

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS

ST. LOUIS MERCANTILE LIBRARY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS

M-9

General Daniel Bissell Papers

HISTORY: Immediately after the Louisiana Territory was ceded by France to the United States, Gen. Daniel Bissell (1768-1833) was appointed Commandant of the U.S. Military Department of Missouri. He built, by government order, the cantonment at Bellefontaine, just north of St. Louis. As Commandant, Bissell officially welcomed the expedition of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to St. Louis. After his military career ended, Bissell retired to a large tract of land on the Bellefontaine Road near St. Louis.

SCOPE: The correspondence covers the years 1800-1820, during his years as Missouri Territory Commandant. Correspondents include Gen. James Wilkinson; Lieut. Zebulon M. Pike; Gov. William Henry Harrison; Henry Dearborn; William Clark; Frederick Bates; Gov. Meriwether Lewis; and Auguste Chouteau

HOLDINGS: 31 letters or documents in bound volume.

Copyright St. Louis Mercantile Library at the University of Missouri – St. Louis

The following documents Nos 1-to-31. inclusive are part of the Papers and Correspondence of the late General Daniel Bissel, 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 Sheaver, Jr. and were received in the year 1856.

Nos

- | | | | |
|----|--|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | Genl. James Wilkinson.
to Capn D. Bissell, New Orleans | Fort Adams. | 17 May 1800. |
| 2 | Genl. James Wilkinson
to Col. Thos Hunt. 1 st Inftry | Pittsburgh | 6. May 1805 |
| 3 | Copy of Letter to Secretary of War.
no Signature of This Secretary and Genl. Henry Dearborn | Dated Bellefontaine | 22 Jan 1806 |
| 4 | Zebulon M. Pike.
to Capn D. Bissell | Garrison St Louis | 13 May 1806 |
| 5 | Zebulon M. Pike
to Capn D. Bissell | Bellefontaine | 11 June 1806 |
| 6 | Zebulon M. Pike
to Capn D. Bissell. | St Louis | 15 June 1806 |
| 7 | Extract from a Letter of Z. M. Pike, (Lieut.)
dated 28.th June 1806.
Addressed to Daniel Bissell, Commanding Fort Massace. | | |
| 8 | Genl. Wm. H. Harrison
to Capn. Danl. Bissell, Commandant at Fort Massac. | Grouseland | 8 th Oct. 1806 |
| 9 | H Dearborn
to Col. Thomas Hunt. | War Department | 13 th Oct. 1806 |
| 10 | Joseph Browne
to Col. Thomas Hunt. Bellefontaine | St Louis | 17 March 1807 |
| 11 | Wm Clark, 2 nd Agt
to Col. Hunt | St Louis | 15 May 1807 |
| 12 | Copy of Wm Clark's (2 nd Agent) Letter to _____
dated St Louis 15 May 1807. | | |

- | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|
| 13 | Frederick Bates.
to Col. Thomas Hunt. | St Louis
Bellefontaine | 22 July 1807 |
| 14 | Frederick Bates
to Col Thomas Hunt. | St Louis
Bellefontaine | 1 st Oct. 1807 |
| 15 | Frederick Bates
to Col Thos Hunt, Comdq | St Louis
1 st Regiment | 22 Oct 1807 |
| 16 | Thomas Hunt.
to Frederick Bates Esq. | Bellefontaine
Act. Governor | 23 Oct 1807 |
| 17 | Copy of Gov. M. Lewis's orders to Nicholas Boilvin
dated St Louis 14 May 1808 | | |
| 18 | Gov. Meriwether Lewis.
to Col Thos Hunt. | St Louis
1 st Regt U.S. Inftry | 23 May 1808
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.
Morning Report. To Lt Col. D. Bissell, Commanding | | |
| 23 | Genl. Wm Henry Harrison
to Col D Bissell | Vincennes | 9 Aug 1811 |
| 24 | Thos T. Crittenden
to Colonel D. Bissell | Lexington | 9 Feby 1812 |
| 25 | General Orders to the Militia of the Territory of Missouri
dated St Louis 1 st March 1813. (Printed) signed
in Autograph by Frederick Bates, Acting Commander
in Chief _ and Will. C. Carr, Aid de Camp. | | |
| 26 | Frederick Bates
to Col. D. Bissell. | St Louis
2 nd U.S. Regiment. | 11 March 1813
Bellefontaine |
| 27 | D Bissell
to Major James Morrison.
on the Island below Portage de Sieux. | Portage <u>de Sieux</u> | 20 April 1813
Commanding U.S. Militia |

- 28 Benj. Howard. Florissant 23 April 1813
to Maj. Jas Morrison, Islander near Portage.
- 29 Fragment of General Orders 7 Dec 1813
signed by E.P.Pinkey Adgt Gnrl
addressed to
Col. Danel Bissell
Chateangay
- 30 Wm. Clark, Nimian Edwards, & Aug Chouteau,
Commissioners to treat with the Indians.
(dated) Portage des Sioux 11. July 1815
to. Genl Danl. Bissell. Bellefontaine
- 31 Andrew J. Donelson, Aid de Camp. (dated)
Division of the South. Headquarters.
Nashville 20 Dec 1820
to D Bissell Brig Genl.
Commdr 8th My Dept

Copyright St. Louis Mercantile Library at the University of Missouri – St. Louis

No 1

Fort Adams 17th May
1800 _____

Dear Sir

I have your two letters for the 3rd & 8th -Jany and note the contents.

