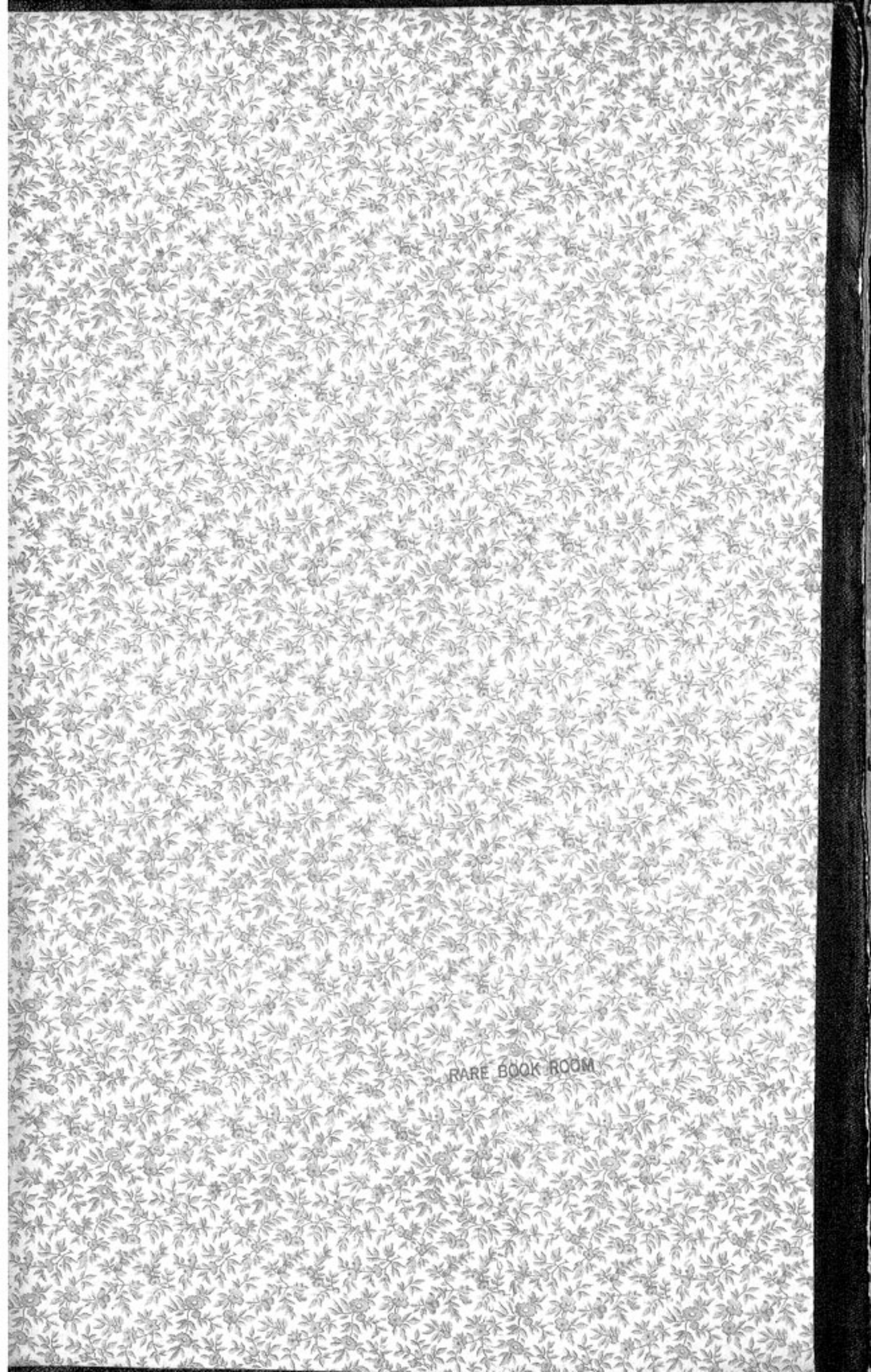


ST. LOUIS MERCANTILE LIBRARY

BISSELL MSS.



RARE BOOK ROOM

The following documents Nos 1-to-31. inclusive, are part of the Papers and Correspondence of the late General Daniel Bissell, sometime Commander of the United States Military Department which comprised the Territory of Missouri.

