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7-21-1828

Letter from Isaac Rawlings to George Sibley, July 21, 1828

Isaac Rawlings
Memphis, Tennessee

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Recommended Citation

Rawlings, Isaac, "Letter from Isaac Rawlings to George Sibley, July 21, 1828" (1828). *George Champlin Sibley Papers*. 171.

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George C. Sibley Esq.
Fort Osage
1828
Missouri

I. Rawlings
21st July,

Mr. J. Easton

Memphis 21st July 1828

Dear Sir:

Having an opportunity by Joseph Easton to offer you this evidence of respect, I avail myself of it with cheerfulness & with pleasure. I had flattered myself, from the tenor of your remarks when I had the pleasure of seeing you at our Landing in Decr. last, that you would have spent some time with me, on your return from Louisiana. This I anticipated with much satisfaction, as I had really relied upon your doing so, with confidence, in March I was in constant expectation of you. not seeing you, in April I inquired of J. Easton, if he had heard anything of you, when I was quite astonished to learn of him, that you had returned to Missouri, and that actually you had stopped here on your way- I will not conceal that this information both astonished & disappointed me. I was extremely anxious to have passed some time with you, when our old acquaintance would have been refreshed & myself much gratified in the opportunity of conversing with you; besides the opportunity appeared so fine, for this purpose which could have been accomplished without your being diverted any from your course- indeed I have brought myself to believe that you did not treat me as kindly, as our former acquaintance and long separation demanded. I was anxious too, to have showed you some of our country, believing you were not permanently settled at Fort Osage, in which I own, I was some under the influence of interested motives, for really if you leave Fort Osage, I should be happy to see you located in some healthy section of this country, if it could be done in a way agreeable to yourself, and advantageous to your interests.

I am just now bundling up for the Eastward, whither I expect to set out in a few days, if it could suit you to let me hear from you, a Letter arriving for me in Balt^o. not later than the 20th Oct. would reach me in Dec. I expect to be here – if my being a Bachelor prevented your calling to see me, I will endeavor to remove the objection, which ought to have been removed long since, & would have been, had the matter been subject entirely to my control- I stand here at present before the people as a candidate for Elector of President & Vice President, in favor of the administration, and being about to leave the district for a while I have issued an address to the voters, copy of which I have requested J. Easton to hand you herewith, merely for your amusement, tho' really as far as it goes it is a fair representation of my opinions touching the Subject matter of it- it is couched in terms of great moderation, to render it as little objectionable as can be, to the Jackson party here, from the strength of which party, I feel persuaded the Jackson candidate will succeed. The administration party, however, is very respectable, and we have determined to contest every inch of the ground until fairly vanquished- In Missouri I fear you will go for Jackson, & I am sorry for it, for actually I should view his election to the Presidency, as a national misfortune, as setting a precedent of military preference wholly injurious to the best interests of the Country as virtually reversing that settled principle in our government, which acknowledges the military as subordinate to the civil power; but

I will not lead you into a political discussion, as I only set out to address you a letter expressive of the respect & friendship with which I am animated towards you, in virtue of our former acquaintance and intimacy- I am in hopes both yourself & family returned home in health, and are still in the enjoyment of it-

Should you ever see Paul Baillio, do me the favor to offer him my respects, and tell him, that I should at all times be glad to see him- also if you should see Mr. Johnson (the old Factor) be good enough to assure him that I recollect him with pleasure- and should be extremely happy to see him- if not actively engaged next winter and I think I understood from you, that you were somewhat in the grazing line, which does not call for much confinement, cannot you come & spend some time with me. A trip to this place would occupy but a few days, either coming or returning- our winters are mild & healthy, our town improving, & shortly must be a very agreeable place in cold weather, the heats of Summer are somewhat oppressive, at which time our town is not considered healthy to those, unseasoned to the climate- My respects to your family and I pray you to accept for yourself, the highest respect & esteem of Dear Sir

Yr. Very Ob. & very H. Servant

Isa: Rawlings