

original

Portland - Oregon - March 5<sup>th</sup> 1884

Prof. C. C. Painter

Cor. Sec'y Nat' Edn - Com., &  
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir

I have your letter of Feb. 22<sup>d</sup> respecting the <sup>U.S.</sup> Indian Industrial School at Forest Grove. I went to Forest Grove to day & consulted with the President of the Board of Trustees of Pacific University, who is also Chairman of the Committee of Citizens, appointed to secure a site of twenty or more acres for the proposed new buildings.

He has already assured Senator Dolph, first, that the Trustees will deed the block of four acres upon which are the buildings now used, to the U.S. Govt. for the same use of the Indian School.

Our title to this land is perfect and undisputed. Your information to the contrary is incorrect.

Second, Hon. A. Hinman - Pres<sup>t</sup> of the Board & <sup>Chairman</sup>  
Assures Mr. Dolph<sup>r</sup> that a clean deed  
of the Site, wanted for new buildings  
- 20 or more acres - shall be made to the  
United States for that purpose, as  
the only condition.

It is difficult to call our board  
of Trustees together<sup>now</sup> to authorize the deed of  
the block of 4 acres to the U.S. but we  
will make the deed at our annual meeting  
in June. The sentiment of the Trustees is  
expressed in their paper sent to Gen<sup>l</sup>  
Eaton, which you now have.

The deed of the Site for new buildings,  
which <sup>site</sup> will be <sup>first</sup> chosen & approved - will be made as  
soon as possible to the U.S. Several sites near  
town have been offered. I wish to add that the citizens  
have welcomed the Indians<sup>children</sup> & given them much  
attention at Forest Grove, and a cordial welcome & free  
to the churches there. They in turn have been  
docile and industrious and orderly. No saloons or  
whiskey selling have ever been allowed in the town.  
To disturb & move them away would be  
a doubtful experiment.

These assurances will show your  
Committee & the U.S. Court that the  
Trustees & the Citizens agree with  
you in the subject of giving the  
U.S. clear titles to the land on which  
they erect their Indian Industrial School  
Buildings. We as trustees of Pacific  
University have never <sup>before</sup> been asked to  
give a title to the U. States of the Block  
above named.

We trust your efforts with others  
will secure the appropriation and thus  
increase the power and progress of the  
School, which has thus far been so honorable  
to the wisdom & beneficence of the Government &  
the officers in charge.

Yours very respectfully

G. H. Atkinson

Secy of Pacific University