They are interesting, in that they relate to the troubles and dangers of the Early Settlers of the Mississippi Valley - and because several are autographs of persons who are distinguished in the history of the Country.

They were donated to the St. Louis Mercantile Library Association by Mr Sextus Shearer, Jr. and were received in the year 1886.

Nos

- 1 Genl James Wilkinson. Fort Adams. 17 May 1800.
To Capⁿ D. Bissell, New Orleans.
- 2 Genl James Wilkinson Pittsburgh 6. May 1805
to Col. Thos Hunt. ^{vt} Infy.
- 3 Copy of Letter to Secretary of War. Dated Bellefontaine 22 Jan 1806
no Signature. (This Secretary was Genl Henry Dearborn).
4. Zebulon M. Pike. Canion St. Louis 13 May 1806
to Capⁿ D. Bissell.
5. Zebulon M. Pike. Bellefontaine 11 June 1806
to Capⁿ D. Bissell
- 6 Zebulon M. Pike St. Louis 15 June 1806
to Capⁿ D. Bissell.

Nos

- 7 Extract from a Letter of J. M. Pike (Lieut.) to Governor Harrison
dated 28th June 1806.
Addressed to Daniel Bissell, Commanding Fort Massac.
- 8 Genl Wm H. Harrison Grouseland 8th Oct. 1806
to Capⁿ Dan. Bissell, Commandant at Fort Massac.
- 9 N Dearborn War Department 13 Oct. 1806
to Col. Thomas Hunt.
- 10 Joseph Browne St Louis 17 March 1807
to Col Thomas Hunt. Bellefontaine
- 11 Wm Clark, Ind Agt St Louis 15 May 1807
to Col Hunt.
- 12 Copy of Wm Clark's (Ind Agent) Letter to _____
dated St Louis 15 May 1807.
- 13 Frederick Bates. St Louis 22 July 1807
to Col. Thomas Hunt. Bellefontaine
- 14 Frederick Bates St Louis 1st Oct. 1807
to Col Thomas Hunt. Bellefontaine
- 15 Frederick Bates, St Louis 22 Oct 1807
to Col Thos Hunt, Com^dg 1st Regiment
- 16 Thomas Hunt. Bellefontaine 23 Oct 1807
to Frederick Bates Esq. Act. Governor
17. Copy of Gov. M. Lewis's orders to Nicholas Boileau
dated St Louis 14 May 1808

- Nos
 18 Gov. Meriwether Lewis. St Louis 23^d May 1808
 to Col Thos Hunt. 1st Reg^t U.S. Infy Bellefontaine.
19. Same to Same. St Louis 26 May 1808
- 20 Same to Same St Louis 10 July 1808
- 21 Same to Same St Louis 8 Aug 1808
- 22 John Cleves Symmes, Actg Adgt Bellefontaine. 26 June 1810
 Morning Report. to Lt-Col. N. Bissell, Commanding
- 23 Genl Wm Henry Harrison Vincennes 9 Aug 1811
 to Col N Bissell
- 24 Thos T. Crittenden Lexington 9 Feby 1812
 to Colonel N. Bissell
- 25 General Orders to the Militia of the Territory of Missouri
 dated St Louis 1st March 1813. (Printed) signed
 in Autograph by Frederick Bates, Actg Commander
 in Chief - and Will. C. Carr, Aid de Camp.
26. Frederick Bates St Louis 11 March 1813
 to Col. N. Bissell. 2^d U.S. Regiment. Bellefontaine
27. N Bissell Portage de Sioux 21 April 1813
 to Major James Morrison. Commanding U.S. Militia
 on the Island below Portage de Sioux.
28. Benf. Howard. Florissant 23 April 1813
 to Maj. Jas Morrison, Island near Portage.

Nos

29

Fragment of General Orders 7 Decr 1813
Signed by E.P. Pinkney Adj^t Genl
addressed to
Col. Daniel Bissell
Chateaugay

30.

Wm. Clark, Ninian Edwards, & Aug Chouteau,
Commissioners to treat with the Indians.
(dated) Portage des Sioux 11. July 1815
to. Genl Dan. Bissell. Bellefontaine.

