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8-22-1831

## Letter from Benjamin Reeves to George Sibley, August 22, 1831

Benjamin H. Reeves  
*Howard County*

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Howard county Augst, 22 1831

Dr Sir,

I have experienced considerable difficulty in procuring the vouchers. Memorandum of which you forwarded e, went to Booneville to see Mr. Hood. He was too unwell to attend to business. Since which time I have procured his receipts. I have also procured others which I now enclose to you. I accidentally meet with Mr. Galvin from whom we purchased mules at Walnut Creek, & at that moment not knowing whether the mules purchased from him was included in Mr. Hood's acct. and vouched by him I look[took] his duplicate receipts for sixty dollars neither Mr. Galvin nor my self at the moment could recollect the price of the mules nor had I any memorandum by one to strengthen my recollection as to their price. I now believe the price given for them was sixty five dollars. Galvin lives in Murdoc county too far for one to go & see him & have his receipts corrected, & besides I am rather inclined to believe those mules is included \_\_\_ in Mr. Hood's act. Which fact in \_\_\_ the papers you will see notwithstanding this belief I send this receipt for the 60\$ you can use them or not as the fact may exist. Stephen Cooper lives in Marion county & I have has no opportunity to obtain his receipt. In fact he has been absent in the Arkansas territory until lately as I have been informed. Andrew Carson is now at St. Fe. But is expected to return this fall and until his return his receipt for \$68.86 cannot be obtained. The gentleman from whom I procured the compass etc. is not now in this part of the world. I however sent my own receipt as having furnished the instrument for the use of the commission which I presume will be sufficient. The fact exists that I sent you the compass etc. & that the Govt. has paid for it & I can see no impropriety in my receipting for that which the government needed & used & obtained thro me nor is it material as I suppose who I obtained it from, or from whom that \_\_\_ obtained it & thereby trace it to the person who manufactured it if however you should deem it improper in my receipting for it retain the receipt & I will as soon as I can obtain the voucher from the gentleman from whom I purchased it. I have not in all cases had witnesses to the vouchers, which I forward to you at the moment of \_\_\_ them no person was present & I was too much pressed for time to ride & hunt out a witness Mr. Samuel is not in the country & consequently I am unable to procure his certificate of the sale of that part of the public property left in his care & for his disposal his clerk can find no entry of it upon his books. In consequence of my frequent removals my scraps & memorandums if little disbursements made by myself for my traveling & other incidental expenses, I am unable to lay my hand upon. Consequently I am unable to state the aggregate amt. & swear to it. If my \_\_\_ of Honor and my oath wilnot be relied on, its ow beyond my power to have it otherwise. To specify the different little items contesting that at with precise accuracy I am unable to do. I aggregate amt. I can & have sworn to. For that I have a memorandum & in my own handwriting & know it to be correct.

For my own per diam \_\_\_ I send no statement other than the 450 \_\_\_ charged by me I have no form & wish mine to correspond with yours & Col. Mather with a hope & request that you will fill up that apt. for me & sign my name. There is no officiant I suppose about that. Should you however think it necessary for us to vouch our compensation in that manner please write me on that subject & I will enclose mine to you to be forwarded with the other papers.

Mr. Leonard is going to St. Louis by whom I forward the papers all enclosed.

I expect to set out for Arkansas Territory now in a few days & expect to be absent about 4 weeks. As soon as I return I will write to you. I presume it will not be material for our report & accounts

to reach Washington before the meeting of congress. At all events my stay In Arkansas shall not be longer than I can possibly avoid.

Very sincerely yr

Friend and obt. Servt.

G. C. Sibley esq.

B. H. Reeves

Please tender my best respects to Mrs. Sibley