectfully,  
L. Martha Conville.

South High St.  
West Chester  
Pa.

PO

Call for  
41982-08  
Carlisle File 928



FILE

REFER IN REPLY TO THE FOLLOWING:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Education  
73140-1908  
E.A.P.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

WASHINGTON. November 3, 1908.

SUBJECT:

Her letter regarding what she wishes to do.

Miss L. Martha Cornsilk,  
South High Street,  
West Chester, Pa.

Dear Miss Cornsilk:

I have received your letter of October 30, and am pleased with your decision to remain in the North and do the best you can until there is an opening in some hospital where you may take a training course for nurses.

You ask whether I believe the German Hospital in Brooklyn would take you back, if you should want to go there.

Superintendent Stohlmann is in a better position to judge whether it would be wise for you to return to the Brooklyn Hospital, and when, than I am, and if you finally make up your mind that you would like to go back there, I will ask him what he thinks about it.

It might be that your return to that Hospital after the unhappy occurrence of last summer would make it a little hard for you at first; but no difficulty, if faced in the right spirit, would need to discourage you or turn you from your determination to become a trained nurse.



Miss Cornsilk.

Then, too, it is possible that the Superintendent could not receive you until some later time. In that case you could remain where you are until he was ready.

Whatever the work we undertake, we shall always find trials to endure and obstacles to surmount; and it behooves us to consider well our sources of strength before we enter a field of labor which is bound severely to tax our patience and courage.

Take time to think this matter over carefully. You have a good home and there is no need for a hasty judgment. Then, if you feel that you are ready to try again, and there is no agreement with your present employer to interfere, write me, and I will see whether arrangements can be made for your return to Brooklyn.

Very respectfully,

*J. E. Leupp.*  
Commissioner.

FILE

(Malheur)

JW

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON

November 4, 1908.

Education  
73140-1908  
E.A.F.

SUBJECT:

Letter from L. Martha  
Corn silk regarding what  
she wishes to do.

Supt. Indian School,  
Carlisle, Pa.

Sir:

I inclose herewith for your information a copy of a letter  
to-day addressed to Miss L. Martha Corn silk.

Very respectfully,

*A. Dimick*

Acting Chief Clerk.



FILE



41982/88

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

Carlisle, Pa., September 25, 1908.

Subject:-

Nurses Training Course  
for Martha Cornsilk.

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

Sir:-

I respectfully enclose, under this cover, a letter received from Martha Cornsilk who has had correspondence with your Office concerning her relations to this school.

The reports which we have obtained indicate that she is doing well and I replied to her letter informing her that I would do everything in my power to obtain for her admission to one of the training schools for nurses connected with the hospitals of Brooklyn or Philadelphia.

Very respectfully,

*M. G. Sedman*

Superintendent.

MF/EPW



West Chester, Pa.

Sept. 23, 1908.

Mr W. Friedman  
Indian School,  
Carlisle Pa.

Dear Mr. Friedman;

It is some time since I heard from you and Mr Leupp. After thinking over every thing I have decided to sign your rules, if you will sent them to me.

I was visiting Mrs Reynolds who advised me to write to you and tell you, I have made a mistake in refusing



to sign the papers, but at  
the time I was too discourage  
to care to do anything.

Mr. Friedman how long  
must I wait until I make  
another attempt to go on  
with my training that is  
if I am to go on with it.

I know that Cathie is a stand  
by. She has <sup>been</sup> a mother to me ever  
since I was nothing but a child.  
So I hope to gain her care.  
What am I to do my clothing  
if I am still under the  
rules.

Thanking you for your  
advice.

Yours,

L. Martha Conilke,  
Embreeville.

Cof. J. C. Hayes, Pa.



FILE



41982/08

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,

Carlisle, Pa., Sept. 2d, 1908.

Subject:

The case of Miss Martha Cornsilk.

To the Commissioner of Indian Affairs,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

I have your office letter marked " Education 57031/08, J. H. D. ", dated August 28th, 1908, concerning the case of Miss Martha Cornsilk, and note the action which was taken by your office.

As instructed, I shall, from time to time, get into touch with Miss Cornsilk, and endeavor to make her contented.

I shall inform your office from time to time as to her progress.

Very respectfully,

*M. Friedman*  
Superintendent.

