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George Champlin Sibley Papers

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8-12-1814

Letter from George Sibley to Samuel Sibley, August 12, 1814

George Champlin Sibley

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Mr. Sam^l. H. Sibley
Natchitoches
Louisiana

Geo. C. Sibley

St. Louis - Aug^t. 14

S. Louis 12th, August 1814.

My dear Brother,

My last was dated early in last July, and was in Reply to yours of the 29th and 30th of May- I have Received no letter from you or Father or any of the rest of you Since. tho' I have no doubt there are Some on the way for me that ought to have Reached me long ago.-

I have been waiting Some time with my hands in my Pockets to hear from Father his final conclusion and directions Respecting the assistance I offered him in Rescuing the Grand Ecore estate from the Mortgage under which it lies - And I Shall continue to wait in the same position for a few weeks longer, under the impression that nothing but the irregularity of the Mails prevented my hearing from him nearly a Month ago, on that Subject.- I believe I shall not go into the Indian Country any more, at any rate not this year- This Territory being very Seriously threatened with invasion by an immense Savage force; which requires the use of all our means to Repel; I have at once given out all thoughts of risking my Stores defenceless in the Indian Country, merely to accommodate a Horde of Savages, who are quite likely to become hostile to us- We are now about to employ the Osages to take up the War Club against those Indians who are Hostile to us, to effect which I have agreed to Stand paymaster, and Shall give as many of my Goods as may be necessary.- And I believe I Shall yield to the desire of Gov^r. Clark, and take a trip to

Washington very Soon to make Some arrangements with the Gov^t. for the better protection of this frontier- I do not much relish the journey, but as the Governor thinks I can be useful there, and Rather prefers me to go, I Suppose, I Shall make up my mind in a few days to go 'tho September will have nearly gone out before I can possibly get off I fear.- Our Indian enemies have committed immense depredations on our frontier- and have Succeeded in driving our forces from Prairie de Chien- We have Suffered pretty Severely in this quarter I assure you, and I fear Shall Suffer much more- an expedition is now fitting out here for the frontier under the direction of Brig Gen Howard of the U. S. Army & Gov^r. Clark, to move in a few days-

I am extremely anxious to hear from you, Reports have Reached this place and are currently believed that a large British force has landed in Florida, and that N. Orleans is by no means Safe- I never like to credit bad news, but common Sense & Reason tell me that your State is in a very critical Situation, especially if Spain Should cooperate with England in an attempt to recover Louisiana, which altho' rather improbable, may nevertheless happen, the Gov^{ts}. of Europe being now entirely governed by motives of interest and their false Idea of power.

I am called away- Give my Love to your Wife and Children, to Father, Ann E. Henry and all. I Shall write to Father before I leave this place.- After you Receive this, direct no more letters to me here until you hear from me again.

Very Affectionately

Your G. C. S.

Mr. S. H. S.