If no other accommodation presents, which you if possible to charter the Julian, if she can be got at such price or will enable me by taking a partial Load, to reimburse myself within 4. 5. or 6. or 700 dollars- but no passenger is to be permitted on Board the vessel engaged for me, but of my election. – If a good, & a cargo, & better vessel for accommodation can be had, you may proceed to Charter or Engage [paper missing] – so as not to subject me to a cost of more than 800 or 1000 \$. but as much left as possible, - our [] will consist of twelve or fifteen, & I shall claim the privilege of using

[Page 2]

using names my Band, should also determine, but the point is at yet undetermined- you may enter with general stipulations and I will close the contract in form- mark will that I am to have the control of the Cabbin, and the direction of my Table, & of the Cook which I shall carry with me- the Capt & his mate, will dine Breakfast be with me free of cost, but for this one small deduction must be made in the price- I shall leave this place on the 22nd. I 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 accomdations in N.York, I shall be content to wait until the 20th. of the next month but no longer- I shall

[]

[Page 3]

lineage for about fifteen Trunks, besides our stores & provisions- If we sail in the Julian she is to carry nothing on Deck, indeed I wish you to make this stipulation in case [paper torn] and to limiting much to your discretion with the advice of my friend Mr Clark, whom please I consult- I will only observe, that I had much rather charter a vessel Cabbin de: de: because I can then lend her to my friend-

With regard from

Dear Sir

James Wilkinson

Capt Stute

&

Sirian

&

Lt. Temple will

be down to go to

the Atlantic- could

a roomy vessel be

engaged. they might

go with me, otherwise
they cannot.

Outside of letter

Captn Bissell
2nd Regt. N.L.
Mr. Chaboul
New Orleans

[Page 1]

No 2

Pittsburgh May 6th 05

Dear Sir,

I arrived the day before yesterday, at this place, where I met Lt. Pinckney, who surprized me by the information that on the 14th Ultimo you had received orders for your own movement, or that of Capt. Richmond- as those orders had been transmited 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. Pinckneys 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

[Page 2]

and Lewis's Company, and the men of McClarys expecting his music of Non Commdq officers/sergeants 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. McClary his music, subatterns [page missing] [pro]ceed 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 Co. 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 difficulty and delay, and your non attendance

Season

[Page 3]

Seasonably 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, [paper missing] 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

Your Obdt. Servt.

James Wilkinson

Col. T. Hunt

1st Infy.

No 3

Bell Fontain Jany 22. 1806

Myself and Mr Connor the agent for Mr Smith examined the voucher for September 1805 and found them to agree and I signed the abstracts on this day. But Mr Connor putting the voucher in his pocket I without having the voucher in my possession signed the abstract that the commander might get his money that he has been laid out by Mr Cendrick of his agent Mr Connor

[Outside of letter]

Colo Armstrong to Secretary
at War

No. 1

Copy of a letter to the Secretary
Of War dated Jany. 11th. 1803-
Relative to Col. Hamtramels
And Col Hunt Commands

No 4

Dr Sir

Garrison St Louis. May 13, 1806

I arrived here on the 30 Ulto. 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 ariseing from my voyage but it might be premature to enter with the detail at present; the vouchers forwarded; and yet to forward to Governnt. will at least embrace two quire of paper.

I am much oblided to you for the pains you took relative to the letter addressed to Gove. Harrison by S. Harrison- I shall address a letter to the former, relative to his strictures on that letter; which may insince him to think, that he wanted foundation for his assertion: relative to my makeing use of the Arms of the United States de de.

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

[Page 2]

Your letter containing my note, and others to W. Nair through a mistake, was carried along with me on my voyage; I would now enclose it, but as Feinteur makeing some small payment to W. Nair on that account as soon as I receive pay; I will retain it until then, when should I not have receive previous orders to the contrary from you I will open the letter take his receipt for the sum paid on the note & then enclose it with the others in a letter; & forward by some safe conveyance.

Having received of my men aboute, or nearly forty Dollars for Kingsly I will pay the sum to W. Nair & endorse it on his note & forward that likewise-

You probably Heard at the Nomination of Col. Hammond for the appointment of Lieut. Col. of the 2nd Rev. of Infantry- he was rejected in the Senate 19 to 12. but what would my father & all old, and indeed [] say young Officers; have said in care his Nomination had succeeded.? What is not strikeing at the very root of ambition; & stifeling in the bud every noble sentiment? For who is the poor miserable wretch _ who would be so despicable; as to retain his commission area daily to see citizens called

[Page 3]

in to five vacancies over his head Maj. B.- 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.

Mrs. Pike joins me in Respects for your Lady.

Adieu.
Zebulon M. Pike

NB. Lewis 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- Its being to much filled with Business- Lay nothing relative to Col. H. as affair.

ZP

Capt. Daniel Bissell

[Outside of letter]

Z. Pikes

Copyright St. Louis Mercantile Library at the University of Missouri – St. Louis

No 5

Bell Foutain. 11 June 1806.

