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2-18-1831

**Letter from George Sibley to Benjamin Wilson, et. al., February 18,  
1831**

George Champlin Sibley

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Benjamin Wilson  
John L. Seton  
Dr. Jackson  
Edwin S. Duncan  
John Summerville  
Robert Allen  
Clarksburgh, Vir.

G. C. Sibley  
Feb. 18, 1831

Linden-Wood (near St. Charles, Missouri)  
Feb<sup>y</sup> 18<sup>th</sup>, 1831

To Benjamin Wilson= John L. Seton

Dr. Jackson - Edwin S. Duncan

John Summerville - & Robert Allen Esquires

Clarksburgh= Virginia-

Gentlemen,

With the view of Settling a doubtful question and thereby allaying a very unpleasant disturbance that has for Some time past existed in St. Charles, and now threatens to become Still more and more hurtful to the peace & harmony of this community, I use the freedom to address you this Letter; which I hope you will Receive in the Same Spirit that has dictated it, and favour me with your Answer as Soon as you conveniently can; addressed to me at "St. Charles Missouri"= It is proper also to Say, that it is upon the Suggestion of a Gentleman from your vicinity (the Rev<sup>d</sup>. Mr. Pendleton) that I address myself to you particularly, it being extremely desirable that no doubt should exist as to the Respectability of the Sources of the information Requested=

A person by the name of Nathaniel W. Mack, formerly of Clarksburgh, has, for Several years past been an inhabitant of St. Charles, in the capacity of a Tavernkeeper= By some means or other, Mr. Mack has made himself obnoxious to many of his neighbours, and has Recently become the Subject of Some Reports founded as it is Said, on information

obtained from Clarksburgh, that is very injurious to his character, and not a little So to that of his Wife- Circumstances connected with the Publick interest, as well as justice to Mr. Mack & his family and friends, and I may very properly Repeat, Some Regard for the harmony of the People of St. Charles, appear to Require that all doubts on this Subject, Shall be Removed as Speedily as possible= I happen to be one of the few who take no concern in the disputes I have alluded to, except So far as to Regret exceedingly their very injurious effects on the peace of Society= My acquaintance with Mr. Mack, is very slight indeed, my intercourse with his family positively nothing= I do not allow myself to have any opinion of him good or bad, as founded upon the Reports I hear of him, tho' I confess it does seem to me a little Strange, that he Should allow Such Stories to gain Credence, when as he avers, he can easily Refute them by Respectable testimony from his Native place, Clarksburgh-

I have Still another motive for addressing you at this moment- which is this= An effort is making to Remove the present Postmaster of St. Charles from Office, and, as I am advised, to procure the appointment of Mr. Mack in his place= It happens that the P. Office here is one of very considerable importance, not only to the inhabitants of St. Charles, but to the Publick at large- which makes it particularly desirable that it Should be in the hands of a competent person, and whose character for common honesty Should be indisputable= It is to me at least, a Matter of no trifling concern that Such Should be the case= If the Reports I hear of Mr. Mack be true even in part, it is very certain that he Should not be trusted with that office-

It is due therefore to the Publick as well as to Mr. Mack, that these doubts Should be Removed= And I do not doubt but you will most

Readily concur, in communicating to me Such facts as may be in your  
knowledge concerning the Character & Standing of Mr. Mack in Virginia,  
which I Sincerely hope may Result favourably to him-

With great Respect, I am

Gentlemen, Yr. Mo. Obt. Svt.

Geo: C: Sibley=