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Letter from George Sibley to Peter Buell Porter, October 28, 1828

George Champlin Sibley
St. Louis, Missouri

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Recommended Citation

Sibley, George Champlin, "Letter from George Sibley to Peter Buell Porter, October 28, 1828" (1828).
George Champlin Sibley Papers. 194.
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Saint Louis, Mo. 28. Oct. 1828

To the hon. P. B. Porter

Secy of the Dept. of War

Sir,

The commsnr. Who had it in charge to "mark out a road from the western frontier of Missouri to New Mexico" having completed the duties assigned them, made their report in full to your predecessor about a year ago. – That part of the Report which relates to the expense of the Roads, of which duplicates were furnished, Shows a balance due to the commnr. Of \$1504 54/100. That sum having been necessarily expended for the reasons set forth at large in the Act. Beyond the appropriation.

The comnrs. Were greatly disappd. That the sum due them for advance actually made for the public service was not refunded this last winter, and that they have never received and direct information why it has been delayed. –

For myself, & in behalf of my late colleagues, col. Reeves, & Mather, I beg to request your attention to this subject. So that an appropriation may be obtained, if necessary, as early as may be, to meet our demand, which it is extremely inconvenient for us to be obliged to lay out of them long.

You will please to observe, that our accounts have been rendered in the manner & form directed by Mr. Secy. Barlow in his letter of instruction of March 16. 1823. A great many of the expenditures were made under circumstances that forbade the taking of forwd recd. , and tho I have in my possession many vouchers in the usual form, it was not deemed necessary to forwd. Them, because, in the first place, they are incomplete, and we were justified by the instruction above referred to. In establishing our certificate of honour, for the ___ of receipts etc., usually expected, but which we from the fruit did not consider obligatory on us to collect, even in cases where it might have been done conveniently

Very respectfully

Yr. Mo. Obt. Svt.

Signed, G. C. Sibley