Dr. Sir

Yours of the 28th June & 2^o July was handed me by W. Nughz and shall be noticed in rotation, as in the first you are more than commonly complementary, 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 Detachment with myself belonged to Russell- this information came from the Maj. of our Regt. And the Aid De Camp to the Commander 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 gauling to my feelings at that time; then it can be to yours now. Lt. James Wilkinson (who accompanies me) had two favorite men in Lockwood Company whose times were nearly oute and after much

[Page 2]

persuasion I agreed to an exchange, the two men entering into engagements that in case they were ordered on command they would serve oute the tour of Duty as Soldiers- but they demanded their Discharges and obtained them- then it is true were transfers to Russell B___ll as we then conceived the whole Detachment to be his_ and__ Lt. Wilkinson wrote the order (by permission of his Lathie) and made it a transfer from R.B. & to him._ without the least ideas 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 company 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 Darn Rascals that you could keep no Ducks or fowls for them, yet I think them very clever fellows.

But I yesterday reduced Bradley, and am uncertain whether he will again be promoted; but beg you to leave

[Page 3]

a vacancy for one Serg. and two corps, 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) then 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 ~~it~~ the lot (unless you can get better terms) I shall be satisfied:- you have included 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 courier to the particular care of W. Nair and inclose those notes to. I retain them until I settle my money matters in this country- as I am in some hopes to have some [].

I am yours Sincerely
Zebulon M. Pike

Cap D Bissell

No 6
Dr. Sir

St. Louis. 15 June 1806

When I last wrote to you I did not know that the Detach meet under my command belonged to you company; but within a day or two since I learnt that piece of information. I have therefore enclosed you a muster Roll of the Detachment & have marked an R. opposite to those, who are mustered as [] Bissells- You will see on this Role the Alterations which have taken place- and can note them accordingly- I am about going on another long and Ardrous command and shall take the same Detachment- You would probably be serveing your company if you had them transferd to your Brothers- I acknowledge I am interested in the Idea, as it would then be possible I would get the m if promoted- but do not think that I ever have myself requested this thing to the Genl- and although they are a Darn'd set of rascals yet in the woods they are staunch fellows and very profile for such expeditions as I am engaged in- You have an account inclosed of the amount

[Page 2]

of clothing received by each man- Which you were please to charge them- I have no descriptive list of Houte, Carter & Facheron 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 querries- it will confer a singular favour- What is your oppinion and information on the subject of the vacancy of Lt. Col- Maj- Capn & as in respects future promotions?- How stands the present Halwin-n- and who will be the candidates, at the next Presidential election? What prospect as to war with Spain- a peace with Great Britain and France?- Where is your Brother and how employed? What is our Noble Capt. Whipple doing?

Pardon me for imposeing the above task- but as you can say to me in a few words- I Should be happy to have your oppinion-

Adieu
Zebulon M. Pike

Capn D Bissell

[Page 3]

Lt Pike of
15th June 1806

[Outside of letter]
Capt. Daniel Bissell

No 7

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

I have observed by a Letter and Deposition of Capt. Daniel Bissell, that Mr. L. 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 in his absence.

This circumstance is fully explained by Capt. Daniel Bissell's Deposition, and I should never have conceived his 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, who I had always been induced (as well from duty as inclination) to respect and esteem. Your Note Says "He ought to have looked to Parkenson for address, and [unreadable] "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 others, wherein any passage of L. 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 pourequrist of Capn Bissell's character; but I presume that no person can for one minute doubt his having acted with no unpropriety in this affair; and, that the insinuations of Mr. L. Harrison was as unfounded & groundless

[Page 2]

as many others raised by the Scoundrels who reside in this 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, etc. pressing his satisfaction of the foregoing explanation.

[outside of letter]

Lt. Pikes,
of
11th June 1806 must th 11th July

[upside down]

Daniel Bissell Capt.
Command }
Fort Massac

Rec'd 18th July 1806

No 8

Grouseland 8th. Oct. 1806.

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 Colo. Vigo did but as that Gentleman not visit your post as he intended when he set out from this place the letter was returned to me & I intended to have written by Mr Greater 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 & invoiced every difficulty with regard to the affairs of T. Harrison. indeed I never had an idea that Lt. Pike for whom I have a great esteem & friendship had done anything more in that affair than what would have been considered if subjected to the most severe scrutiny as an act of imprudence. Such as I myself have committed which in a Military Command & such as all men of ardent minds are likely to commit. I have appointed

Mr.

[Page 2]

Mr. Greater a Magistrate & I am very Glad to find from our mutual friend Whittock 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 Congressional Manners & Laws- I think that a good understanding between you may be production of mutual advantage & time to preserve tranquility in the letters- main adjacent to your post-

With much Respect & Esteem
I am Dr Sir
Your Humble Servant
William H. Harrison

Capn D. Bissell

[Outside of letter]

Captain Daniel Bissell

Commandant
at
Fort Massac

Rec'd by
Lt. Owens

No 9

War Department
October. 13th. 1806

Sir,

Your letters of the 15th. and 16th. inst the former covering a Return of Ordnance and Mily Stores at Belle Fontaine, have been duly reserved. The appointment of Lieut. Joseph Shimbball as Assst. Mily Agent in the room of Mr. Carson is confirmed.

