

B loomsburg, Pa., Feb. 23. [1904?]

COL. R. H. Pratt,  
Carlisle, Pa.

My dear Colonel:

I have been scanning the papers with much concern to find something further about your reported resignation. Does the announcement in the papers of last week, really mean that you have ~~really~~ decided to give up the work, and retire? Your probable withdrawal from Carlisle has been about all we can talk about in the Bakeless home. Even Catharine ventures an opinion. I am more than sorry that the Government denied to ~~you~~ you that which your years of service so richly merited.

Our sympathies are with you, and if you leave the field you have so ably administered for these many years, one thing will always be a source of joy to me; that is, that it was my privilege to spend nine years with you.

Sincerely yours,

*O. H. Bakeless.*

P.S. I am learning to operate a new machine .  
This will account for many queer characters in this.



O. H. BAKELESS, A. M.,  
DEPARTMENT OF PEDAGOGY  
AND LIBRARIAN.

STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.

BLOOMSBURG, PA.

June 16, 1904.

Gen. R. H. Pratt,  
Carlisle, Pa.

My dear friend,—

I want first to congratulate you on your advancement in rank. I am glad you got what you so richly deserved! But I shall always prefer to think of you as Capt. or Colonel. As such I served you, as such you seem nearer to me.

I am exceedingly sorry that those who represent our great nation, are not big enough to refuse to take a little petty revenge. You have my sympathy, and the assurance of my affection and friendship always. I shall always rejoice that it was my privilege to spend nine years with you and your work. May God bless you always. Mrs. B and the little ones join in sending their kindest regards to yourself and Mrs. Pratt. I shall ever think of her most kindly, for the helpful spirit she always accorded me in my humble efforts while with you.

Sincerely your friend,  
O. H. Bakeless.