*M. F. D.*

REFER IN REPLY TO THE FOLLOWING:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Education  
57031/08  
JHD

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
WASHINGTON.

August 28, 1908.

Subject: Case of Martha Cornsilk.

Supt. Indian School,  
Carlisle, Penn.

Sir:

Answering your letter of the 19th instant, concerning Martha Cornsilk, you are advised that the substance of your letter has been communicated to her with the suggestion that the Office believes it is for her best interests not to return home or be released from the cutting rules. This is a case to which it seems you should give individual attention.

Very respectfully,

*F. E. Leupp*  
Commissioner.

TFM



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Education  
57031/08  
JHD

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
WASHINGTON.

August 28, 1908.

Subject: Case of Martha Cornsilk.

Miss Martha Cornsilk,  
C/o J. Carrol Hayes,  
Embreeville, Penn.

Dear Miss Cornsilk:

I sent your letter of August 10 to Superintendent Friedman for a report which has just been received.

He says -

I took it for granted from a conversation I had with Miss Cornsilk after her return from the German Hospital in Brooklyn that she desired to do everything possible to win the approbation of her friends so that she might be given another trial and additional opportunities. She was sent into the country to Mrs. Hayes with a view of earning enough money so as to return to her home, but she informed us that she desired to go there for a definite time, and would like to continue the nurse's training course. In order to obtain definite information concerning her actions, and with a view to protecting her, she was placed under our Outing Rules. I felt that this was warranted because of her misconduct in the Brooklyn Hospital, and for the same reason that it is necessary with all of our young ladies who go out.

Mrs. Hayes was asked to be as liberal as possible with Martha, and I feel confident that the latter has not been restricted in the matter of her personal liberties. Everything that has been done was for the protection of this young lady and with a view of finding out definitely whether or not she is entitled to further consideration for the nurse's training course. Because of her past conduct, I do not believe that it would be wise for her to be away from the school without being surrounded by some restraints. If she means well, and is sincere in her declaration, she won't mind this. There is no intention of keeping her indefinitely under such regulations. I had thought that if she did well, and her reports were satisfactory, that I would recommend that she be given another opportunity in the fall, either in the Brooklyn Hospital or in the Philadelphia Hospital.



Miss Cornsilk

-2-

The advice given by Superintendent Friedman seems to be very good, and I think that after you have gone over it carefully you will agree with me that you should make yourself contented where you are and by close attention to your duties and carefulness of conduct reinstate yourself in the good opinion of your Carlisle friends. You owe this much to them in view of the unfortunate error committed while at the German Hospital.

If at any time in the future you feel like going over this matter again with me, I will answer any letter which you may send to me.

Very respectfully,

*J. E. Leupp.*  
Commissioner.

TFM

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,

57031



Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa., August 19, 1908.

Subject:-  
Request of Martha  
Corn silk to be released  
from school rules.

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

Sir:-

I have your Office letter marked "Education, 54875/08, JHD," dated August 15, 1908, in which a report is asked concerning the request of Martha Cornsilk to be released from the Outing Rules of this school so that she can independently continue her education. I have also read Miss Cornsilk's letter.

I took it for granted from a conversation I had with Miss Cornsilk after her return from the German Hospital in Brooklyn that she desired to do everything possible to win the approbation of her friends so that she might be given another trial and additional opportunities. She was sent into the country to Mrs. Hayes with a view of earning enough money so as to return to her home, but she informed us that she desired to go there for a definite time, and would like to continue the nurse's training course. In order to obtain definite in-

41982/08

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-2- Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

formation concerning her actions, and with a view to protecting her, she was placed under our Outing Rules. I felt that this was warranted because of her misconduct in the Brooklyn Hospital, and for the same reason that it is necessary with all of our young ladies who go out.

Mrs. Hayes was asked to be as liberal as possible with Martha, and I feel confident that the latter has not been restricted in the matter of her personal liberties. Everything that has been done was for the protection of this young lady and with a view of finding out definitely whether or not she is entitled to further consideration for the nurse's training course. Because of her past conduct, I do not believe that it would be wise for her to be away from the school without being surrounded by some restraints. If she means well, and is sincere in her declaration, she won't mind this. There is no intention of keeping her indefinitely under such regulations. I had thought that if she did well, and her reports were satisfactory, that I would recommend that she be given another opportunity in the fall, either in the Brooklyn Hospital or in the Philadelphia Hospital.

