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1-10-1827

## Letter from George Sibley & Thomas Mather to the Secretary of War, January 10, 1827

George Champlin Sibley  
*St. Louis, Missouri*

Thomas Mather  
*St. Louis, Missouri*

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4pp

LS: G.C. Sibley, Thomas Mather; St. Louis

To: Secy. Of War

Copy of a letter from G. C. Sibley & This. Mather bound & to the Secretary of war. Dated St. Louis Jany. 10 1827

Sir,

The undersigned commissioners appointed to carry into affect the Act of Congress authorizing "A road to be marked out from the Western frontier of Missouri to the confines of New Mexico" have the honor to acquaint you for the information of the government that they have nearly completed the duties assigned them. They have already \_\_ you of their proceedings into the fall of 1825 and of the arrangements the \_\_ to finish their work.

The unexpected delay of the Mexican government in giving its approval to the survey and marking of the road through the new territory was unnecessarily retarded very much the operations of the commissioners in carrying the Act of Congress into affect. In consequence of that delay Messrs. Reeves, & Mather declined going out to meet Mr. Sibley last spring in New Mexico as had been agreed on. And Mr. Sibley was from the same caused detained in that country \_\_ latter in August \_\_. Having obtained however a \_\_ permission from the President of Mexican States to survey and examine the route from New Mexico to the boundary line of the U.S & Mexico. Mr. Sibley has completed that survey and connected it with the formerly made from Fort Osage to the boundary, So that the commissioners are now in possession of a complete survey of the \_\_ \_\_ and \_\_ route from Fort Osage on the Missouri River to the valley of Taus in New Mexico and they feel perfectly sure that their location of the route is in all respect the very land that can be made. It now only remains to "mark out" the road as they surveyed and located. That portion of it that runs through the Mexican territory cannot be "marked out" without further authority from that Government. Upon this point the commissioners submit respectfully to the President that nothing further need be done by them in relation to that section of the road for the reasons set forth in the enclosed papers.

The intend to complete as early as possible next spring the "Marking out" by mounds, posts, & a part of the eastern section of the road which it has been found \_\_ to alter slightly since the first survey was completed, and which they could not finish but full for want of time. Afterwhich they intend to make up their full report so as to reach Washington early next fall.

It is very gratifying to the commissioners to states that they know good reasons to believe that their reports will be satisfactory to the Government. They have ascertained with great accuracy that there is good \_\_ for excellent carriage road from Fort. Osage to the city of Santa Fe. That the country through which it passes affords in great abundance every facility of game, water, fuel, and good \_\_. So

that if it may be traveled without difficulty or damages if proper preparations are made and prudent precautions are used. The whole distance from Fort Osage to Santa Fe is say 830 miles. It is also satisfactory to be able to state that country to the \_\_\_ of the commissioners is final. The appropriation is likely to prove quite sufficient to carry every object of the Act of Congress into full effect.

We have the \_\_\_ & sincerely,

G.C. Sibley

Thomas Mather

Col. Reeves not present in consequence of the illness of some of his family.

The papers have referred to one letter from J. B. Poinsett to G. C. Sibley. Mr. Poinsett \_\_\_ \_\_\_ permission & of may 13<sup>th</sup> G. C. Sibley \_\_\_\_\_ 1826

And sending other papers touching the command of the President of Mexico to Survey and examine \_\_\_