

INDIAN SCHOOL AT PHOENIX, ARIZ.

LETTER

FROM

THE ACTING SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

Copy of a communication from the Secretary of the Interior submitting an estimate of an appropriation for an Indian school at or near Phoenix, Ariz., in lieu of a like estimate for a school at Fort McDowell, Ariz.

JANUARY 30, 1891.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
January 29, 1891.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the consideration of Congress, copy of a communication from the Secretary of the Interior of the 28th instant, submitting an estimate of appropriation in the sum of \$69,500 for an Indian school at or near Phoenix, Ariz., in lieu of the estimate in like sum on page 142 of the Book of Estimates for 1892 for an Indian school at Fort McDowell, Ariz.

Respectfully yours,

O. L. SPAULDING,
Acting Secretary.

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, January 16, 1891.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith, in duplicate, a copy of office report dated the 29th ultimo, setting forth the necessity for the establishment of an Indian industrial school at or near Phoenix, Ariz., in lieu of Fort McDowell, and recommending action by Congress in reference thereto; also in duplicate, copy of your reply thereto, dated the 30th ultimo, concurring in the recommendations of this office, and directing that an estimate of the sum required be prepared and forwarded to you for submittal to Congress.

In compliance with your directions, I inclose herewith in duplicate, a proposed item to be incorporated in the Indian appropriation bill for the

fiscal year 1892, providing an appropriation of \$30,000 for the establishment of said school, \$4,000 of which to be used under your directions in the purchase of land for said school and farm; also an item of \$39,500 for the support of pupils and pay of a superintendent, with the recommendation that it be forwarded to the honorable Secretary of the Treasury, for transmittal to Congress.

This sum is in lieu of the item submitted for the support of an Indian school at Fort McDowell, Ariz., \$69,500, in Book of Estimates, page 142.

Very respectfully,

T. J. MOEGAN,
Commissioner.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
January 28, 1891.

Respectfully referred to the honorable Secretary of the Treasury with my approval, and request for the favorable consideration of Congress thereon.

JOHN W. NOBLE,
Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 30, 1890.

SIR: In compliance with the recommendation contained in your communication of 29th instant, authority is hereby granted for your office to enter into a contract with the proper parties for the use of a two-story brick building known as the "West End Hotel," in Phoenix, Ariz., for one year, for school purposes, with a privilege of two years, at a rental not to exceed \$100 per month, for the reason fully set forth in your letter above noted.

In reference to your recommendation in said letter to the effect that Congress be requested to make a special appropriation for the establishment of an Indian industrial training school, at or near Phoenix, of the sum of \$30,000, \$4,000 of which may be used for the purchase of land, you are hereby directed to prepare the proper papers for the submission of this recommendation to Congress, and return the same to this Department and they will be transmitted to Congress without delay.

Very respectfully,

JOHN W. NOBLE,
Secretary.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, December 29, 1890.

SIR: When Fort McDowell was turned over by the War Department to this Department it was intended to establish at that place a large Indian industrial training school to meet the necessities of that portion of the country.

To this end positions were authorized by the Department, and a superintendent and some other employés were appointed, supplies were ordered to be shipped, and other steps were taken towards opening the school.

It was found, however, on careful investigation, that the changes and repairs in the buildings at that place in order to fit them for school purposes would be much more extensive and costly than had been anticipated. The superintendent submitted plans and estimates involving an outlay of something like \$15,000, with the understanding that after this was done the building would be still largely unsuited for the purposes of the school.

On my visit to the post I became fully convinced that under the circumstances it would be unwise to undertake to establish and maintain such an institution at that place, and submitted my reasons for this opinion in a report dated October 11.

In a personal interview with you I stated my views on the subject, and was instructed by you to follow my own judgment in the premises in view of my knowledge of the facts.

The necessity for a school, such as has been contemplated in that portion of the country, is even more urgent than I had supposed, and the work that it may accomplish can not be over-valued.

The acting governor and other Territorial officials and prominent citizens of the capital, Phoenix, exhibited a most lively interest in the establishment of the institution, and expressed a most earnest desire to have it located in the immediate vicinity of the capital, and assured me that if this were done they would give to the school all possible encouragement and support, with a view of making it at once an honor to the city, a credit to the Government, and a great source of good to the Indians.

I am now in receipt of a communication from Superintendent Rich, forwarding a written guaranty from responsible citizens that a suitable site containing not less than 80 acres admirably adapted for the purpose be selected by the Interior Department from lands near to the city, will be furnished to the Government with a site for an Indian school at an expense not to exceed \$4,000.

There is in Phoenix an unoccupied two-story brick building, known as the "West End Hotel," which can be rented for a sum not to exceed \$100 per month, which can be made for a very slight expense applicable for school purposes, and will afford opportunity to open the school at an early day.

In view of these circumstances I recommend:

First. That authority be granted this office to enter into a contract with the proper parties for the use of this building for 1 year, with a privilege of 2 years, at a rental not to exceed \$100 per month.

Second. That Congress be requested to make a special appropriation for the establishment of an Indian industrial training school at or near Phoenix, of the sum of \$30,000, \$4,000 of which may be used for the purchase of land.

In view of the desirability of opening the school at an early day, I respectfully request that the authority to enter into contract for the renting of the above-mentioned building be granted at once.

Very respectfully,

T. J. MORGAN,
Commissioner.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

INDIAN SCHOOL AT PHOENIX, ARIZ.

Proposed item to be inserted in the Indian appropriation bill for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1892.

INDIAN SCHOOL, PHOENIX, ARIZ.

For the erection of buildings for an Indian industrial training school at or near Phoenix, Ariz., \$4,000 of which may be used by the Secretary of the Interior in the purchase of land for said school, \$30,000; and for the support and education of Indian pupils and pay of superintendent at \$2,000, \$39,500; in all \$69,500. *Provided*, That in case the east half of section 36, township 2 north of range 2 east, Gila and Salt River meridian, shall be by Congress set apart and reserved for the exclusive use and occupancy of the above named Indian industrial training school, the said \$4,000 may be used for payment for such improvements already made upon said half section as may be useful for school purposes instead of being expended in the purchase of land.

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