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Letter from John Mason to George Sibley, May 15, 1809

John Mason

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duplicate sent
17 July 1899

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Geo: C. Sibley Esq

W. S. Factor

F^h Osage

Sir

Indian Trade Office

19 May 1809

Since mine of the 15th Ins^r
I have had in interview with the Secretary of War on

the subject of the buildings requisite at your Post.

You agree with me as to the necessity of having them completed before winter, and that to effect this the Soldiers must be employed, so far as Garrison duty or other indispensable circumstances will permit no doubt the good sense of Capt. Clemson, of yourself will readily produce a proper understanding on the subject.

The secretary required and as I thought it but just, I readily assented, that a compensation as in fatigue duty should be allowed by this department to the men, while employed by the factor, it has been fixed at ten cents and a gill of whiskey per day which you will pay accordingly, I make quarterly returns thereof, as well as the number and names of the men so detached.

I have directed my agent at Brownsville to send you under care of Mr. Rawlings four Barrels of whiskey for this service which I presume will be enough for the present year.

Enclosed is copy of an order from the Secretary of war to the commanding officer at Fort Craig which has gone by mail via St. Louis.

I am &c

J. W. Duff