31.

Andrew J. Donelson, Aid de Camp. (dated)
Division of the South. Head Quarters.
Nashville 20. Decr 1820
to D Bissell Brig Genl.
Comdly 8th My Dept

No 1

Vol Adams 17th May
1800

Dear Sir

I have some time letter
for the 3rd & 8th. put a note the Con
tent. —

If no better accommo-
dation presents, send you if possi-
ble to Charter the Julienne, if she
can be got at such price as
will enable me by taking a
part of the Load, to remove business
myself within 4, 5, or 6, or 700
Dollars — but no passenger is
to be permitted on Board the ship
I am engaged for me, but of my Stu-
tion, — If a good, & a large, &
better vessel for accommodation
can be had, you may proceed
to Charter or Engage. —
— so as not to subject me to
a loss of more than 200 or
300 £. but as much less as pos-
sible, — our household will
consist of twelve or fifteen, &
I shall claim the privilege of car-
rying

saying round my Band, should I de-
 termine, but this point is as
 yet undetermined - You may en-
 ter into general stipulations,
 and I will close the contract in
 form - mark well that I am to have
 the command of the Cabin, and the
 direction of my Table, & of the Cook
 which I shall carry with me -
 the Capt & his Mate, will dine
 Breakfast &c. with me, free of
 cost, but for this some small
 deduction must be made in the
 price - I shall leave this place
 on the 22nd & will ^{allow} myself to the
 28th to get down, and I wish not
 to remain in or near N. Orleans
 longer than five Days, which
 will bring about the 2nd or 3rd
 of June - but to secure a better
 vessel, & better accommodations
 to New York, I shall be content
 to wait until the 20th of the next
 month but no longer - I shall
 leave

Passage for about fifteen weeks,
 besides our stores & provisions -
 - If we sail in the July
 she is to carry nothing on
 deck, indeed I wish you to
 make this stipulation in an
 and submitting much to your
 discretion & to the advice of
 my friend Mr. Black, whom I mean
 to consult - I will only observe,
 that I had much rather charter
 a vessel (which he is to become
 I can then lead her to my mind -
 with regard to me

Dear Sir

Yours very truly
 Jacob Kossary

Capitaine
 Guian

St. Lample men
 he is to go to
 the Atlantic - I would
 a roomy vessel be
 engaged, they might
 go with me, otherwise
 they cannot.

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Capt. Bissell

2nd Regt. U. S.

at Mr. Chabont

New Orleans

Pittsburgh May 5th 03

Dear Sir,

I arrived the day before yesterday, at this place, where I met Lt. Pinckney, who surprised me by the information that on the 11th ultimo you had ~~received~~ orders for your own movement, or that of Capt. Richmond - as these orders had been transmitted long since, both by myself and the Inspector, I entertained no doubt, of their safe arrival to your hands, and I will still flatter myself, that they reached soon after Mr. Pinckney's departure from Detroit - but fearing this may not have been the case, I think proper to repeat the General import of those orders for your government -

Capt. Richmond with his own company

and Lewis & Company, and the men of McChary,
 (excepting his Music & Non Commf. officers) to
 proceed by Fort Wayne, the Wabash, Ohio,
 and up the Mississippi to St. Louis, to take
 orders from Col. Kingsbury or Major Bruff -
 Capt. McChary his Music, Subalterns & [redacted]
 proceed to Carlisle in Pennsylvania to recruit - You
 yourself to proceed by the Wabash, Ohio and
 Mississippi to New Orleans, to preside at a Gen.
 Court Martial to be convened the 10th inst. for
 the trial of Col. Butler - with permission
 to resume your command at Detroit & on the
 Lakes, or to remove to Fort Adams, or St. Louis -
 Your Regimental Staff to accompany Capt.
 Richmond -

As the Movement of the Troops before the
 falling of the water, will save them great diffi-
 -culty and delay, and your own attendance
 Season

No 2

ably in New Orleans, will produce great embarrassments
 to the public service, and sensible injuries to individuals.
 I must hope you have received your orders and that
 both Richmond and yourself are now far advanced
 on your route to your respective destinations - If
 however I should be deceived in this expectation,
 Sir I must rely that you will employ the
 most prompt and energetic exertions to carry into
 effect the instructions herein contained -

