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Correspondence Between Joel Poinsett & George Sibley, December 31, 1825 - March 5, 1826

Joel Roberts Poinsett

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Copy of a letter from Mr Poinsett to G. C. Libby
dated Legation of the U. S. Mexico 31 Decr 1825, Received
at Santa Fe 26th February 1826,

G. C. Libby Esq
Sir

"I have this Instant Received your
"Letter of the 12th ulto, and as the communication
"between the capital and New Mexico, is not very
"frequent, hasten to reply to it by the carrier which
"leaves this to night.

"I have hitherto failed to induce the
"President of these states to take any part in the
"Survey of the proposed road, unless after we shall
"have concluded our treaty of limits - as there has
"been lately, a change in the administration I
"shall again renew the negotiation and will inform
"you of the result by the earliest opportunity -
"Your account of the route is highly satisfactory,
"and will, I hope aid me to bring this affair to a
"favourable conclusion -

"I have the honor to be with
"great respect sir your obed^t servt,"

(Signed) J. R. Poinsett

Contract from G. C. Libbys answer to the above
dated - "Santa Fe New Mexico 5th March 1826

"The delay on the part of the Mexican Gov-
ernment in yielding its assent to the Survey and
marking the Western Section of the proposed Road
from the Missouri to this frontier, is a circum-
stance that was entirely unlooked for by the Com-
missioners. To me it appears the more extraordinary

" as our Government does not ask of the Mexican
" Government any participation in the expence,
" and I am confident that the Road when completed,
" will be infinitely more advantageous to this country
" than to the Western parts of the United States -

" Unless the Consent of the Mexican Government is
" obtained in season, to reach my colleagues in Mexico
" via the city of Washington, early in May I
" should be very apprehensive that they may decline
" coming to join me here in June agreeable to our
" arrangement; that the completion of the Road will
" be obliged to be deferred another Season, and which will
" be worse, we shall have incurred a heavy expence
" unnecessarily, in consequence of our reliance upon
" the ready assent of this Government to permit the
" U. States to open the Road at our own expence -

" If this assent can be had and commu-
" nicated to me here by the 20th of June, or even
" by the 15th of July, I might perhaps be able to
" obviate the most of the above difficulties & finish
" the Road by the setting in of winter. Whether my
" colleagues join me here or not -

" I enclose you a copy of a commu-
" nication that I made to the Governor of New Mex.
" on the 5th of January. Possibly, you may find it
" of some use -

" I have the honor &c

(Signed) G. C. Libbey

His Excellency

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J. R. Poinsett

Minister of the U. S.

Mexico