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9-5-1818

**Letter from John C. Calhoun & William Clark to George Sibley.  
September 5, 1818**

John C. Calhoun

William Clark

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Circular instruction  
War Dept.  
Sept. 5, 1818

George C. Sibley Esq  
Factory Agent  
Fort Osage

J. C. Calhoun

Department of War  
5th September 1818.

Sir,

The 5th Auditor of the Treasury department has been charged to adjust the claims which Indians may have under existing treaties, or the 4th Section of the act entitled "An act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers" passed 30th March, 1802, and similar claims on the part of our citizens embraced by the 14th Section of the same act, or any existing treaty with the Indian tribes:

In case of injury to our citizens, after making the demand for a redress of the injury as pointed out by the act, you will, if it is not redressed in the time specified, forward the claim properly testified, stating the time, place, and circumstance, your opinion on the truth of the claim, and the amount of the damage will accompany your report. In case of injury done to the Indian you will make a similar report, accompanied with your opinion, to this department, and to the district Attorney where the person who has done the injury resides, so that proper legal steps may be taken against the wrong-doer, in order to make the reparation at his expense and not at the public which should, if possible, always be avoided. No payment made, except thro' the order of this department will be allowed. I observe, that in most of the applications made for reparation of injury, no care is taken to comply with the requisitions of the act: but it is hoped, in future, they will be made more regularly, as none will be admitted but such

as the law or treaties provide for, and in which the provisions of the act have been complied with.

I have the honor to be

Your Most Obedt. Servt.

Signed J. C. Calhoun

His Excellency  
Wm. Clark  
St. Louis

The above is a copy of instructions from the War Department, relative to Claimes of Citizens and Indians against Each other, which I communicate for your Information and Government.

Respectfully,

Wm. Clark.

Geo. C. Sibley Esq.  
Factory Agent &  
Fort Osage