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Letter from William Clark to George Sibley, September 23, 1817

William Clark St. Louis

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George C. Sibley Esq U. S. Indn Agent Fort Osage Gov. Clark Sept 23rd, 1817

St Louis Sept. 23rd. 1817.

D Sir

You informed by Mr. Ely that Mr. Mc Mahan has Some thoughts of accepting the place of Blacksmith for the Indians at your post. I have not learned of his deturmonation on the Subject. If he can be employed on the Terms you have mentioned I have authorised Mr. Ealy to engage him and take him up, the Terms are quit as moderate as can be expected. Should Mr. Mc Mahan deturmine to enter into the Service you will enter into a written Contract with him. I send by Mr. Eley Some articles of Merchendize as present for the Kanzas amounting to about \$600 first Cost, about \$500 of those goods computed at your Selling price to be given to the Kanzas— the balance to be given at your descression— I have only one Flag to Send you at this time—

Paul Louis the U. S. Interpreter is ordered to your post and placed under your instructions, but should the officer Commanding the Post require his services, he is to perform Such as are within his official Duties. Paul Louis is entitled to a ration which I wish him to receive if he requires it-

I must request you to be particular in examining and recording all Licences, and Should any person attempt to pass without promission (except in such cases as unexceptionable(?) are engaged on the way) you will remonstrate, and apply to the Officer Commanding your post to prove and bring below the line such as enter the Indian Country without promission-

Mrs. C. Joins me in Compliments to Mrs. Sibley & yourself.

With high respect I am Yr. Mo. Obt. Servt

WM. Clark