I respectfully recommend that an effort be made to induce this young lady to see this matter in the light of her best interests, and her return to her home at this time, or her release from the outing rules, would certainly do her no good.



-3- Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

I enclose, under this cover, a copy of a letter written to her patron which will indicate that we have endeavored to handle this matter with tact.

Very respectfully,

*M. Friedman*

Superintendent.

MF/EPW

Enc.

M. FRIEDMAN,  
Superintendent.

J. WHITWELL,  
Principal Teacher.

A. KENSLER,  
Quartermaster.

COPY.

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

57031  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
RECEIVED  
AUG 21 1908  
File.

OUTING SYSTEM:

MISS M. GAITHER, Girls' Field Agent.  
MR. J. E. HENDERSON, Boys' Field Agent.  
MRS. N. R. DENNY, Clerk.

July 15, 1908.

Mrs. J. C. Hayes  
Embreeville, Pa.

Dear friend:-

Mr. Friedman has asked me to write you a personal note with reference to Martha Cornsilk. He had a letter from her yesterday asking him if she were to be out under the rules and he wrote her that she would be. While Martha is not a regularly enrolled pupil, she has gone into one of our country homes, into our outing district, and Mr. Friedman thinks she would better be under the rules. At the same time, she seems very much disappointed, discouraged and almost moody over her recent failure at the Hospital and he thinks perhaps you can, by your tact and management, control her in such a manner so as not to make her feel rebellious or to make her feel that the rules are too stringent. I think you understand just what I mean.

I have known Martha a long time and know that she is a good conscientious worker and is generally obedient but that sometimes she allows a certain little "spirit" of hers to interfere with her usually good habits. I hope she may not display any of this spirit while with you and that you and she will have a profitable summer together.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Nellie R. Denny.

41982-08



Enclosure.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

WASHINGTON.

Education  
54875-1908  
JHD

August 15, 1908.

Subject:  
Lavinia Martha Cornsilk  
requests release from  
outing rules.

Superintendent,  
Indian School,  
Carlisle, Pa.

Sir:

I enclose a letter from Lavinia Martha Cornsilk, from Embreeville, Pennsylvania, asking to be released from the Carlisle School and its outing rules, in order to continue independently her education.

Please make a report, giving your recommendation in the premises, so that the Office may formulate an answer to Miss Cornsilk.

Return her letter with your report.

Very respectfully,

*J. M. Green*  
Chief Clerk.

ARN

41982-25



57031

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
RECEIVED  
AUG 21 1908  
File.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
RECEIVED  
AUG 12 1908  
File  
54875  
READ

Embreville Penna.

Aug. 10<sup>th</sup> 1908.

Hon. Francis E. Leupp.

Commissioner of Ind. Affairs.

Washington D. C.

My dear Sir:

Time has come when I must write to you for an assistance. In the first place, are we compel to remain in the school rules if out in the country home and we wish to be out of the outing system rules? I have asked for my release from the rules and have been refused, but I desire to be free from rules.

Time has come when I feel as

7195

tho, I ought to go and fight my own  
battles. I think, I have been depending  
on poor "Uncle Sam." long enough on  
the line of education. And it has just  
given me a good start, and I would  
like to complete my education more  
independently.

I would remain here in the north  
if I could be out of the school authority  
but if not I will go home to my people.  
Where I can see my own people and  
be with the rest of my days.

In the near future I hope to enter  
some Hospital in the State of Penna  
to continue my course of training  
which I made a failure at my first  
attemp. Indeed I am sorry for this too.  
Still it is not a complete failure  
but it is more my mistake.

But I must not detain <sup>you</sup> long  
with this, for I know you are busy  
Thanking you for what you  
have done for good, I will now  
close.

Yours respectfully  
Lavinia Martha Conisilk.  
Embsville Pa.  
c/o J. Carroll Hayes.



REFER IN REPLY TO THE FOLLOWING:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Education  
46410-1908  
E.A.F.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

WASHINGTON. July 13, 1908.

SUBJECT:

Commendable attitude of  
Martha Cornsilk since her  
dismissal from the training  
school for nurses.

Mr. J. Edward Stohlmann, Jr.,  
Supt. German Hospital,  
St. Nicholas Avenue,  
Stanhope and Stockholm Sts.,  
Brooklyn, New York.

