

PAN-AMERICAN EXPOSITION 1901



BUFFALO, N.Y., U.S.A.
ON THE NIAGARA FRONTIER, MAY 1ST TO NOVEMBER 1ST, 1901.

Jan, 7, 1901.

W
THE DIRECTOR GENERAL.

Maj. R. H. Pratt,
Supt., Carlisle Indian School,
Carlisle, Pa.

My Dear Sir:--

I take the liberty to enclose herewith a letter received from Mr. Wheelock, inasmuch as I can see no impropriety in so doing, and a copy also of my telegram to Mr. Wheelock of to-day. I think my telegram covers my own view very clearly.

What we have desired was Carlisle's Band and to recognize the School and give whatever prestige to the School that the Exposition could do. I have no desire to transfer our arrangements unless the name of the Carlisle Band could go with it. I have thought is sending you this that it might be possible that you could in some way still bring about the arrangements you have seemingly had in mind. You may, if you will be good enough to, please return Mr. Wheelock's letter to me.

Very respectfully yours,

(2 Enclosures.)

James M. McKim
Director-General.

THE AMERICAN INDIAN
CONCERT BAND.

West DePere, Wis., Jan. 4, 1901.

Mr. Wm. I. Buchanan, Director General,
Pan-American Exposition, Buffalo, N. Y.

Dear Sir :-

A few days ago I received a letter from Major Pratt asking if I could not return to Carlisle at once and prepare his band for an engagement at your Exposition. Replying to it I stated it was not practicable for me to do so; owing to numerous band engagements I could not find my way toward s helping him. Today I received another letter from him stating that because of the condition they were in, small profit, great effort necessary to meet the obligation and other considerations, his job at the Exposition was not a desirable one, and that if my manager could get you to say you wanted my "more talented band" he would have no objection to his turning the contract over to us. While I know that the Carlisle Indian Band is absolutely in no shape to give concerts now, and to bring it into any form means hard work, still I am not in favor of canceling his contract and giving it to us. What I want is a contract for my band of as long a duration as possible without interfering in any of Carlisle's plans, in order that I may show what Carlisle cannot show, the very best there is in the Indian. My idea is to have at our afternoon concerts some noted Indian artists such as Zitkala Sa, the Sioux maiden violiniste, Miss Nahar, the Mohawk elocutionist, and others, without extra expense to you, concluding the evening concerts with the spectacle, "From Savagery into Civilization."

In view of the attractions I am planning to bring to you I think

our charge is very reasonable,- it will barely cover expense, and it is so intended. The prestige the band will get will be far more valuable than the pay it receives and for this reason I am particularly anxious of an engagement.

Many important engagements are being held open pending your decision of the dates you will give us which I hope can be forthcoming. An early reply will oblige

Yours very truly,

(Signed)DENNISON WHEELLOCK.
Director.

A TRUE COPY.

T E L E G R A M .

Jan. 7, 1901.

Dennison Wheelock,
West DePere, Wisconsin.

Referring your letter fourth inst. , our purpose is not so much to secure the Indian Band as to secure a Band representing and having behind it the Carlisle School, and this is our chief reason for contracting with the Carlisle Organization. It would be very agreeable to us if you would arrange with Major Pratt so that the School would be more than creditably represented by its Band here.

Chge Pan-Am. Expo. Co. Wm. I. Buchanan, Director-General

(A TRUE COPY.)

PAN-AMERICAN EXPOSITION 1901



B

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL.

July 8, 1901.

R.H.Pratt, Esq.,

Department of the Indian Service,

Carlisle, Pa.

My dear Col. Pratt:-

I have your letter of the 6th instant, which I have transmitted to Major Wolf, in charge of the Military Bureau of the Exposition, who will be glad to see you and I am sure will do everything he can for you when you are here.

With my personal regards, believe me to be,

Very respectfully yours,

Wm G. Buchanan
Director-General.