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9-1831

## Letter from Benjamin Reeves to George Sibley, September 1831

Benjamin H. Reeves

*Franklin, Missouri*

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Franklin Mo. Sep. 1831

Sr. Sir,

This day I set out from my residence on a short tour of about three weeks, & expect to be in Arkansas Territory. In passing thro Fayette I rec. your letter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Inst. And hastily answered it & placed it among a bunch of vouchers, which I designed leaving with Mr. Leonard, who I expect will hand the same to you. But upon my arrival at his house I find he has not returned from the district court at Jefferson, but is hourly expected to return. I now write by mail still believing Mr. L. will in a few days go to St. Louis, & in that event will certainly call on you. Should any thing however arise to prevent his going immediately to St. Louis he will avail himself of the earliest safe opportunity of transmitting to you what vouchers I have procured.

Your going to Washington is a matter that entirely accords with my views, Indeed when I was at your house I was frequently on the point of mentioning that subject to you. But knowing the great personal trouble that you have already experienced in relation to that, road business, I forbore naming it to you. But urged Col. Mather, to go. He gave me no decisive answer & I pressed the subject no farther. I have no doubt but what the col. Will feel gratified if you would go. And in the event of yours or his going I will feel myself morally bound to contribute my mite towards defraying the expense of the trip. Tho money is hard for me to raise yet I will try to do so. Presuming you would not set out on the journey until some time in November I will try to be in readiness: & will write to you again immediately after my return.

I am informed that Judge Reynolds will not be a candidate for congress. Mr. Birch, has already taken the field. Genl. Ashley, is much spoken of here. He is believed to be an American System man, also friendly to the bank, & the Federal Judiciary. If such are his sentiments, Booneslick I think will give him a good support. Mr. Wells too is spoken of and of the two I am rather inclined to believe is most popular among the gacks on Brethren, as some will have it. But really I know of no other Jackson men in this part of the country, whose sentiments accords with yours & mine in relation to those great national measures, who could write a sufficient support to Authorize their becoming a candidate, 'ts useless to think of an avowed Clay Man. He cannot \_\_\_ here at this crisis. Ashley or Wells, can if their sentiments, in relation to such as hey are believed or represented to be. I am sorry that I have consented to be absent but I am now on my road & will have to persevere in my trip. My company is now urging me to be off & have only time to repeat assurances of my sincere esteem etc.

B H. Reeves

G. C. Sibley esqr