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4-29-1813

## Letter from William Clark to George Sibley, April 29, 1813

William Clark

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George C. Sibley Esquire  
United States Indian Agent & Factor  
at Fort Osage  
via Franklin Howard County

Gov. W. Clark  
April 29th, 1813

St. Louis, April 29th, 1813

Dear Sir

The information you have given me relative to the views of the Sacks Foxes and other tribes of Indians of your quarter is highly important, I have no doubt of the Secret hostility of a majority of the Mississippi Tribes to the Americans, and fully convinced of their great anxiety to get foothold on the Missouri. The object of the British Companies is very evident the late treaty together with the Military arrangements makeing by our government has put them on the alert. I have since the War been anxious to check the intimacy between the Indians of the two Rivers, but find difficulty from the Gen<sup>l</sup> policy of our Gov<sup>t</sup>.- ( to put(?) the Eastern Ind<sup>s</sup> --(?) ))? by a late regulation the Licences of the Agents of Mackinack, Green Bay & Chicago are to be respected in this Territory & to protect their people &c. Maj<sup>r</sup>. Bradford writes me that the Cherokees have stole 40 horses from the Osage & killed four of the horses, which is Considered, as a war measure by the Osage-

I have for Several years using every exertion to Stop the Sale of Spiritious licquor to the Indians, and as the Traders has abused the privilage allowed them of takeing a Small potion of that for their own use, they are & will be prohibited from takeing any Spiritious licquor into the Indian Country and a penilty of a forfeiture of their Licence, and if Sold their Bonds will be Sued- The introduction of Spiritious Licquor among the Indians Tribes is not only Contrary to Law, but productive of much mischief, and which, whilst it thwarts the beneficent policy of the Government with regard to the Indian Nations,

entails misery upon them and endangers the peace and Safety of its own Citizens; It therefore becomes a duty to put a Stop to this increasing evil, and you are requested to take the most prompt and efficient steps in your power to prevent the introduction among the Several Tribes of Indians on the Missouri or in your neighbourhood- and to enforce the law on the point strictly against all offenders-

Majr. B. o Fallon the U. S. Agent for the Tribes on the Missouri & I expect on in a few days he will probably have some powers ---(?) from the Pres<sup>d</sup>. on this subject.

I have been back for a month and now scarcely able to Set up  
Please to give my respects to Mrs. Sibley and accept yourself  
of my best wishes

Your Most Ob Servt

Wm Clark