

Lindenwood University

Digital Commons@Lindenwood University

George Champlin Sibley Papers

George and Mary Easton Sibley Papers

4-27-1827

Letter from George Sibley to Benjamin Reeves, April 27, 1827

George Champlin Sibley
Fort Osage

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.lindenwood.edu/george>



Part of the [United States History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Sibley, George Champlin, "Letter from George Sibley to Benjamin Reeves, April 27, 1827" (1827). *George Champlin Sibley Papers*. 122.

<https://digitalcommons.lindenwood.edu/george/122>

This Correspondence is brought to you for free and open access by the George and Mary Easton Sibley Papers at Digital Commons@Lindenwood University. It has been accepted for inclusion in George Champlin Sibley Papers by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Lindenwood University. For more information, please contact phuffman@lindenwood.edu.

Ft. Osage Friday M.J. Apr. 27, 1827.

Dear Sir,

Your favour of the __. ___ is the last I have had the pleasure to receive from you, this I feel very confident that the Mail of to day will bring me a Letter from you. but it will arrive after this is obliged to be packed up and mailed, So that I cannot acknowledge it 'till next week –

I am now beginning Seriously to Set about my preparations for the Road and have fixed on the 15.th of May to Start; by which day I Shall have every thing ready I hope – My Party will consist of John Walker + Jacob Gregg each at \$20 per Month Rember (?) Collins, Waggoners, at \$20 per Month – Jonathan Cameron - David Overton - Bryan Baxter - William Baxter and James Baxter, each at \$16 pmonth and the three Men you are to employ – Besides one Spaniard, if I can succeed in hiring him. and one or two Volunteers who are going out with a view of catching Buffalo calves – You will perceive that I have increased the party a little in Number, and raised the wages of three of the Men – The first was thought to be necessary in order to be able to keep up a regular Night guard, and as respects the other, I felt myself obliged to do it in order to procure the Services of the three particular Men I wanted; and who would not go for less – Walker + Gregg are both experienced Men on the Road and are peculiarly well qualified for the same, and will afford me very great assistance in other particulars than as common. Hands – Collins the Waggoner, is also well acquainted with the Road – He drove one of my Waggons home last fall, and is well acquainted with the management of Mules, and is every way a good hand and excellent Waggoner. He would not engage for less than \$20 prmonth, for So Short a trip, and as I could not find another good Waggoner for less, and know the importance of having a good one, I was obliged to engage Collins at \$20. – So that I Shall have
2 experienced hands and Assistants at \$20per Month
1 experienced hand and Waggoner – \$20 per Month
8 Hunters and Labourers - - at \$16 - -

1 Spanish Mule catcher + Herder, probably,
12 Men in All. besides Volunteers, who
will be required to do Night duty in regular turns. –

I think this arrangement will meet your appro-
-bation, and I still indulge the hope that you will
be able to join the Party and go along – If you
know when the Caravan of Traders will probably leave
Franklin for New Mexico, be So good as to inform me. We
ought to be Some days ahead of them on the Road, if possible.
this I have no idea of Starting before the 15th. of May. –

Should this Letter reach you before the Men and
Mules have Started; and you can conveniently Send it,
I will be extremely obliged to you to procure + Send me
a light Prairie Hat, I care not what colour, So it
be light – The measure of my Head is 22 3/10 Inches – My old
Hat, measures outside, 23 4/10 Inches – I thought 'till the
other day I had a Suitable Hat for the Prairies, but find
I have not – I desire you not to give yourself any trouble
about this, I can do without – but if to be had quite con=
=veniently, had rather have a Suitable Hat. Such an
one as you would choose yourself, will Suit me, this I
require a very light Hat, being Subject to Head ache, if
my Head gear be too tight or too heavy.

It is desirable that the Men and Mules Should be
here as early as possible in May; together with all other
parts of the equipment - You Shall hear again from
me before I Start; that is, if you Still feel yourself
obliged on account of Mrs. R's ill health, to decline going –

I enclose herein a Statement of B. Pyles' Account
with me, which have the goodness to pay for me, and take
his receipt – As the Packs brought in by Pyles + his
party were quite as much of a Public Nature as pri=
=vate; the care + charge of which, would have been in the
line of their duty at any rate; I cannot consent
to pay any extra compensation for more than my
just proportion of that charge – Except two Mules, which
were Sent home by me, and were useful on the journ=
=ney, the value of all they brought in for me did
not exceed Thirty dollars – I promised the Men Some
compensation for looking to my property – and I have con=
=cluded to pay them \$20 for it; which is \$5 a piece for

the four who had charge of the Packs, and is Surely a Liberal compensation, under every circumstance. – With this explanation I hope Pyley will be Satisfied, as he reasonably ought to be – However, for the Sake of a few Dollars I would not choose to have any hard thoughts; but if I pay him more, I must pay them more, which would altogether amount to a Sum I do not think it just to tax me with – Reynolds told me he Should make no charge - In fine, \$20 is as much as I can consent to pay in all –

Will you have the goodness to Send me Tracy +Wahrendorff's detailed Acct., or invoice of the Articles furnished by them in 1825 – it is in a Yellow Cover – Also the copies of my correspondence with Mr: Poinsett. the originals were Sent to Washington – I want these Papers to assist in making out the Acct. and Report

I remain __, Sir
Very truly yrs
G. c. Sibley

B. H. Reeves Esqr.