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Ottawa, December 6, 1917.

Sir,-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo in further reference to the application for the admission of Josephine Patenaude, a half-breed girl to the Onion Lake Roman Catholic Boarding School.

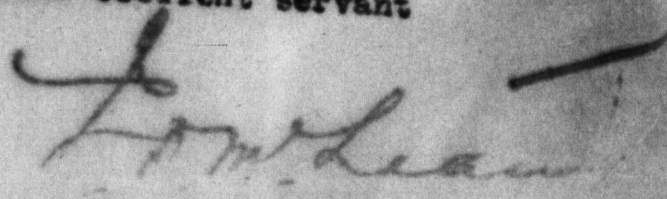
In reply I beg to say that it is considered that this girl is not eligible for admission under the Department's ruling regarding the admission of halfbreed children to residential schools. While Mary Nicotin adopted this girl when a child six months of age, she only kept her for about a year and she returned her to her mother, where she lived up to a period of two months before being placed in the school.

It would appear that this woman visited her sister Mrs. Eliza Patenaude with a view to obtaining this child so that she could place her in the Onion Lake School.

As Josephine has not been a resident on an Indian Reserve up to the time when her aunt took charge of her some two months ago, she is therefore, not eligible to be admitted as a grant earning pupil and her admission is, therefore, not approved.

You will be good enough to inform the principal accordingly and instruct him to have her returned either to her mother or her aunt.

Your obedient servant



Assistant Deputy and Secretary

W. Sibbald, Esq.,  
Indian Agent,  
Onion Lake, Sask.

Indian Affairs. Letterbook,  
3 December 1917 - 19 December 1917, (R.G. 10, Volume 5697)

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