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## Letter from Benjamin Reeves to George Sibley, March 10, 1827

Benjamin Reeves

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ALS B.H. Reeves, Fayette, Mo.

To: G. C. Sibley, Ft. Osage, Mo.

Fayette Mo. March 10 1827

Der Sir,

Your favor of the ultimo came duly to hand & it's enclosed I handed to Mr. Leonard who attended the sale of the negro man on Monday last & bid for him even beyond what he afterwards informed me was his limit. Capt. John Jackson of this county became the purchaser at \$451.

The same day I exposed to the highest bidder the public wagon & other property belonging to the government all of which went low, the wagon & \_\_ at \$51. The sale bill I will hear after forward you. I sold nothing except the \_\_ box, and boxes, kegs, spades, scythes, etc. Etc. The articles of clothing in yet in the hands of Mr. Samuels, which if not shortly disposed of as he seemed to think many of them would be. I think it would be best to dispose of them on the best terms that be had & unless you think otherwise will so proceed.

I begin to entertain strong fears that it will be out of my power to accompany you on the road this spring. I mention this not as absolutely certain but as somewhat probable. The continued and apparently growing indisposition of Mrs. Reeves renders it unpleasant for me to be from her unless duty should require it. Her physician recommended traveling as her only cure & advise me to take her to the Harrodsburg springs which I have some thoughts of attempting if her strength will permit, I mention this to you this early, that if you deem it important for a majority of the commissioners to do the necessary corrections and marking to the road for as \_\_ to request the attendance of Col. Mather to accompany you for myself I do not deem it absolutely important for a majority of the commission to attend & be present when those corrections etc is made & particularly so as it is not in contemplation materially to change the direction of the road. Should your views correspond with mine in in this particular & you should be willing to attend individually to that branch of the business it would be a small saving to the appropriation. I beg you my dear sir not to understand me as \_\_\_ to impose bothers[?] that others ought to bear in part, altogether when yourself it is not my wish to do so. Nor do I wish to evade accompanying you, for nothing but the reasons before stated moved for a moment induce me to wish not to go. But on the contrary am anxious to go that route. But nevertheless under almost all circumstances if it is deemed important however great the sacrifice I will go if Col. Mather cannot. On this subject it will be gratified to hear from you as early as your leisure will permit.

I think well you that \$16 per month is as much as we can give for hands in fact I could get members here for that sum if no a less amount. Whatever article you may think will be needed mention them to me & I will forward them. On Monday evening when on point of leaving town I met with Bird Pyle, who mentioned to me that his bid against you for bringing the packs in was \$10. \_\_ some formen

account \$3. I mention this at Pyles request, which if in accordance with your direction I will pay im for you. The whole amt. of the sale of the public property is about \$108.

With respect & esteem yrs truly.

B. H. Reeves.