Sir:

I have just received a letter from Superintendent Friedman of the Carlisle Indian School, in which he says that Miss Martha Cornsilk, the Indian girl who was recently dismissed from your training school for nurses, is desirous of doing all that she can to rectify the mistake she has made; that she has consented to go into a country home to work, and has indicated in her conversation that if everything went well she would stay indefinitely; that he is sure she is sorry because of the trouble she got into, and that she hopes to be given at some future time another opportunity to take up the course in nursing.

I have to-day written Superintendent Friedman that, if she shows by her conduct that she has profited by the severe lesson she has had, perseveres in following the right course, and works faithfully in her new home, it is reasonable to believe that in due time the Hospital authorities will, upon his recommendation,

*[Handwritten initials]*

41952-08

2

German Hospital

be glad to give her another trial.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. J. Fawcett", written in a cursive style.

Acting Commissioner.



*[Handwritten signature]*

REFER IN REPLY TO THE FOLLOWING:

Inclosure

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,**

**OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,**

**WASHINGTON. July 13, 1908.**

Education  
46410-1908  
E.A.F.

**SUBJECT:**  
Action taken in the  
case of Martha Cornsilk.

Supt. Indian School,  
Carlisle, Pa.

Sir:

I have your letter of July 9 with regard to the action taken in the case of Miss Martha Cornsilk, and have noted your commendatory remarks on the reasonable attitude she has assumed since her dismissal from the training school for nurses of the German Hospital in Brooklyn.

41982-0A

You say in closing:

I am sure she is sorry because of the trouble she has gotten into, and she hopes at some time in the future that she will be given another opportunity to take up the nurses' training course.

I think that this is a most opportune time to impress upon Martha the fact that a girl who shows by her conduct that she has profited by a severe lesson cannot fail to gain the respect, and enlist the sympathy and aid, of those with whom she is associated; and, if she perseveres in following the right course and works faithfully in her new home, it is very reasonable to believe that in due time the Hospital authorities will, upon your recommendation, be glad to give her another trial.



2  
Carlisle.

There is inclosed herewith for your information a copy  
of a letter this day addressed to Superintendent Stohlmann.

Very respectfully,

  
Acting Commissioner.



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,

Indian Industrial School,

Subject:

Carlisle, Pa., July 8, 1908.

Outing home for  
Martha Cornsilk.

The Commissioner

of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

As suggested in your Office letter, Education 44662-08, EAF, dated July 6, 1908, concerning the return home of Martha Cornsilk, I have had an interview with this young lady. She is very much cut up because of the mistake she has made and is desirous of doing all she can to rectify it. I spoke to her about going home, and she is perfectly willing to go out into a country home and earn the money necessary for her return to her home. Because of the reasonable attitude she has taken in this matter, correspondence has been had with Mrs. J.C. Hayes of Imbrieville, Pa., who will probably arrange for her transportation. This lady has a very fine home, and will pay Martha \$15.00 a month and board.

Since she has had time to think over the matter, this young lady is not so desirous of returning to her home, and



-2- Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

indicated in her conversation that if everything went well in her country home that she would stay indefinitely.

I am sure she is sorry because of the trouble she has gotten into, and she hopes at some time in the future that she will be given another opportunity to take up the nurses' training course.

Very respectfully,

*M. Friedman*

Superintendent.

MF/EPW



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Education  
44662-1908  
E.A.F.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

WASHINGTON.

July 6, 1908.

SUBJECT:

Course to pursue in the case of Martha Cornsilk, who was recently dismissed from the German Hospital.

*Cornsilks File*

Supt. Indian School,  
Carlisle, Pa.

Sir:

Your letter of July 1 has been received, in which you recommend that you be given permission to find a good home in the country for Miss Martha Cornsilk, who was recently dismissed from the training school for nurses of the German Hospital in Brooklyn, New York, in order that she may earn money to pay her transportation home.

You say:

I think a great deal of trouble has been due to the laxity in discipline in the hospital. Martha made an excellent record here at the school, stood high in her class, and is well spoken of by the physician.

It seems to this Office that the placing of Indian girls in a hospital for a course in nursing may properly be regarded as a part of the Outing System, and that the rules governing the eventual home-going of other outing pupils should be applied in their cases.

