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6-10-1831

### Letter from R. Irwin to George Sibley, June 10, 1831

R. Irwin

*Cantonment Leavenworth*

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Mr. Geo. C. Sibley  
St. Charles  
Mo.

R. Irwin  
Cant. Leavenworth  
10. June. 1831-.

Cant. Leavenworth  
10. June. 1831.

Dear Sir

The arrival of Mrs. Sibley has just reminded me how long since my promise should have been complied with. Her voyage was performed safely, and in 8 days from St. Charles. We were delighted to see Mrs. Sibley, her health good, her eyes excepted. which are growing better. She will be of great assistance to us as her experience in housekeeping will cure the imperfections which are incident to beginners. You have heard enough I presume of our tedious passage on board the Globe. Our long confinement on board enabled us to enjoy extravagantly a visit which we paid to your former residence at Fort Osage. I have ever since designed giving to Mrs. Sibley & yourself a description in detail of everything around it not forgetting even the little favorite Cedar. in the garden the number of peach trees that have survived the Winter The large Rose Bush near the front door of the house. The number of decayed logs in the building The beautiful green Slope to the bottom in front of the house & I was minute enough to observe those things as I supposed the recollections alone was productive of pleasure. We found your former inmates Messrs Thorpe & Morrison quiet & contented occupants of the establishment Every plant apparently which could be brought to life seems to have been renovated by their care, & it appears to be the Study of the former to impress on every thing the same aspect it bore when under the direction of Mrs. S----- & yourself. Mr. Thorpe I recollect to have Seen on the Santa Fe expedition which circumstance with that of my having married a relation of yours- he appeared to think entitled me to a degree of Consideration, which I

would have felt a little confused to have claimed as my due. We were treated with every Kindness & Mr. Thorpe & myself separated Sworn Friends till death. He drew out a letter which from its complexion & greasy appearance, I inferred had been his idol since the reception of it- he chuckled over it & seemed to derive Great gratification from the idea that you had not yet abandoned all hopes of his marrying- Nothing but the same routine of duty occurs here- Day after day the same monotonous repetitions. Without one feature varying- You must therefore look for matters of interest from some other correspondent. Mr. Spencer Pettis, we understand has gone to St. Louis- to fight Maj. Biddle so much for being a bigg man & a contemptible one a la meme temps. The buildings here are nearly Complete, which with the flourishing & extensive garden gives quite a domestic air to the establishment. The country around you have often heard described as beautiful. I believe I have never beheld a spot more so. It is of that ----- Characters so pleasantly intersperced with Hill & dale, woodland & prairies that the eye is never tired. It seems to be a spot where every profession might uninterruptedly be pursued- a garden for the botanist, deposits & formations for the geologist & scenery for the painter that raises with undiminished beauty at every step. Ann rec'd. a mail or two since a letter from her grandfather written in the strain of 17. as far as figurative language is concerned. She rec'd. also a small box by the S.B. Union- from her Sister, it was directed to you- I would be glad to cover my paper with Something but as I have told you what is news to us has long Since to you become as trite as an adage. And as to original ideas you can readily infer their scarcity as no two consecutive ones of those I have given you are in the least related. I believe in writing to you here-

after I must adopt a Standing introduction, which I will plagiarize from the letter of a Clay County gentleman to the same person here. "Pregnant with the respect due you but barren of any news that can interest I now address you."

Ann is in good health & with her mother desires their love to Mrs. Sibley, Miss Russell & yourself & my own to all whose solicitude may prompt them to inquire for me. This will be of very little trouble to you at any rate you will not be compelled to have levees for the purpose.

Yrs. truly

R. Irvin

Mrs. Sibley says she will write to her son by the next mail. All desires her love to him.

Mr. G. C. Sibley  
Linden Wood

It is hardly necessary to add that my unabated regards are due Chief Justice Meck whenever he chooses to make a requisition for them.