Wishing you health & happiness -

I am Dear Sir

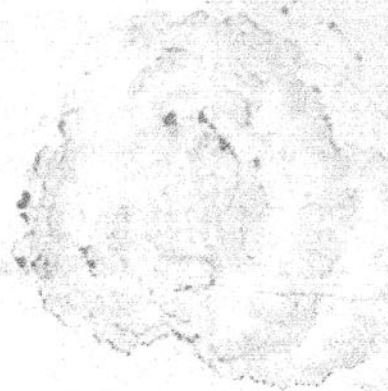
Yours Obedt. Servt.

Jacob Kuyper

Col: T. Hunt

1st Infy.

May 1875



No 3.

Bell Fontaine June 22^d 1806
Myself and Mr Connor the Agent
for Mr Smith Examined the Vouchers
for September 1806 and found
them to agree, and I signed the
Abstract on this day. But Mr Connor
putting the Vouchers in his Pocket
I without examining the Vouchers
in my possession signed the Abstract
that the Contractor might get his
Money that he has been laid out by
the conduct of his Agent Mr
Connor

Colo Custing to Secretary
all over.
N^o 1

Copy of a letter to the Secretary
of War dated Jan 4th 1803 -
relative to Colo Hamtramck
and Colo Henshaw Jones and
P

N^o 4

Dr Sir
Garrison St Louis May 13. 1866.

I arrived here on the 30th ult. having succeeded in the principal objects of my voyage, and explored the source of the Mississippi. I should be happy to give you many little details arising from my voyage but it might be premature to enter into the detail at present; — the Voucher forwarded; and yet to forward to Govt. will at least embrace two quires of Paper.

I am much obliged to you for the pains you took relative to the letter addressed to Gov^t. Garrison by P. Harrison — I shall address a letter to the General, relative to his statements on that letter; which may induce him to think, that he wanted foundation; for his assertion: relative to my "making use of the Arms of the United States" &c.

I have made a demand of the depositions you requested me to forward; — of the General (who had them in possession) but he has still put me off saying he had not time to search for them — but the troops being all marched he will now be more at leisure; & I shall expect to obtain them in a few Days when they shall be forwarded.

Your letter containing my note, and others
to Mr. Pain through a mistake, was carried
along with me on my boy's app; I would now
inclose it, but as I intend making some
small payment to Mr. Pain on that account
as soon as I receive pay; I will retain it
until then, when should I not have received
previous orders to the contrary from you I
will open the letter take his receipt for the
sum paid ^{on the note} & then inclose it with the
others - In a letter, & forward by some
safe conveyance -

Having received
of my men about, or nearly forty Dollars
for King'sly I will pay the sum to Mr.
Pain & inclose it in his note & forward
that likewise -

You probably heard
of the Nomination of Co. to - am - a for
the appointment of Lieut. ~~Rich~~ of the 2nd
Regt. of Infantry - he was rejected in
the Senate 19. to 12. but what would
my father & all old, and indeed
many say young Officers, have said
in case his Nomination had success-
ed? - What it not striking at the
very root of ambition; & stifling in the
bud every noble sentiment? For who is
the poor miserable wretch who would
be so despicable; as to retain his commis-
sion and daily to see Citizens Called

in to free Macanais over his ad.
May 13. — is still in status quo. Write
by the earliest opportunity as I am bound
on another voyage and may not
be here 3 weeks longer.
Wm Pike joins me in Respects for
Your Lady.
Yours truly,
G. M. W.

Mr. F was not a little surprised to find the depositions
unsigned — but as they are, I have enclosed them
to you — please to excuse this letter as it
does by no means please me — It being so
much filled with business — Say nothing
relative to Col H. as affair. p

Capt. Daniel Bipes

Dr. Sir,

Bill Fountain. 11 June
1866.

