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May 16, 1925.

His Excellency,
Governor E. Lee Trinkle,
State Capitol,
Richmond, Va.

Sir:

I am enclosing for your guidance a letter just received from Dr. Charles D. Underhill, Staunton, Route 5, in reply to my inquiry in reference to who Mr. W. L. Kerr, of Staunton, is. His statement is just about what we might expect from the writer of such an extravagant epistle.

My letter to him states briefly the result of all of our investigations as to Virginia Indians.

I would be glad to have you read the Appendix of the enclosed booklet, which gives quotations from various authorities, including our own John Garland Pollard. These statements are confirmed completely by our old birth, death and marriage records reaching back to 1853, and by the testimony of numerous prominent citizens living in the various counties in which these so-called Indians reside.

You will observe that until recent years nothing was known of the Rappahannocks who are now striving for tribal recognition.

Professor Garnett Ryland, of the University of Richmond, and a number of other prominent citizens of Essex and King and Queen Counties have protested against these people being included as Indians, as is now being attempted by the New York Indian Museum, after a visit by a Professor Speck, of the University of Pennsylvania, who made no inquiry of any of the citizens, nor of our office, or any other real authorities as far as I have been able to learn, but only spent a few days with these people. He then prepared a report, the publication of which the people of that section are now trying to stop.

Our data, however, in reference to the Pamunkey Indians is not complete, owing to the fact that they have been exempt from taxation and were not visited by commissioners of the revenue. They, however, probably have more Indian blood than any of the others.

My zeal is limited to the prevention of the intermarriage of these people with the whites, as they have been doing freely here in Richmond and elsewhere.

I would guess that the Richmond man Mr. Kerr talked to was Mr. James, of the Public Welfare office, who has lost no opportunity to