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Letter from George Sibley to Benjamin Reeves, December 23, 1831

George Champlin Sibley
Lindenwood College

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Linden Wood 23d. Dec. 1831

Dear Sir.

Your two letters of the 12th. + 16th. Inst. (?) (with their enclosures, all correct as therein mentioned) came duly to hand on the 20th. – this completes the Vouching of our Acct., with the Single exception of A. Carson's rect. which I Shall easily be able to Supply by an informal rect. that I chanced to find, and a mem^o that will enable me to include the Amt. in the general Statement of expenditures that I Shall myself Swear to – You need not therefore, give yourself any further trouble about the Accounts – Trouble enough you have already had, I am persuaded; and I can assure you that I have undergone no very trifling degree with ___ opinion is, that, ~~the [struck through word cannot be read]~~ 131 Vouchers + certificates that I have in possession, and have arranged to cover completely the whole expenditure of \$3499b:24 and the refunding of \$3491,,70 by the resale of Property, will enable me to present Such an exhibit of the Acct., as will at least prove most Satisfactorily that the Comm^{rs}. did actually expend \$31,504 54/100 in the Service they were employed in – I am not now aware of any the least deficiency as to the Vouchers ___, that I Shall not be able easily to remedy if any fault is found by the Accountant.

Several of my friends advise me to postpone my Journey 'till the Rivers open; in the belief that a journey in the present inclement Season, ___ land, will be more expensive, + vastly more fatiguing, and, as they think, not a whit the more useful than if I went in March – But those friends merely consider my comfort + convenience, two things that I find it incumbent on myself to disregard entirely –

If it Should happen to prove even much worse weather than has yet occurred, I Shall nevertheless perform the Journey, as at first agreed on; provided I am not Stopped by Sickness – Sick I am at this time, + Shall in all probability be for a time actually laid up with the prevailing Influenza, that no one escapes, but the prospect is that I Shall be able to rid myself of the disease So as to enable me to present myself to Peter Hagner very near about the time promised – At any rate I Shall not fail in this for lack of any exertion that I can make with effort –

I hope my dear Sir, that you experienced no injury from your obstinate perseverance in visiting the P.Office the other day, contrary to the protests of the friends around you-

We are all afflicted in this quarter, with the Influenza, half filled corn Cribs, very Severe Cold weather + all the usual accompaniments of those evils – but I am under all circumstances

Y^{rs}. very truly

B. H.Reeves Esqr.

G. c. Sibley

Mrs. S, desires her compts. + I beg to add mine to Mrs. R. +Louis (?) G. c. S.