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Yours of the 28th June + 2nd Inst.
was handed me by Mr. Wright and shall be
noticed in rotation, as in the first you are
more than commonly complimentary, but work
me up after by the notice of my omission in
not sending you a return of the detachment.
— but see here a plain tale will put you down.
I was informed on my return, that all my Detach-
ment with myself belonged to Buford — This
information came from the Adj. of our Regt.
and the Ad. De Camp to the Command.
in Chief — who, should know the transfers
which had taken place if they did not.
as for the affair of the two men it was partly
forced on me, and I am sure more gentle
to my feelings, ^{at} that time; then it can be to you
now. L. James Wilkinson (who accompanies me)
had two favorite men in Lockwood's Comp'y.
Whose times were nearly out, and after much

persuasion I agreed to an exchange, the two
men entering into engagements that in case they
were ordered on Command they would serve out
the tour of Duty as soldiers — but they demanded
their Discharges and obtained them — they it is
true were transferred to R. B. & Co as we then
conceived the whole Detachment to be his — and
Lt. Wilkinson wrote the Order (by permission of his Father)
and made it a transfer from R. B. & Co to him — without
the least trace of injuring you.

I assure you I will
never apply to the Genl. for a transfer of your men,
to any person whatsoever; unless I should have a Comf.
of my own, then you may give them up as lost.
For those men have served with me many a long year
and notwithstanding — they are such Dam'd
Rascals that you could keep no Books or
look for them, yet I think them very clever
fellows — But yesterday received
Bradley, and am uncertain whether he
will again be promoted; but beg you to be

No 5

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a vacancy for one Surg. and two Corp. as I cannot do well without that number.

I have forwarded to your care an open letter for your brother, which you will please to peruse (if you feel an inclination) to read it, direct it, and forward it to its destination.

With my House, if you can only obtain some person who will keep a fence round ^{the lot} it (unless you can get better terms) I shall be satisfied:—you have inclosed an extract of a letter I wrote to Gov. Harrison which you will see is to the point.

I shall write you another letter and commit to the postman as care of N. Wain and inclose some Notes &c. I retain them until I settle my money matters in this country as I am in some hopes to have some success.

I am Yours Sincerely

Wm. W. W.

Capt Bipele

Dr Sir

806

St Louis 15 June 1806

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When I last wrote to you I did not know that the Detachments under my command belonged to your company; but within ~~a~~ a day or two since I learnt that piece of Information. — I have therefore inclosed you a muster Roll of the Detachment & have marked an O. opposite to those, who are mustered as Fusille Rifles — You will see on this Roll the Alterations which have taken place — and can note them accordingly. — I am about going on another long and arduous command, and shall take the same Detachment — You would probably be serving your company if you had them transferred to your brother. — I acknowledge I am interested in the Idea, as it would then be possible I would get them if promoted — but do not think that I ever have myself suggested this thing to the Genl — and although they are a Dam'd set of Rascals yet in the woods they are staunch fellows and very proper for such expeditions as I am engaged in — You have an account inclosed of the animals.

of clothing received by each man - which
you will please to charge them - I have
no descriptive list of Stoute, Carter &
Jackson if you could furnish me with
one you will oblige me - The man
is waiting for this letter, ~~but~~ you shall have
a long one from me before my departure -
but if you will write me an answer to
the following queries - it will confer
a singular favour - What is your
opinion and information on the subject of
the vacancy of Lt Col - Majr Capt? & and as
it respects future promotions - How stand
the Present Affairs - and who will
be the Candidates, at the next Presidential
election - What prospect as to war
with Spain - or peace with Great Britain
and France? - Where is your brother
and how employed? What is our noble
Capt. Whipple doing? - pardon me
for imposing this above task - but
as you can say to me in a few
words - I should be happy to have
your opinion - a dear
Wm. F. Phelps

Capt D. B. Pierce

L. P. Hughes
15th June 1886

Capt. Daniel Sypell.

807 / Extract of a letter from Lieut. Pike, to Governor Harrison
Dated 28th June 1806

I have observed by a Letter and Deposition of Capt. Raimond Bissell, that Mr. J. Harrison wrote you a Letter, complaining of me, and asserting that I had basely treated him (in conjunction with Captain Bissell) by taking a House from him in his absence.