I am respectfully, Sir,
Your Ob. Servt.
H. Dearborn

Col. Thomas Hunt

[Outside of letter]

Secrety. of War Letter
[] Mr.
Kimball

The Humble Secry.
of War letter to
Col. Hunt Oct. 13
1806-

No 10

St Louis March 17th. 1807

Dr Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 16th 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 Bellfontaine. 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 factor 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 a case~~ as to the quantity- Mrs. Browne

[Page 2]

and Mrs. Wescott join in best Respects to Mr & Mrs. Hunt with your very obedient
& most noble servant
Joseph Browne

Col. Thos. Hunt

[Page 3]

J. Browne's letter
to Col. Hunt 17th March
1807-

[Outside of letter]

Col. Thos Hunt

Belle fontaine

[] favor of
Lieut. Kemble

No 11

St Louis May 15th, 1807

Dear Sir

A few days ago a Deputation from Several Bands of the Sieoux inhabiting the borders of the Missouri arrived at this place with Wm. Durion fed. agent (appointed by Genl. Wilkinson) for the Missouri. On their way down they were fired on by a party of Indians supposed to be Ottoes; which has alarmed them very much.

Those Sieoux have requested protection, asked forgiveness for their passed conduct and wish to be on friendly terms with our Government. They also request to be Sent in Safty to their Country.

These band of Sieoux are noumerous, and from their Situations and habits, it is in my oppinion, important, that the U.States accept of their Solicitations, and be on the most friendly terms with them.

I shall furnish this Deputation with medals and Flags on 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 oppinion of the paternal

[Page 2]

effection of our government to those India ns 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 [inserted above] has made no arrangements for their returning in Safty to their Country.

I have no ~~rights~~ authority [inserted above] to demand a Military protection, but under the view you may have of this subject if you should think your self justifiable in furnishing a small detachment for the protection of those people (residing 1000 miles up the Missouri) to their country in Safty; it would dignify, and most probably facilitate the end which the government wish[paper torn] to promote "the perfect harmony of-with [inserted above] all the Indians in that quarter."

The Boat which I have purchased for the Detachment for the Mandans, will require thirteen men independent of a Linguard. ~~which~~

With the highest respect I have
the honor to be your most
obed Servant
William Clark. Ind. Agent

Col. Hunt

[Written sideways to the right of the above text]

Gen W. Clark

May 15 1807

No 12

St Louis May 15 1807

Dear Sir

A few days ago a Deputation from Several Bands of the Sieaux In Habiting the border of the Missouri arrived at this place with Mr. Durion Sub Agent (appointed by Genl. Wilkinson) for the Missouri. On their way down they down they were fired on by a party of Indians Supposed to be Ottoes, which has alarmed them very much Those Sieux 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 Sieoux are numerous and from their Literation and habits it is in my oppinion importent that the UStates 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 raised emblems of Attachment and protection. Also such other Articles as may be necessary at this time to Jolease and give them an entitled oppinion of the paternal effection 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 signify 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 Obed. Servant

William Clark Indian Agent

[Outside of letter]

Copy of William
Clark's letter 15th
May 1807

[Upside down]

Take a copy
of this letter to
the War Officer
the 23 of May 1807.

No 13

Saint Louis July 22nd. 1807

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 Oberrnon of the Lac village, writes me, that there been formed a powerful association of all the Indians between the Lakes and the Missouri for commencing a war on the frontiers of the United States. He farther assures me that several [] Euripenes from the province of Upper Canada have dispersed themselves throughout the country, and are greatly instrumental in promoting there hostile dispositions. – The Ioways only we are told withhold themselves from this threatening corroboration. All the other nations

[Page 2]

are united for the purpose of attack, as soon as their corn is sufficiently ripe, to supply their better provisions- It is said in the month of September.-

Now altho' I go not, by any means [] there numeours to their full extent [inserted above] I have though its appropriate to send confidential persons into the country in order to ascertain their truth or falsehood- and in the mean time shall prepare the militia to repel the attack, should it (contrary to my expectations) be made.-

Major Hempstead, the aid of the court in chief of the territorial militia, wants [] for the purpose of requesting transport to their place, of the arms brought by Captain Bissell, and addressed to the governor. There boxes would have been taken out, as Capt. B. passed Lorris, had I not been fearful of increasing those apprehensions, already entertained by the People

[Page 3]

on account of the small pox.- If you have men and a Boat which can be spared, you would very much oblige me by ordering this transport.- I know that in making this request I tresspass too for on your courtesy, and if inconvenient must supply other conveyance.

