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6-5-1825

Letter from George Sibley to Benjamin Reeves, June 5, 1825

George Champlin Sibley
St. Louis, Missouri

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St. Louis, 5 June 1825 – Sunday,

D. Sir.

I have rec. yr. of 25th Mth., from which am sorry to learn that your health and that of your family still continued bad at the date of your Letter – this City is growing sickly, many cases of fever are now calling the Physicians full gallop through the streets; I have heard of no dangerous cases however- I am necessarily exposed very much in the heat and dust here and have more than once been admonished, by certain Symptoms, that I Shall in all likelihood have to encounter the prevailing fever before I get away from St. Louis – which makes me Sufficiently in a hurry you may be Sure to complete my business here as fast as possible – We Shall undoubtedly be very much plagued by the prairie flies; but I See no possibility of avoiding them, So we must resolve to meet them + get through them as well as we can – The Waggon will be all ready on the 12th : - I have all my Horses Harness (?) + complete, the Horses are nearly all newly + well fed (?) tomorrow + next day I Shall leave them all complete + ___ good Livery Keeping. – I think I have been very lucky in my Purchases. - My Supposition at present is that I can have my party at St. Charles on the 15th., and that it will be at Franklin about the 20th or 21st. – as Soon as I Start them, I Shall go on home as fast as I can; leaving the Waggon to travel moderately in Charge of Mr. Jones – I Shall have the pleasure to See you as I go up, + hope I may See you well.

Mr. Brown is here, and is busy making his preparations, putting his instruments in order +. - I cannot Say whether Mr. Brown + Mr. Gamble will accompany me up or not, if they do not they will follow Soon after me. –

Nothing new here, except the treaties with the Osages + Kansas, by which the U:S: acquires Several Millions of Acres of Prairie, and the fine Country above Ft. Osage watered by the Blues. –

I enclose copy of a Note that I have annex'd to the engagement Signed by the Men I have employed here – It will be best I think when we get our whole party together, to get all the men to Sign one paper with the explanatory note annex'd. this I deem requisite + every way proper, + every way Sufficient too, to prevent any misunderstanding on the Part of the Hands, as to their funding +.

The Blanket you request Shall be Sent up to you; + I Shall make Such Provision for your + my own accommodation, as I Shall deem necessary. + hope in this particular to meet your approbation.

very Respectfully Sir

Yr. Obt: Sot:

G. c. Sibley .

B. H. Reeves Esq.