

Miscell

P	OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.	1880
1087	Rec'd SEP. 6	

R. B. Pratt

79 Carlisle  
6 Sept. 7' 80

Rel. to exception  
to his a/c

See letter to Pratt Sept 23/80

W Stewart

Sept 6 1880  
Sept 7 1880

United States Indian Service,

TRAINING SCHOOL FOR INDIAN YOUTH,

CARLISLE BARRACKS,

Carlisle, Pa., Sept. 3<sup>o</sup>

To the

How Commissioner of Indian Affairs  
Washington D. C.

Sir

Referring to the exceptions on my Returns contained in your Communication of June 15, 1880. Marked "Miscell A. P. W. R" I would respectfully state in regard to the Exceptions to the Vouchers of Abstract "F" relating to the issue of Subsistence Stores to the School, that neither the Principal Teacher or any teachers have any thing to do with the Subsistence of the Students at this School, nor is it advisable they should have. The Stores do not pass out of my Responsibility in any sense from the time they come under my care until they are consumed by the Students, and I signed the Vouchers in their several places upon the same principle, that an Officer of the Army approves his own acts when he is the only Officer at the Station and necessarily his own Adjutant, Quartermaster and Commissary.

I do not think it best that any Employee here should

be receiving from me and receipting to me for Stores.  
I place upon my employees the checks that seem to me  
to insure the highest integrity of service, and give my  
personal attention so far as possible to each transaction  
and certainly I am the one held responsible by the  
Dept. for the proper care and consumption of the Stores.

I am at a loss how to meet this objection to my  
Return and think best to hold my full answer to the  
exceptions until I have your further direction in this  
matter.

Noting the last exception in the letter of foregoing  
date which requires me to make Oath to certain papers  
and also the note at the bottom of the blank Report of  
Employees, I ~~do~~ request your authority relieving me  
from making Oath to the Report in question, as it is  
some little trouble and a small expense, besides a little  
annoying as I have never been required to make my  
papers good as an Army Officer except over a Certificate  
of Honor, and certainly the calamity to me in case of  
false action would not be at all increased by having  
Sworn,

I have made Oath to the papers returned to me

for that purpose and also to my second quarter  
papers and only request the authority for future  
use.

Very Respectfully  
Your Obedient Servant

R.H. Ball

1st Lt. 10<sup>th</sup> Cav'y  
In Charge