I do not know in what state there army at present are. If they have been exposed to each during their passage they probably are not now in preparations for war.- You have few are resources I presume, or you would be exceedingly troubled with my solicitations; but as your garrison is not very abundantly supplied with officers, I must endeavor to have this business done at Saint Louis.-

I have the honor to be

Dear Colonel, very respectfully
Your most obed. Servant
Frederick Bates

[Outside of letter]

Colonel Thomas Hunt
Camp
Major Haupstead } Belle Fontaine

No 14

St Louis 1 Oct 1807

Sir

I received a few days ago, your letter in which you express a readiness to surrender to our criminal courts, the deranged soldier who lately took the life of one of the Guard.- As the affair came with greater propriety under the judicial, than the executive cognizance, I enclosed your letter to Major Lucas, who will experience, advise with you on the subject.-

I have the honor to be
very respectfully, Sir,
Your most obedt. Servant
Frederick Bates

Col. Thomas Hunt
Comdq- Belle Fontaine

[Outside of letter]

Thomas Hunt Esquire
Colonel Comdq 1st Reg.
Belle Fontaine

No 15

Saint Louis Oct 22 1807

Sir

It has been thought desirable to make two equip[] of [] goods for the purpose of trade;- the one at River Le Morri, the other at Praise ou Ohien.- Since the exclusion of the British traders, it appears to me, to be incumbent on us, to make the supplier, both as a [] of policy and justice.

W. Miller concurs in the arrangement,- will furnish the [] from the faction, and his assistant W. Sibley it is expected, will manage one of the outfits- W. Boilvier, the other-

Will it be convenient to lend us your aid in this business? Will my receipt be a good [] for provisions?- and will it be in good favor to detach his soldiers, to protect there establishments?-

I shall feel myself obliged

[Page2]

to you, for information on the subjects of the bearer hereof-

He takes twice a camp and if they can be furnished on my order, will bring down three Barrels of Flour, or the Biscuits can be more conveniently baked here than at camp.- A regular return shall be given.

I have the honor to be
very respectfully, Sir
your most obed. Servant
Frederick Bates

Col. Thos. Hunt
Comdq. 1st Regiment
Bates letter to Col.
Hunt Oct 22 1807

[Outside of letter]

Colonel Thomas Hunt
Comdq 1st Regiment

Belle Fontaine

The Bearer will deliver half doz. Barrels
to Mr. Hunt, with my compliments

FB & TSS

No 16

Belle Fontaine Oct 23rd 1807

Sir

I had the honor of receiving your letter of the 22nd July Mrs Hunt thanks you for your Politeness for your Expeditions up the Rivers I presume have been confidence by you and those that know better about these things than I do. and as it is not any Province to have anything to do with the Indians its out of my Power, to say any thing about the Propriety of the Expeditions that those will judge and advise thats one more acquainted. It appears to me that the want of Traders makes them uneasy, and that such a Branch may be of good [], until the Genl. Government gives them orders upon the Briefings. I will give you every aid in my Power. Provisions you can certainly have upon your Return as to the Soldiers, I have the last Mail wrote the secretary of war that I had contrary to Orders Detached a Number of Men on a Command

[Page 2]

Command up the Missouri without orders and as my own Resque, that I had never need an answer written it meet with his approtation or not, and that I expected that there would be similar applications and that as I had not need any information of approtation or disapprotation that I did not think myself at Liberty upon Military Principles to detach anyone of my Command ~~with~~-without [inserted above] Orders from the President of the United States, or Secretary of war which is the same thing. Its with reluctance that I am obliged to say that I cannot consent to shame a Man. From this containment to go on any Expeditions of the kind [inserted above] and I believe my Principles as a Military Man in trust to be right.- I send you three Barrels of Flower, and any other article that you may want in the Provisions way ~~you can have at this place~~

I am yours respectfully
Thos. Hunt

Frederick Bates Esp.
Act. governor

No 17

St. Louis May 16th 1808-

Sir

The general policy of our Government in relation to the Indian tribes has been so fully impressed on your mind by the conversations which you have had with the Secretary at war with General Clark and myself, as well as by written instructions from the Secretary, that I deem it unnecessary at this moment to dictate on that subject, one point however seems to claim our attention as experience proven its falacy. I allude to the practice of expending the Money of the UStates, to keep the Indian tribes at peace with each other. This practice not being founded in right nor and in justice as it respects the UStates, nor in sound policy as it respects the Indians, must of Course be Abandoned so soon as temperary expediency with permit, for I hold it A Consequence inevitable, that should we Continue to play the aggressors for their forbearance to aggress, and the Injured to abstain from retaliation, we at once encourage war amongst the tribes and tax ourselves with the expenditure of Considerable sums, to defeat one of the primery objects of our present philanthropic administration, in relation to those unfortunate people which is to induce all those tribes in amity with the UStates, and residing in our limits, to remain in peace with each other, you will therefore be guarded in future with respect to expenditures under this head, as we cannot with complinency think of praying for disobedience to our will, I do not however positively Interdict you, from making such expenditures in extreem cases, and where there my be some important object to be obtained thereby, but they must always be made with that sound discretion which I feel Confident you possess- You will no doubt perceive that this Custom of Covering the dead (as it is called) or giving something to the injured nation originated in the defenseless state of the traders, who resided amongst the Indians formerly, and the protext which such an accurance gave the Indians for plundering them, the Indians flattered the traders by assuring them that they looked up to them for protection, the traders received their adulations and promised them that protection which they could not give, of course, when a nation was attacked and killed by their neighbors, the Indian Nation claimed of their resident traders a breach of contract, and compeled them to make what they thought proper to Call restitution, for the injury they had received, but as the Government of the UStates have thought proper, now to extend their protection as well

