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4-5-1810

Letter from Tow-o-goh-le, Waw-che-waw-he, and Sho-me-casse-tunga to George Sibley, April 5, 1810

Tow-o-goh-le

Waw-che-waw-he

Sho-me-casse-tunga

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Sibley Papers

D.S. Tow-o-goh-le

Waw-che-waw-he

Sho-me-casse-tunga

Ft. Osage April 5th 1810

We Tow-o-go-he (alias Town Maker) chief and Waw-cha-waw-he (alias John Le Foe) chief, and Sho-me-case-se-tunga (alias the Big Wolf) Warrior, For ourselves and in behalf of the Tribe of Osages living on the Osage River acknowledge the following Facts, and bind ourselves and our People to perform the following promises to wit –

Some time in the Month of Novem'r 1809 an Indian of our Tribe named Waw-he-wach-e at the head of Several others, Surprised Michael T (?) Rone, (?) Lorrison Souligme, Morrice Foutenant and Three Arkansaw Indians who were hunting on the Arkansaw River, and took from them Thirteen Horses. Twelve of which were actually brought into our Village. The same party 4 days before robbed a Hunter by name Joshua G. Spears of every thing he possessed, leaving him nothing but a piece of an old Blanket. The Articles taken from Spears Are, 1 Small Kettle, 1 Axe, 1 Knife, 1 File, 1 Hat, and Some Powder and Lead The Hat and Knife have Since been returned – Another Indian from Tribe, afterwards robbed Morrice Foutenant of his rifle and Shot Pouch. The 15 Beaver Skins and Peltry and Blankets Said to have been taken from Spears we know nothing about. With respect to the robbing of Amos Yarnall, Orlando Hopkins, and Pereih Lacont of 5 horses and all their hunting equipment in the month of October 1809 we do believe that Said robbery was committed by our People.

We declare that we caused Seven Horses to be returned to Co-She-Se-gre The Far Track, who came to our Village to demand them in behalf of their proper owners. We are to observe that 2 of the Seven Horses delivered up died very Soon afterwards. We understand that one of the Horses is now in the Village of Young White Hair.

Feeling disposed to do what is right in this matter We the undersigned bind ourselves and our Tribe by this Writing to cause ample compensation to be made within one Month from

this day for all the damages done by our People to the persons above mentioned and for which in Strict justice we ought to compensate. And we further promise to make Strict inquiry into all the circumstances relating to the above depredations and to render equal and exact justice to all the parties concerned. And we pledge our names ~~to Our G't Father the President of the U. States, and to his Agents in St. Louis~~ for the faithful performance of all the promises herein contained. ~~The Eyes of the G't Spirit being and our hearts, we Subscribe our Names.~~

In the presence of	Tow-o-goh-he	his mark
Geo. C. Sibley	Waw-che-waw-he	his mark
Ag't of Ind'n Trade	Sho-me-casse-tunga	his mark

I have rec'd from the above Indians seven pounds of Beaver furs and one otter skin to pay for one Small kettle, one axe, one file, Sixty Bulets and Some Powder, which their People took from Joshua G. Spears.

G.C. Sibley

[Copyist's note: I am copying this from someone else's transcript. Several words or phrases are struck through on the transcript and I have replicated this although its meaning is unclear. I have not replicated page numbering. The transcriber also inserted question marks above uncertain words; this proved difficult to reproduce, so I have put "floating" question marks into parenthesis and moved them to immediately follow the word which they reference.]