The enrollment of Miss Cornsilk in the German Hospital

41982-0A

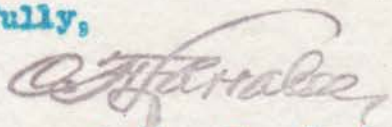


2  
Carlisle

was accomplished through the Carlisle School and this Office, and her dismissal from it appears to have resulted as much from the failure of the Hospital authorities to realize their whole duty toward her as from any intentional wrong-doing on her part. It seems, therefore, that in consideration of her excellent record at Carlisle she should be allowed some option in the matter of remaining for further outing work, and, if she does not favor the plan, that her transportation home should be paid by the Government. Of course, if she is willing to go into the country, the extra training would probably be beneficial to her, but unless she voluntarily consented to go she would possibly assume a rebellious attitude, and the good which might result would be counteracted.

I suggest that you give her case a little further consideration, and again submit your recommendations to this Office.

Very respectfully,



Acting Commissioner.



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,

Indian Industrial School,

Subject:  
Return of Martha Cornsilk  
from Brooklyn German Hospital.

Carlisle, Pa., July 1, 1908.

The Commissioner

of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

In reply to Office letter marked "Education, 42479-08, E.A.F.," dated June 26, 1908, concerning the dismissal of Martha Cornsilk from the Brooklyn training school for nurses, I respectfully inform your Office that after some communication, Martha returned to this school last night. This young lady was in the office this morning, and I spoke to her very plainly concerning her action. She really forfeited her transportation home when the government paid her transportation to Brooklyn. She was given this transportation with the understanding that she would complete her education and training in the Brooklyn hospital. She now demands to be returned to her home.

E I think that a great deal of trouble has been due to the laxity in discipline in the hospital. Martha made an excellent record here at the school, stood high in her class, and is well spoken of by the physician.



41982-57

-2- Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

I believe this young lady should pay her own fare to her home, and I respectfully recommend that I be given permission to find for her a good home in the country where she can earn money to pay the transportation.

Very respectfully,

*M. Friedman*

Superintendent.

MF/EFW



FILE

*See Hospital  
File 172/08  
928*

*200*

NEVER IN REPLY TO THE FOLLOWING:

**Inclosure  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,**

**OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,**

**WASHINGTON. July 3, 1908.**

*44142*

**Education  
42528-1908  
44142-1908  
E.A.F.**

**SUBJECT:**

**Return of Martha Cornsilk  
to Carlisle, and application  
for admission to course in  
nursing of Frances Lachapa.**

**Mr. J. Edward Stohlmann, Jr.,  
Supt. German Hospital,  
St. Nicholas Avenue,  
Stanhope and Stockholm Sts.,  
Brooklyn, New York.**

**Sir:**

Your letter of June 30 is received, in which you say that you have arranged for the return of Miss Martha Cornsilk to Carlisle.

*41982-08*

Although sincerely regretting the unhappy circumstance which led to the dismissal of Miss Cornsilk, I am glad to receive so favorable a report on the work of the other Indian girls under your charge. To make any undertaking successful, it is necessary, of course, to give especial attention to its unfamiliar phases, and when your assistants become better acquainted with the Indian traits of character, and make their methods of dealing with these girls harmonize with that knowledge, a long step will have been taken in the right direction; and doubtless, as their experience widens, the project will assume broader proportions, and its beneficial results will correspondingly increase.

2  
German Hospital

I am inclosing the application for admission of Miss Frances Lachapa, a young Indian woman of Phoenix, Arizona, highly recommended for the course by Supt. C. W. Goodman of the Indian school at that place, who says that if there are openings for more Indian girls in the fall he believes he can recommend others who may desire to become trained nurses.

If you accept Miss Lachapa as a student, please arrange for her transfer through Superintendent Goodman.

Very respectfully,

  
Acting Commissioner.



GERMAN HOSPITAL  
OF BROOKLYN

ST. NICHOLAS AVENUE  
STANHOPE AND STOCKHOLM STS.

J. EDWARD STOHLMANN, JR.  
SUPERINTENDENT

FILE

June 30, 1908. 190

BROOKLYN, N. Y.,

Mr. C. F. Larrabee,  
Acting Commissioner Indian Affairs,  
Department of the Interior,  
Washington, D. E.



