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10-8-1817

Letter from William Clark to George Sibley, October 8, 1817

William Clark

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Missouri Territory

S^t. Louis Oct^o 8, 1817.

Dear Sir,

Your Letters of the 10th - 24 and 29^h of Sep^t with the enclosures, were delivered to me this day, & as the Express intends returning this evening, I am Compeled to write you a much Shorter Letter than I could have wished -- I have Signed and return you the Receipts and Invoice for Osage Annuities which you delivered, and Three Small Medals to be delivered in place of those Sent to me, in Such a way and to Such Men as you may think proper -- As I have the fullest confidence in your Judgement in the management of the Indians under your Controul, Shall not Say any thing on the Subject of the property taken from the Whites, at this time -- I find it extremely difficult (in pursuance to Law and Instructions) to Suppress the illicit use of Ardent Spirits among the Indians, Some more unlimited Powers Powers must be received, to enable us to Suppress that evil -- I am convinced that you are correct in your Statement, and I Shall certainly profit by your ideas on that Subject in the event of my visiting Washington this Winter -- The Circumstances which induced you to advance the Annuity to the Osage, is in my eye per-

fectly justifiable. -- I Shall inform Mess^{rs} Chouteau & Durham of the delivery of their Horses, & recommend them to Send for them -- however, as the Gov.^t has usually been at the expense of the Horses delivered up by the Indians, untill the Owners received them, you will if possible, please to hire a man to take Charge of Such Horses as may be delivered to you, Send them to Sup.^t who will pay the expences -- Y.^{rs} & C.

Signed) W^W Clark

Geo. C. Sibley Esq.^r