This circumstance is fully explained by Capt. Raimond Bissell's Deposition, and I should never have conceived the Letter as worthy my further notice. But allow me to say that, the nature of your Notes on that Letter were such, as wounded my feelings; and more deeply - as they came from a Character, whom I had always been induced (as well from duty as inclination) to respect and esteem. - Your Note says "He ought to have looked to Cuthbertson for redress," "to have made use of the Arms of the United States; which was put under his direction for different purposes: - To dispossess the person who has obtained a legal possession." It would be difficult to shew, wherein any passage of J. Harrison's Letter, (even admitting it strictly true) would justify the foregoing conclusion, of my having taken possession by force of Arms. And, when we refer to Capt. Bissell's Deposition, we will perceive, that I obtained a peaceable and legal possession of property, which I had been some years illegally deprived of. It is unnecessary for me to attempt to be the panegyrist of Capt. Bissell's Character; but I presume that no person can for one minute doubt his having acted with us improperly in this affair; and, that the insinuations of Mr. J. Harrison, was as unfounded & groundless.

as many others raised by the Scoundrels who reside in the
vicinity of Massac. —

As the before mentioned Documents were handed
to my Colonel, I should be happy if Governor Harrison
felt himself at liberty, to honor me with a line, ex-
pressing his satisfaction of the foregoing explanation.

H. P. Kris,
11 June 1806 - received
the 17th July -

~~Let the papers~~
Pommes

and
Pommes

Recd 18th July 1806

as many oth.
vicinity of

to my C
felt him
pressing

No 8
Grouseland 8th Oct. 1800.

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Dear Sir

You must by this time suppose
me one of the worst Correspondents in the World
& I have no inclination to deny the charge
for all my friends tell me so & what every
one believes must be true I wrote to
you however about six weeks ago by
Col. Vige but as that gentleman did not
visit your post as he intended when he
left me from this place the letter was
returned to me & I intended to have wat-
ten by Mr. Grote but he left this place
without my knowing it having called at
my house when I was absent. Your
letter of the 4th of April last was duly
received & removed every difficulty with
regard to the affair of J. Harrison. indeed
I never had an idea that St. Pierre for
whom I have a great esteem & friendship
had done anything more in that affair
than what would have been ^{reputed} ^{subjected} ^{the} considered
the more serious scrutiny as an act of
imprudence. Such as I myself have
committed whilst in a Military Command
& such as all men of ardent minds are
likely to commit. I have appointed Mr.

Mr. Gueter a Magistrate & I am very glad
to find from our mutual friend Whitlock
that he will be agreeable to you - I intended
to have given him a letter to you requesting
your advice & assistance in the performance
of his duty respecting which he may be
at a loss from his limited acquaintance with
our language manners & laws - I think
that a good understanding between you
may be productive of mutual advantage
I tried to preserve tranquillity in the letter
most adjacent to your post -

With much Respect & Esteem
I am &c Sir
your humble servant
Will^m A. Harrison

Capt^d D. Bissell

Captain Daniel Bissell

Commandant

for by
Lt. Owens.

at
Fort Mifflin

War Department
October 13th 1806

Sir,

Your letters of the 15th and 16th ult. the former
covering a picture of Ordanance and Moly. Stoups
at Belle Fontaine, have been duly received.
The appointment of Lieut. Joseph Kimball as Ass^t
smily Agent in the room of Mr. Carson is confirmed.

I am respectfully, Sir,
Yours Ob. Serv^t
H. Dearborn

Col. Thomas Hunt,

The Honble Secy.
of War's Letter to
Col. Hunt Oct. 13
1806

No 10
St. Louis March 17. th 1807

Dr Sir

I have the Honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 16. th inst, and beg leave to observe, that I know of no Law or regulation for the distribution of provisions to Indians at the Cantonment at Belle Fontaine, except under particular circumstances; I know of no orders for the giving of Provisions to Indians who may be disposed to trade with any of the factors of the U.S. If the factor thinks proper to do it, it ought to be on his own responsibility — If any Indians should visit the Cantonment who have business with the Government, they ought as soon as possible to be sent to this place, and in that case if they stand in need of a little assistance your own discretion is the only guide that can govern ~~in such cases~~ — as to the quantity —

Wm Browne

& Mowquott join on last Sabbath the 11th of
Sept. Hunt with your very obedient
& devoted servant
Joseph H. Brown.

