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11-11-1804

## Letter from George Sibley to Samuel Sibley, November 11, 1804

George Champlin Sibley  
*Fayetteville, North Carolina*

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Samuel H. Sibley

Elizabeth Town

George C. Sibley

Fayetteville

Fayetteville 11<sup>th</sup> Novem. 1804

Dear Bro.

On Thursday last / the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst. / this letter to my head under cover of one to me accompanied by one to Mama. I take the earliest oppy. Of sending it you, as I know it will give you much pleasure. I would send you letter, but it contains nothing interesting to you but what you will see above, and it would be putting you to an unnecessary expense of postage, besides, I have use for it myself just now. Why do you not write us? Surely you cannot be so churlish as to have a Resolution to the contrary, because we have not written you as often perhaps as we should have done? Consider we are just now very much pressed with business, opportunities but seldom offer / except by the Mail once a week / and I am very loth to subject you to the expence of postage. I have been told that you are not well pleased with your present situation, and that you only wait the Return of Mr. Levy to Return to Wilmington. Permit me here to offer for your consideration a few Remarks, purely dictated by the Interest I take in whatever concerns you. From the information you gave me when you were last in Fayetteville, on the subject of your establishment at Elizabeth Town, I was fully impressed with the idea / as indeed you appeared to be, / that it would prove a very advantageous one. What I have since been told has strengthened rather that weekend that opinion. Indeed the only objection you make is that the Society is very poor. If this is the only objection, let me beg of you not to permit it to operate against your real interest. A young Man situated as you are Should not suffer such flimsy Reasons to overcome his better Judgment. But I would hope you have better reasons for wishing to abandon your present

situation. I have a better opinion of your good sense, than to suppose you capable of giving up a certain good, for no other Reason than because you can not gratify a multiplicity of foolish and expensive desires; These you must be sensible / if they exist in you / you should get rid of; and for that very Reason / if no better could be offered / you should remain where you are, provided you have to prospect certain. I need not remind you that 'tis doing worse than nothing to give up a Certainty for an uncertainty. The probability is that by the time you are to become equally concerned, the business will be placed in a regular channel, the acquisition of Customers will be made, and in fact you will enter the concern with every advantage. You can certainly form a more just opinion of these things than I can, and you will I hope act as becomes you. You can tell whether 'tis for your good to Remain at Elizabeth or to Return to Wilmington, and it is not for me to attempt to control your choice. I would merely wish to destroy in you all foolish prejudices and inclinations if such exist, if I have done so, I am confident you will act in conformity to the dictates of Reason and your own Real good. The Packet I hear has arrived at Wilmington, Mr. Levy, Mr. Martin, and Mr. Holmes were passengers, Mc Kay has never written me a word about Martin's note. I expect however he will soon let me know something about it. Mamma and the children are well.

We are quite Gay here at present, somehow or other the old bachelors have got into the spirit of giving Tea parties and Dances we have had no less than 4 lately and have got the promise of as many more; This we owe I am apt to think to the arrival of two Back County Beauties in town, viz Miss Shepperd and Miss Bell / sister to Sally Bell with whom we were acquainted at Pitesboro' / I assure you they have caused a complete revolution among our old rusty Bachelors, which, if we may judge from present appearance will Contribute to Render this winter in Fayetteville unusually Gay. Of the beauty of these Angels / for so I must call them / I

need hardly say a word, you have seen Miss Shepperd. Miss Bell is I think of the two rather the most elegant figure but I think the other has the advantage in point of beauty in other Respects. Take them however together, and I will venture to assert they will be found inferior to none in any Respect, and will be equaled by very few.

Your Affecte

Geo. C. Sibley

Mr. Sam. H. Sibley

Sibley Mss. IV

Missouri Historical Society