

United States Indian Service,

TRAINING SCHOOL FOR INDIAN YOUTH,

CARLISLE BARRACKS,

Carlisle, Pa., Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> 1879.

Hon. E. A. Hoyt.

Commissioner of Indian Affairs  
Washington D. C.

Sir

In reply to your communication of the 5<sup>th</sup> inst. I have the honor to inform you that Dr. J. J. Bender is conceded to be the leading Homeopathic Physician in Carlisle. He informs me that he is willing to visit the School as often and at such times as may be deemed necessary, and take charge of all cases of sickness of ~~the~~ connected with the School for the sum of Six Hundred Dollars annually, the Government to supply the medicines needed; Or he will supply medicines and do the services for ~~some~~ hundred dollars annually. The latter course he would prefer as he knows better what he wants and where to get it.

As the employment of the best Homeopathist in the Village seems to meet the preference of the Dept, it does not seem necessary to consider other means or the other School of Practice.

The weakness of this arrangement will be that when we are having a Run of Diphtheria, Cholera, Small Pox, Croup, Measles, Scarlet fever, Chicken Pox, &c. the town may have a like affliction, and at critical periods after sending a mile to get the Physician, we may find that he is ten miles in the Country on a Round of visits or attending to a case of Obstetrics which will take hours.

Without fully concerning in either the premises or deductions of the Hon Commissioners as to my Army Surgeon; I find the arrangement with Dr. Granty was weaker than I anticipated, on account of his health, and as that arrangement is now ended by the letter to which this is a reply; I shall be glad to enter into such other arrangements as may seem wisest and best to meet all possible contingencies of health, for no other feature of the work presses more heavily on me now. My somewhat extended experience with Physicians having a divided interest has not been satisfactory. In Florida where the Indians had the Yellow fever, others had it, and it was almost impossible to get hold of the Surgeon. However as none of the Indians died, and others did die it may have

have been better we failed to get him often.

If the Dept. felt willing to employ Dr. Bender or any other Physician, either Homeopathic or Allopathic of sufficient age and experience to remove him from the desire to make experiments because he has a chance at Drains, (a common failing of young Practitioners) at a salary that will enable him to live on the grounds and give his whole attention to it, that would seem to me to meet all the Medical needs here most satisfactorily. I have recently secured the services of a skilled Nurse from a Syracuse Hospital. She is on the grounds and if we find her services necessary will keep us through the winter.

Very Respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

R. Pratt

120 St. 10<sup>th</sup> Cor. In Charge