Col: L. H. Barker

No 10

Louis Mercantile Library at the University of Missouri -

J. P. Davidson Letter
to Col. Henry J. March
1807

Cac^o Thos Hunt

Bill Fontaine

Harvey

Lawrence

St Louis May 15th 1807

Dear Sir

A few days ago a Deputation from several Bands of the Sicoux inhabiting the borders of the Missouri arrived at this place with M^r. Durion Sub Agent (appointed by Genl. Wilkinson) for the Missouri. On their way down they were fired on by a party of Indians supposed to be Ottos, which has alarmed them very much.

These Sicoux have requested protection, asked forgiveness for their past conduct, and wish to be on friendly terms with our Government. They also request to be sent in safety to their Country.

These bands of Sicoux are numerous, and from their situations and habits, it is in my opinion, important, that the Legislature accept of their solicitations, and be on the most friendly terms with them.

I shall furnish this Deputation with Medals and Flags &c. which they view as sacred emblems of attachment and protection. Also such other articles as may be necessary at this time to please and give them an exalted opinion of the paternal affection

expectations of our government to those Indians whose
their protection.

I have every reason to believe that the Secretary
of War had no expectation that those savage bands
would seek the protection of our government as early
as this, and ^{he} has made no arrangements for their return-
ing in safety to their Country.

I have no ~~right~~ ^{authority} to demand a Military protection,
but under the view you may have of this subject, if
you should think your self justifiable in furnish-
ing a small detachment for the protection of those
people (residing 1200 miles up the Mississippi) to their Country
in safety, it would dignify, and most probably
facilitate the end which the government was
to promote - "the perfect harmony ^{with} of all the Ind.
in that quarter."

The Boat which I have purchased for the
detachment for the Mandans, will require thirteen
men independent of a Sergeant.

With the highest respect I have
the honor to be your most
obedient servant

Wm. Clark. Secy.

Col. Bunt.

Genl. W. Clark
May 15, 1807

St Louis May 15 1807

Dear Sir

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A few days ago a Deputation from several Bands of the Sioux Inhabiting the borders of the Missouri arrived at this place with the Division Sub Agent (appointed by Genl. Wilkinson) for the Missouri. On their way down they were joined on by a party of Indians supposed to be Ottos, which has alarmed them very much. These Sioux have requested protection asked forgiveness for their past conduct and wish to be on friendly terms with our Government they also request to be sent in safety to their Country. These Bands of Sioux are numerous and from their situation and habits it is in my opinion important that the United States accept of their solicitations and be on the most friendly terms with them.

I shall furnish this deputation with Medals and Flags which they view as sacred emblems of Attachment and protection. Also such other Articles as may be necessary at this time to please and give them an entire opinion of the paternal affection of our Government. I have every reason to believe that the Secretary of War had no expectation that those Savage Bands would seek the protection of our Government as early as this and he has made no arrangements for their returning in safety to their Country.

I have no authority to demand a Military protection but under the view you may have of this subject if you should think yourself justifiable in furnishing a small Detachment for the protection of those people (residing) 1200 miles up the Missouri to their Country in safety it would dignify and most probably facilitate the ends which the Government wishes to promote the perfect harmony with all the Indians in that Quarter.

The Boats which I have purchased for the Detachment for the Mandans will require thirteen men independent of a Sergeant.

With the highest respect I have the honor to be your

most Obedt Servant

Wm Clark Sub Agent

Copy of William—
Clark's letter 15th
May 1807—

Copy
of the letter to
the War Office
the 23rd - May 1807

N^o 13

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St. Louis July 22^d 1887

My
Sir,

I have lately received informations, which were I disposed to place implicit reliance in them, I should consider of the most alarming nature. The Interpreters of the upper country, particularly Obannon of the Lac village, writes me, that there been formed a powerful association of all the Indians between the Lakes and the Mississippi for commencing a war on the frontiers of the United States. He further assures me that several designing Europeans from the Province of Upper Canada here disport themselves throughout the country, and are greatly instrumental in promoting these hostile dispositions. — The Ioways only we are told withhold themselves from this threatening combination. All the other nations