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Cornwall-on-Hudson, N. Y., January 31st, 1917.

Captain R. H. Pratt,
1616 La Vareda Street,
Berkeley, Cal.

My dear Captain Pratt:

Your letter of January the twenty-third is at hand and I certainly am sorry if anything I have said has seemed to you to misrepresent your spirit. In the preface to my "Reminiscences" I said, "I could not write a history of our times, or even an autobiography." All I attempted to do was to write the impressions which the past had left upon my mind with only such help as I could get from letters which my wife had preserved. I really do not think that my reminiscence of your suggestion is radically different from your report of it copied from the records of 1884. It did not occur to me that any one would think on reading my recollection that I thought you would put the Indians as prisoners on trains and drop them off without any consideration of their future welfare.

Looking over these "Glimpses of Fifty Years", which you have sent me, it occurs to me to suggest to you the question whether you could not write a brief history of the treatment of the Indians by this country for which you could find a publisher. I do not know any one who could do that as well as yourself. The only question would be whether a publisher could be found who would think the public interest in the subject sufficient to justify the publication.

Yours sincerely,

Lyman Abbott