[Page 2]

to the Indians as the traders, they must be held obedient to its will, or suffer the penalties which they may think proper to inflict, and of course the necessity for the Continuance of this practice ceases, and ought for many reasons to become obsolete, in order to break down these customs which I do conceive constitute a formidable Barrier to our views, You will urge the Indians by every argument you can suggest, to live in peace with with their Neighbours, and assure such as will not conform to our wishes in this respect, that no traders can be permitted to bring them Merchandise, and consequently they will be thus deprived of the means either of making war or defending themselves from the

retaliation of others whom they may have Injured. tell them that no prisoners will hereafter be brought by the United States from any Indian Nation, and that if they wish to profit by our protection they must take our advice.-----

The Savages in this quarter influenced by their own local policy are so frequently removing their residence from place to place, that it appears to me inexpedient to Align you any particular bounds in which to act, I have therefore thought it better to define your powers, point out your duties and name the nations among who particularly those powers and duties are to be exercised and discharged, as such you will consider the Socs taxes and Iaways- for your general guide and relation to those Nations, you will [ink smudged] pursue the instructions which you have previously received from the secretary of war— Your present mission to the Socs and Foxes has two principal objects in view, the first is to prevail on those nations to deliver us the murderer who killed on of our Citizens at Portage de Soo in the month of April 1807 who has been repeatedly demanded and not yet surrendered to justice, the second is to induce them to settle in an Amicable Manner the existing differences between themselves and the Sooz and Iaways in consequence of their deprivations on those nations the manner in which both these points are to be settled is fully pointed out to them in my speach to which you are the Bearer, if they comply all is well bring the murderer to this place in order that he may be delived up to the Civil Authority to be dealt with according to laws and make the necessary arrangements for the assemblage of the Chiefs of the Contending Nations, in order to restore harmony among them, as I have verbally instructed you—Should the Sacs and Foxes on the Contrary refuse

[Page 3]

to Comply with our wishes on either or both of these of those subjects You will then order by the power with which you are hereby vested, all the trade among them of whatever denomination to depart forth with from the vilages and hunting Camps of those Nations, and bring with you to this place all the portable property belonging to the UStates, at their aggrecultureal establishment, the merchandise belonging to the trading establishment, the merchandise belonging to the trading establishment of Belle Fontaine, together with the Blacksmith and his tools and all other persons and property in the employment of or belonging to the UStates, that you may find at or near the said Nations-

Should the Socs and Foxes refuse to deliver the murderer themselves and at the same time assure you that they will not protect him or that you are at liberty to take him, you will in such case seize the Murderer and if he attempts to escape put him to death, but should you apprehend any danger to yourself or party from such a procedure or that the Indians are not sincere in their declarations of not defending him, you will then pursue the Course first pointed out, and return as soon as possible, to this place and give me an account of your Transactions-----

Lieut Louimier with a boat and twenty five men is ordered to Convey you to such places as the Nature of the service on which you are dispatched may require, also to give

you every assistance in his power, to enable you to fulfill the object of your present Mission

I wish you a pleasant voyage & safe Return
accept the assurance of my Confidence and Respect

Very Obt Servt
Meriwether Lewis

[Outside of letter]

Govenor Lewis'
orders to Bolvir

No 18

St. Louis May 23rd. 1808.

Sir.

Our present doubtful standing with the Sauc & Fox indians renders it indispensable that I should immediately dispatch W. Nicholas Bolivir to them with a communication on the part of our government. our relations also with Great Britain at this moment further urges the expediency of our knowing positively the dispositions of the indians in our neighbourhood with respect to us, in order that such measures may be timely taken as will insure the safety of our frontier. to insure a favourable reception to our messenger W. Boilvir and to give the speech it's best affect I have thought it advisable that he should be accompanied by a military escort. the murderer of one of our citizens at Portage de Soo will be demanded of them, if he is delivered it will be necessary that he should be conveyed to this place in order that he may be delivered to the civil authority. Should the murderer not be delivered, I have given

orders

[Page 2]

orders to W. Boilvir to bring with him from those nations all public property of every discription; this cannot be effected but by the accommodation of a large boat and a number of hands; such an equipment would cost the government a considerable sum if undertaken by private individuals and could not be expected even then to have so good an effect as if executed by the regular troops under your command. I have therefore thought proper to call on you for a detachment of one subaltern, one Sergt. and twentyfive privates, and a barge equiped, with provisions for 28 persons for fifty days. it is my wish that the officer dispatched on this service may be ordered to convey W. Boilvir to such places as the nature of the service on which he is directed may require, and also to render him every assistance in his power to enable him to fulfill the objects of his mission.-

I am with due consideration and respect
Your friend & Obt. Servt.
Meriwether Lewis

Colo. Thomas Hunt
Commdq the 1st U'S. Regt. Infty.

[Outside of letter]

Col. Thomas Hnt
Commandq of the 1st U'S. Regt. of Infantry.
W. Bolivir Bell Fontain

No 19

St. Louis May 26th 1808.

Sir.

