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George Champlin Sibley Papers

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10-31-1812

Letter from George Sibley to Governor Howard, October 31, 1812

George Champlin Sibley

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Fort Osage October 31^t 1812

Sir,

The Great and Little Osages have been lately here and have applied to me for their Annuities for the present year; which as no instructions have ever reached me to authorize my paying them, I have been obliged to Send them away with the best and most plausible excuses I could think of --

Altho' they all expressed much dissatisfaction at the Non payment of the Annuities and were really much disappointed; yet they all renewed (and I believe honestly) their professions of good will toward the U. S. and even went So far as to volunteer their Services in repelling any attack on this place by the enemy -- In order to reconcile them in Some degree to the disapp^t of not getting their Annuities this year, I have furnished them on Credit with a Supply of Ammunition &c. and I am in hope they will make no further complaints -- But Sir, proper Steps Should certainly be taken to prevent in future a failure of the Same kind. The Osages expect (and they have a [right to] expect it) a punctual observation [of the terms] of the Treaty Since my last of the 2^d Ins.^t we have

not Seen or heard of any hostile Indians our expectations of attack are nearly if not quite worn out, and for my own part I am without the Smallest apprehension of danger--

I send the bearer express, and have directed him to wait on you the day before he Sets out on his Return.

Respectfully his

Y^r. er. Ob. Svt.

G. C. S.

His Excy

Gov. Howard

St. Louis