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Whiterocks, Utah

July 9-1909

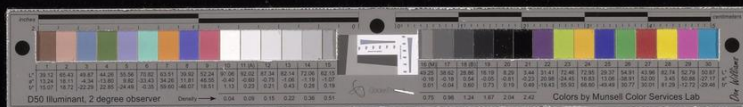
My dear friend,

Pardon me for writing that I would be in Philadelphia and then never showing up.

I got as far as Salt Lake and returned as the matter for which I was making the trip, was taken up - & my trip to Washington seemed unnecessary.

Com. Luepp made an experiment - at Utah Boarding School, Utah, which was unsuccessful: and which was detrimental to my husband.

The school was put under Church control (Episcopal)



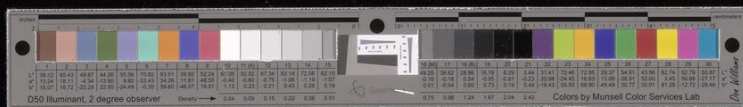
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Mr. Bonnin was persuaded
by Bishop Spalding - to
accept the Superintendency.

Mr. Bonnin hesitated be-
cause he was not a "Church
man" but finally he
accepted. The Church
people who were sent here
as Gov. employees began
at once to resent being
under an Indian; the
matter grew worse -
until they referred to
me as an "Indian Squaw".

They absolutely refused
to obey Mr. Bonnin's
legitimate instructions
and the Agent, whose wife
is a strong Episcopalian,
failed to give Mr. Bonnin
any support.

Mr. Bonnin preferred
charges and the Agent



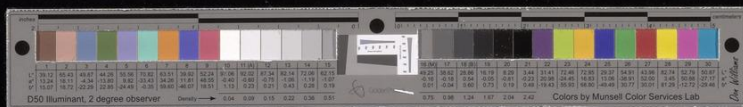
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with held them. Mr. Bonmin
 wanted an investigation
 and the Agent said he
 was not entitled to one.
 Then this spring, we
 learned that he had
 sent in such reports
 trying to get the Depart-
 ment to offer Mr. Bonmin
 a transfer. This was
 very unfair: & as Mr.
 Bonmin could not be
 spared to go to Washington
 about the matter, I
 had started: But on
 the way, I met an old
 friend who knew my
 husband well, & who
 after hearing all about
 it offered to take the
 matter up in our behalf.
 I had wished to see



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you because I knew you
are always the Indian's
friend. I wanted to get
your advise. Now the
matter is being taken up
& I wont have to bother
you. My husband
has served the Govern-
ment $6\frac{1}{2}$ years and
rendered efficient
service. He is an Indian.
He needs the work & is
a willing worker. I
cannot understand, how
in the name of Christianity
any one should try to
down him in his work.
These Church people who
are making the trouble
never took a Civil Service
Examination, all but one
knew nothing about Indian
work. They were represented



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as having a School, a Mission School in Whiteoaks, which was consolidated with the Uintah Boarding School, a Gov't School! There was never a Mission School here. It was a way of putting people into the Civil Service without examinations! It was hoodwinking the Civil Service Commission. It was unfair to all Civil Service Employees - for even Indians have to pass the examinations. I did.

The Agent asked Mr. Borrim not to require these Missionary Employees to do any thing as they Chopped under discipline. Then because results are not flattering, the



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blame is placed upon
Mr. Bonnin.

It seems to me like
hobbling a horse &
pounding him over
the head because
he has no speed!

No Superintendent can
hope to succeed - if
the Agent allows the
School employees to
run to him with petty
tales: and more es-
pecially when the
Superintendent is stripped
of authority!

I hope I have not
worried you with our
tale of woe.

With greatest esteem
Gertrude Simmons Bonnin