By a letter which I yesterday received from Genl. William Clark, under date the 30th. of April, I am induced to believe that he will arrive about this time at the mouth of the Ohio.- he brings on with him the running gear of a horse mill, blacksmith's tools, together with a number of other articles with which he is charged by the government for the indian Department, equal as he states to the capacity of a large batteaux or barge. knowing that you have not a barge of this discription which is not otherwise engaged, I have employed one for the purpose, and would therefore thank you to send me a trusty Sergt. and ten men to be dispatched on this service.- I have also employed another barge for the accommodation of the Genl, ~~and~~ his family and baggage, and have employed a French Patroon and six hands; but as the barge is too large to be managed with ease by that number

and

[Page 2]

and believing that Ensign Pryor and his party would feel a pleasure is assisting the Genl. up the river I must also beg the favour of you to send them soon. I you will permit me, on their arrival here, I will make the necessary arrangements with respect to this command.- Should you not have it in your power to comply with my request on this occasion, it is necessary that I should be immediately informed, in order that some other steps may be taken, as the Genl. is probably at this moment waiting the arrival of their boats at the entrance of the Ohio. The Genl. brings with him two of his nieces, who will no doubt form a valuable accuisition to our female society.- my compliment to the ladies of belle Fontain, particularly my much respected friend Mrs. Hunt—I rejoice to here that your health is better.

Your friend & Obt. Servt.
Meriwether Lewis

Col. Thomas Hunt
Commqd 1st U.S. Regt. Infty.

[Outside of letter]

Gov. Lewis's letter
to Col. Hunt 26th
May 1808-

Col. Thomas Hunt
Commdq. 1st U'S. Regt. Infty

W. Wilkinson } Belle Fontain

No 20

St. Louis July 10th. 1808.

Sir.

The Sauc and Iaway murderers have arrived, and are committed for trial. I do not consider the prison, under existing circumstances, sufficiently secure without the aid of a guard, and have therefore thought it expedient to call on you for a Sergt. Corpl. and twelve men for that purpose. it is my wish that they should be stationed here until the trial of these prisoners is over, or their execution takes place, as ~~the~~ either event [inserted above] may happen. none but sober discrete men can be expected to answer the purpose for which this guard is intended; and should you have no Sergt. on whom you can rely with confidence for the faithful performance of this duty, I must further request that a Subattern officer should be sent to take charge of the guard. Lieut. Larrimier sends
this

[Page 2]

this communication by a solder, and waits your answer; he has for the present at my request furnished the necessary guard; but not having your orders, has very properly in my opinion, expressed a difficulty in remaining here since the service on which he was ordered has been completed.-

Will you be so good as to order the Millitary Agent to have four pair of small [inserted above] hand cuffs, and the same number of leg shackles with bolts, prepared as soon as possible and sent to me.-

Your sincere friend &
Obdt. Servt.
Meriwether Lewis

Col. Thomas Hunt.
Commq. 1st. U'S. Regt. Inftry.

[Outside of letter]

Col. Thomas Hunt.
Commq. 1st U'S. Regt. Inftry.
Jn. Soldier} Bell Fontain

[upside down]

For a Guard to protect
the person at St. Louis
July 10th 1808

No 21

St. Louis August 8th. 1808

Sir.

The season is fast advancing, and it appears to me, that if the Party destined to form the establishment at the rapid Demain, wait the return of the boats which convey Capt. Clemson and company to the Fire Prarie, that the factory on the Mississippi will not be established as early as the Secretary at War contemplated, or as much so as the public interests evedently require. I have therefore thought it expedient to make you this written communication on the subject, and do earnestly request that the whole of the late Capt. Bissel's company be dispatched as that service as soon as boats and provisions can be provided for their accommodation. I have spoken to the Military Agent, who has informed me that a sufficient number of boats can be procured for this purpose in the course of a few days. By having the company

entire

[Page 2]

entire, the works at the Rapid Demain will be the sooner completed, and should the Secretary at War not approve the plan I have suggested to him of sending a part of that company to the entrance of the Disconsing with a branch of that factory, they can readily return to Belle Fontain after the works for their accommodations at the the rapids are established.- Should the Secretary eventually approve the scheme suggested, and the company be not dispatched until the return of Capt. Clemson's boats, or the receipt of his further orders on this subject, the command destined to the Disconsing will not have time to secure themselves from the approaching winter, and consequently that very interesting part of the proposed scheme must fail for the present season, and our frontier in the interem remain subject to the unfriendly machinations of the British traders among the Indians.- I advise also that the establishment on the Mississippi should be made on the S. West side above a small crek which discharges itself into that river at the ~~head of the~~ or near the

[Page 3]

commencement of the rapid Demain where I have in a late council with the Chiefs of the Saucs and Foxes obtained a grant of three miles square for that purpose.- Mr. Boilvir will accompany the Command and the Factor as early as they are in readiness to move he will take with him the annuity due the Saucs and Foxes for the present year, which I have many substantial reasons for not delivering at any other point but at the Repis and then in the presence of a military corps. This annuity ought to be paid them by the 1st of October; but previously to the delivery, it is necessary to convene the Iaways & Soos which will necessarily require some time.-

I am sorry to learn your indisposition, I hope it will be but of short duration, but should its continuance unfortunately prevent your ascending the Mississippi with this command as the Secretary has requested I ~~hope~~-trust that the commanding officer of the company aided by this instructions & [inserted above] orders which you can give him, will be enabled

to

[Page 4]

to perform the duties which this service may require.

