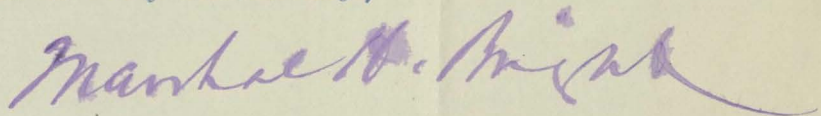


Tarrytown, January 10th, '03.

Dear Colonel Pratt:

Happy New Year! Our common friend Dr Spining has called my attention to the enclosed editorial in our paper, as open to some criticism. Now while the article is not mine and went in without the oversight that I usually give the editorials, I want to print nothing that is not right and just. If there is anything in the article that in anyway misrepresents you or that is incorrect in your view if you will do me the favor to point out the error I shall be only too glad to give the matter attention, and shall greatly appreciate the favor. You will excuse the incompleteness of the address, but I could not find it in the Mohonk report nor in the wandering mazes of the report of the U. S. Commissioner of Education. And I am

Your's very sincerely,



Editor Christian Work,

Tarrytown, N. Y.



Tarrytown, N. Y., January 24, 1903.

My dear Colonel Pratt:

I thank you very much for your obliging letter of the 12th instant, and I note with care what you have to say regarding the Indian schools, and your controversy with General Morgan, whom I knew and highly esteemed. Singularly enough, in all my attendance at Indian Mohonk Conferences, I had no knowledge of the antagonisms; and I notice that not once was the Catholic question raised. In my view it looks as if these conferences were conducted less in the interests of thorough investigation than for conference regarding matters upon which there is no dissent whatever. This of course is productive of harmony, but it is not the best way, nor is it any way by which the exact facts can be delved out and the highest good accomplished. I should enjoy nothing more than to see the practical methods of your work, and the results.

As to coming to your commencement, I should be glad to do so, and think I might make it. But I should, let me frankly say be unwilling to put you personally to expense on my account. If the transportation is supplied from another source that would be another matter. I think you will appreciate my position on this matter. Let me add that if the Catholics are being unduly favored in this matter of the education of the Indians, I do not see why it should not be made public: I have had to



--2--

handle them without gloves on more than one occasion, and certainly should not hesitate to do so again. With many thanks for your letter, and hoping it may be in my power to be with you at your commencement, I write myself

Yours very faithfully,

*Manuel A. Bright*

Lieut.-Col. R. H. Pratt, U. S. A.,

Caelisle, Pa.

Tarrytown, February the 10th, [1903?]

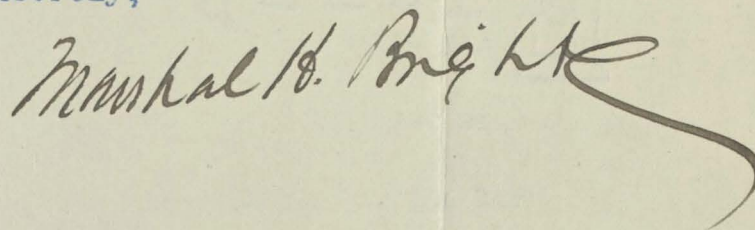
Lt.-Col. R. H. Pratt, U. S. A.

My dear Colonel:

I thank you heartily for your last letter; and let me here express the deep regret I have that after all I am unable to be with you as I fully expected to. I have lived among the Pi-Utes and Shoshones in the West, and have no small interest in all that pertains to the Indian: and then I am in hearty sympathy with your own policy of bringing them up to American manhood, who can move among the whites and hold up their own heads without any check-reins.

But there will be other Indian councils and commencements, of course, and I will not look ahead without including in the outlook a visit to Carlisle: I find object lessons are better by far than reports from books, and it is the object lesson of personal observation I hope to make my own, and as the Indian would say, before many moons, either. Meantime if any phase of the work of your school comes up that you would give to the public, please remember that The Christian Work is always at your disposal. Again regretting my inability to be with you, I write myself

Your's very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Marshall H. Bright". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping flourish extending from the end of the name.