Sir:

We have just received a telegram from Superintendent Friedmann of the Carlisle School who instructed us to have Miss Martha Cornsilk returned to his charge. We have made arrangements for her to leave ~~to~~ day on the 1:45 P. M. train, Pennsylvania Railroad and have telegraphed the authorities at Carlisle to meet her. It is with very deep regret that we were compelled to dismiss her as she showed excellent qualities to make up a very efficient and desirable nurse. It is quite true that we will have to make more allowances for the Indians than what we do for the white girls, as the former are not backed by the same civilized influences that our white girls are. This does not discourage me in the least but only prompts me to increase the capacity of our Training School with more Indian Girls, and expect four or five as soon as they can be sent. The other Indian Girls are doing excellent work and wish I had a few more like them. I am preparing a paper now to be read before the American Hospital Association in Toronto Canada, on Sept. 23rd on the "Enlisting of Indian Girls to Hospital Training Schools" and there is no doubt that the Hospital Superintendents represented there will be astonished at the results obtained by my report.

Yours very truly,

*J. Edward Stohlmann, Jr.*  
Superintendent.

E



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ROBERT C. CLOWRY, President and General Manager.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
RECEIVED  
JUN 27 1908  
117 to 29

NUMBER SENT BY RECEIVED BY CHECK  
Doony Kg Mh 13 Collect 1 Ex Listen

RECEIVED at Wyatt Building, Cor. 14th and F Streets, Washington, D. C. June 1908  
TELEPHONES M 4106, M 2114 AND M 1707.

Dated Brooklyn Ny 26  
To Mr Larrabee Acting Comr Indian Affairs Washn Dc

Will retain Miss Cornsilk at Hospital until further orders from Carlisle

J. Edw. Stohelman, Jr.  
Supt

ALWAYS OPEN. MONEY TRANSFERRED BY TELEGRAPH. CABLE OFFICE.

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SPECIAL

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41912-58



Education  
42479-1908  
E.A.F.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

June 26, 1908.

J. Edward Stohlmann,  
Superintendent German Hospital,  
St. Nicholas Avenue,  
Stanhope and Stockholm Streets,  
Brooklyn, New York.

Retain Miss Cornsilk at the Hospital until you hear from  
the Superintendent at Carlisle. Wire answer.

*Carrebee*  
Acting

41982-08

REFER IN REPLY TO THE FOLLOWING:

Inclosure.

*JAD*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Education  
42479-1908  
E. A. F.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

WASHINGTON. June 26, 1908.

SUBJECT:

Dismissal of Martha Cornsilk  
from training school for nurses.

Supt. Indian School,  
Carlisle, Pa.

Sir:

There is herewith inclosed for your information a copy of a letter to the Superintendent of the German Hospital, Brooklyn, New York, in response to one from him announcing the dismissal for insubordination of Miss Martha Cornsilk, a former student at the Carlisle School.

Mr. Stehmann does not say anything about the present whereabouts of the girl, and, although I assume that he would certainly retain her at the Hospital until he heard from you or this Office, I am somewhat apprehensive about the matter, and have to-day sent him the following telegram:

Retain Miss Cornsilk at the Hospital until  
you hear from the Superintendent at Carlisle.  
Wire answer.

Please communicate with him promptly and arrange for her return.

Very respectfully,

*W. F. Allen*

Acting Commissioner.

41912-08



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Education  
41982-1908  
42479-1908  
E.A.F.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

WASHINGTON. June 26, 1908.

SUBJECT:

Insubordinate conduct of  
Martha Cornsilk, who recently  
enrolled for a course in nursing.

Mr. J. Edward Stohlmann, Jr.,  
Supt. German Hospital,  
St. Nicholas Avenue,  
Stanhope & Stockholm Sts.,  
Brooklyn, New York.

Sir:

The Office was surprised to receive your letter reporting the insubordinate conduct and consequent dismissal of Miss Martha Cornsilk, one of the Indian girls who recently enrolled in your training school for nurses, as Superintendent Friedman of the Carlisle School has just forwarded a letter from Ella B. Kurtz, Superintendent of Nurses, reporting most favorably on the work of Miss Cornsilk.

