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Letter from George Sibley to Benjamin Reeves, April 13, 1825

George Champlin Sibley *Franklin*

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I am informed, by rumour, that you Col. Menard + myself, are designated by the President as Com_____ to carry into effect the Law for making a road to S^{ta}. Fee. I have rec. an official communication of this Appt., on reports myself, + as I never asked for any such employment or had any reason to expect it, cannot yet suppose it true that such Appt. has been made; + am not yet decided whether I will act or not, if the fact is so – Numerous applications have already been made to me for the App. of Surveyor + Secretary. + no doubt you will be applied to in like manner – I am now on my way to St. Louis for my family + have concluded not to listen to any application till I decide whether I am actually appt. + whether I shall accept, + not then 'till I confer with you + Col. Menard –

I shall be glad to hear from you at St. Louis, if you should receive any official communications from Washington. + buy leave to suggest to you not to give any positions encouragement to any applicants 'till we all confer together on the subject = Atthis I am not decided to accept this Service (if offered) I am rather of opinion that I shall do so – I shall soon decide when I reach St. Louis –

I expect to be on my return to Ft. Osage early in May – Being in route to meet my family, must excuse my not making this communication to you verbally –

I write in great haste at a tavern, with a most intolerable pen.

Yr. very Respectfully,

G. c. Sibley

Col. B. H. Reeves

Sir,