

Received
by
mail
from
Columbus

Columbus, Feb.

Oct. 21st, 1879

Lieut. R. W. Pratt,

Sir:

I have seen in several prominent papers of the country extended notices of your enterprise of starting an Indian school at Carlisle, Pa.,

Thousands of people are looking with anxious expectancy to see whether it proves a success or a failure, and a great many more dogmatical, unsympathizing individuals are eager for the whole thing to prove an utter failure, in order to substantiate the popular theory that the Indian cannot be civilized. I have been a

teacher among the Pawnee
Indians for more than five
years, and very well know the
many unsumountable obstacles
to meet in attempting to educate
Indian children, surrounded as
they are by so many counteracting
home influence, and can readily
see the great advantage of having
them removed from the tribe.

I have many friends in the Pawnee
tribe who entrusted their children
to my care, and who earnestly
begged for me to remain longer
with them, but on account of
the dreadful malaria with
which that part of the Indian
Territory abounds, I was obliged
to leave, last year at this time, after
a long siege of sickness, but
wish now to resume the work
without returning to that sickly

climate.

The object of this letter is to
inquire whether I can be of any
service to you as teacher,

I have some knowledge of vocal
and instrumental music. If you
wish to become informed as to my
capabilities as teacher, and success
with the Pawnees I would refer
you to the following named
persons: St Barclay White, Ex-Supt.
Ind: Affs., Mt. Holly, N. J.

J. B. Westfall, Pawnee Agency, D. T.
B. Rush Roberts, of the Board of
Peace Commissioners, Sandy Spring,
Maryland, Ex-Agt., Samuel S. Ely,
Rosedale, Kansas, Ex-Agt. Chas.
Searing, Arkansas City, Kas.

Others I might mention who have
visited my school and given
very flattering reports, through
the press and otherwise. By visiting

the Territory

I could obtain a number of
Pawnee Children, whose parents
would be glad to have them
accompany me, should you
conclude to need my services.

To make your scheme a success
of course the children must
be contented and happy. and
I believe I am capable of rendering
you great assistance in this your
arduous undertaking. You
naturally will have scores of
applications, daily for positions,
but I trust you will consider
my proposition as worthy of
your attention.

Address

Very Respectfully

Miss Marianna Burger

Columbus, Platte Co

Nebraska