The greatest care was exercised in selecting these girls for the course at your Hospital, and that it has been found necessary to dismiss one of them so soon after enrollment is very disappointing. It may be that your assistants do not realize that Indian girls cannot be accorded the same treatment as their white associates. It should be borne in mind that they do not have back of them the years of civilizing influences which the white girls have, are not on the same plane of social

41982-1908

2  
German Hospital

development, and therefore cannot be successfully dealt with in exactly the same manner. They need to have more authority exercised over them than would need to be assumed over white students of their age, and some allowance should be made for their racial tendencies. If this cannot be done, our experiment may not prove as successful as was anticipated. I suggest that it would be wise for your Superintendent of Nurses to avail herself of the years of experience which some of the employees at the Carlisle School have had in training Indian girls, by writing to the Superintendent for helpful points regarding their management.

I have to-day sent you the following telegram:

Retain Miss Cornsilk at the Hospital until you hear from the Superintendent at Carlisle.  
Wire answer.

Please promptly inform me whether Miss Cornsilk is still at the school. I assumed that you would retain her until you heard from the Superintendent at Carlisle or this Office.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) C. F. Larrabee,

Acting Commissioner.

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GERMAN HOSPITAL

OF BROOKLYN

ST. NICHOLAS AVENUE  
STANHOPE AND STOCKHOLM STS.

J. EDWARD STOHLMANN, JR.  
SUPERINTENDENT

FILE

BROOKLYN, N. Y., June 24, 1908. 190



✓  
Mr. F. E. Leupp,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I fear that I have again got to call your attention to a case of insubordination of one of our Indian Girls, Miss Cornsilk, whom we were obliged to dismiss upon her return early this morning. Miss Cornsilk, was a very obedient, faithful and earnest worker and would have been accepted as a pupil nurse within a very short time. It happened that yesterday, Sunday she with a few others had an outing down to Brighton Beach where I understand an Indian Show was in progress. From people who had seen her down there, and she explained that she was perfectly infatuated with the performance, so much so, that she did not return to the Hospital until the following morning at seven o'clock without permission. This of course we certainly cannot allow and consequently we were obliged to dispense with her services.

I regret doing this as these Indian Girls make exceptional good nurses and I was anxious to keep Miss Cornsilk, but under these conditions could not owing to the other pupils. We have notified Mr. Friedman of the Carlisle School to this effect.

Yours very truly,

*J. Edward Stohlmann*  
Superintendent.

E

41982-208

FILE,

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
RECEIVED  
JUN 23 1908  
File 41982

Indian Industrial School,

Subject: Report on work  
of Miss Styles and  
Miss Cornsilk at German  
Hospital of Brooklyn.

Carlisle, Pa., June 26, 1908.

*1 m*

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

Sir:-

I transmit to you, under this cover, communication from Miss Ella B. Kurtz, dated June 16th, concerning the progress of Lottie Styles and Martha Cornsilk, former students of this school who are taking the nurses' training course at the German Hospital of Brooklyn.

The report indicates that these young ladies are giving satisfaction. I shall keep in correspondence with the hospital authorities.

Very respectfully,

*W. Friedman*  
Superintendent.

MF/EFW  
Enc.

*E*

41982-02



GERMAN HOSPITAL

OF BROOKLYN

ST. NICHOLAS AVENUE  
STANHOPE AND STOCKHOLM STS.

J. EDWARD STOHLMANN, JR.  
SUPERINTENDENT

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

June 16,

1908

Ellen B. Kirby R. N.  
Supt. of Nurses.

(N<sup>o</sup>)

FILE



Mr. M. Friedman,  
Supt. Indian Industrial School,  
Carlisle, Pa.

Dear sir: - I am writing  
you about the progress of the  
two Indian girls Miss Styles and  
Miss Cornsilk.

I feared that they would not be  
successful here owing to their  
personal appearance and personality,  
these two being important factors  
in a nurse. However they have  
proved to be excellent patients  
like them very much. I am most  
pleased with them. They are very  
"lady-like" in their manner, low  
voiced etc.

41982-28

GERMAN HOSPITAL

OF BROOKLYN

ST. NICHOLAS AVENUE

STANHOPE AND STOCKHOLM STS.

J. EDWARD STOHLMANN, JR.  
SUPERINTENDENT

BROOKLYN, N. Y., .....190

I hope they will both remain  
the nurse-in-charge of Miss Styles  
reported yesterday that Miss Styles  
expressed a little dissatisfaction  
about the work, but I have not  
seen or heard anything more.

Miss Styles is very good, but Miss  
Coville is the worker, she is  
very active quick and grasps  
ideas readily.

I will write again.

Very respectfully yours.

Ella B. Kurtz