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7-30-1819

Letter from George Tompkins to George Sibley, July 30, 1819

George Tompkins
Franklin

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(Geo. C. Sibley)

Geo. Tompkins
Franklin, July 30th, 1819

Franklin, July 30th 1819

Dr. Sir,

I this day received your favor by Mr. Allen. The suit was brought against Rector to the last term that is in this month. Judgment will be gotten in November next; and I will collect the money as soon after as I can have it done. The sheriff is not compelled to pay over till the term after judgment gotten which will be in March. Possibly I may be able to get it sooner.

I believe that nine tenths of the people of Howard & Cooper are in favor of slavery. This I collect not only from expression of public sentiment on public occasions, but from conversation with individuals with whom I have met on various occasions. Indeed man almost uniformly moulds his sentiments to his interest. My political career is ended: for some time after I had declared my sentiments against slavery some who had honored me or pretended to honor me with their friendship seemed to look on me with horror. However finding that I cared very little for it they seem in some measure to willing to let it rest. I will not deny that I felt some itch to be in the convention, but it would be ruinous to my private affairs and I am now glad that I find it is out of my power to get there. I can stay at home & hoard up something for old age, if I can get it. Those persons flattered me so far as to say I should have been a favorite candidate but for my treachery to the interests of the Community How sincere they were I will not pretend to say. But certain it is I believe no man will be elected from this county unless he declare himself for slavery, & perhaps it will require a property in slaves to qualify him in the eyes of the people. This sentiment I believe is that of a vast majority of the voters of the territory. The electioneering campaign at the Capital began somewhat later than common this year. I believe they will make up for their lost time. We received two handbills here charged with malice, slander &c. This is about the whole of the news

I am Sir with esteem yr

Obt Sert

Geo Tompkins

There is a general crash of Banks. I hardly know what paper to receive. Luckily I am not much troubled with it.

Sibley Mss. V. III

Missouri Historical Society