I am with sincere friendship and esteem
Your Obt. Servt.

Meriwether Lewis

Col. Thomas Hunt.
Commq. 1st. U'S. Regt. Inftry.

N.B. If I can possibly leave St. Louis I will ride up to camp tomorrow or the next day.
M.L.

No 22

[Outside (Front) of Report]

Daily Duty

<u>Capn Houses Compy.</u>	1 corporal.
	3 privates getting Timber
	1 “ Gardeners for the company
	3 “ Taylors for the company
	2 “ Teamsters
	1 “ Cutting weeds
	1 “ Coopering for the public
	3 “ Stone masons
	2 “ attend coalpits
	1 “ practising the pipe
<u>Total</u> 18	

<u>Capn Owens Compy.</u>	2 corporals
	9 privates cutting Timber
	1 “ “ blacksmits
	1 “ “ Mason
	2 “ “ Tailors for the company
	1 “ “ Wheelwrights
	1 “ “ attending the hospital
<u>Total</u> 17	

The Morning Report is laid out horizontally across a sheet of paper 13'' x 8''.

The top of the Report reads: Morning Report of a Detachment of United States Troops commd. by Lieut. Colonel Daniel Bissell Stationed at Containment Belle Fontaine

The first three columns contain the headings laid at a 90° placement. The first heading reads Station and Date. Underneath the heading of Station and Date, there is a listing that reads Belle Fontaine June 26 1810. The second column reads Regiments or Corps. Underneath the heading is the listing Field & Staff Artillerist US. Inftry. The third column reads Companies or Detachments. Underneath the heading are three lines, the first one is blank, the second one lists Capn. House and the third line reads " Owens.

The fourth column contains the heading, Present for Duty, placed horizontally, with three subheadings placed horizontally underneath. Each subheading has a list of soldier's ranks listed individually at a 90° placement. Underneath these ranks is a numerical tally of the soldiers present, with the number of soldiers from each company or detachment placed on three lines which correspond to the listings underneath the heading of Companies or Detachments depending on which company the soldier belongs too. In spaces that there are no numbers, there is a . There is a horizontal row at the bottom of the Morning Report that displays the total number of soldiers in each column.

The first subheading is labeled Field & Staff and has two ranks at a 90° placement with the first being Lt. Colonels and the second, Sergt. Majors. There is a number 1 placed on the first line underneath the rank of Lt. Colonel, and a 1 placed on the first line underneath the rank of Sergt. Majors. The totals in this subheading are 1 and 1.

The second subheading is labeled Commiss^o Officers. There are four ranks placed at a 90° placement underneath the subheading. The first rank is Captains and there is a 1 placed on Capn. Owens' line. The second rank is 1 Lieut. and there is a 1 placed on Capn. Owens' line. The third rank is 2 Lieut. and there is a 1 placed on Capn. House's line. The fourth rank is Ensigns and there are no marks underneath this heading. The totals in this subheading are 1, 1, 1, and .

The third subheading is labeled n.c. officers mus^o & privates. There are five ranks placed at a 90° placement followed by a total column referring to the total in each company placed underneath the subheading. The first rank is Sergeants Majors and there is a 1 placed on the top line. The second rank is Sergeants and there is a 2 placed on Capn. House's line and a 3 on Capn. Owens' line. The third rank is Corporals and there is a 2 listed on Capn. House's line and a 2 listed on Capn. Owens' line. The fourth rank is Musicians and there is a 3 listed on Capn. House's line and a 4 listed on Capn. Owens' line. The fifth rank is privates and there is a 21 listed on Capn. House's line and a 29 on Capn. Owens'. The Total Column has 28 listed in Capn. House's line and 30 in Capn. Owens'. The totals across the bottom row read 1 under the rank of Sergeant Majors, 5 under the rank of Sergeants, 4 under the rank of Corporals, 7 under the rank of Musicians, 50 under the rank of privates, and 66 under the column entitled total.

The fifth column contains the heading Present Sick placed horizontally and contains two subheadings placed horizontally underneath. Each subheading has a list of soldier's ranks listed individually at a 90° placement. Underneath these ranks is a numerical tally of the soldiers present, with the number of soldiers from each company or detachment placed on three lines which correspond to the listings underneath the heading of Companies or Detachments depending on which company the soldier belongs too. There is a horizontal row at the bottom of the Morning Report that displays the total of soldiers in each column.

The first subheading is labeled Commy Officers. There are two ranks placed at a 90° placement underneath the subheading. The first rank is Captains and there are no tally marks placed underneath this rank. The second rank is Ensigns and there is a 1 placed on Capn Owens' line. The totals across the bottom row correlating to this subheading read .,1.

The second subheading is labeled n.c. officers & privates. There are four ranks placed at a 90° placement underneath the subheading. The first rank is Sergeants and there is a 1 marked on Capn House's line and a 1 marked on Capn. Owens' line. The second rank is Corporals and there are no tally marks underneath this rank. The third rank is Musicians and there are no tally marks underneath this rank. The fourth rank is privates and there is a 3 marked on Capn House's line and a 6 marked on Capn Owens' line. The totals across the bottom row correlating to this subheading read 2, ., ., 9.

The sixth column contains the heading Daily Duty placed horizontally and contains one subheading placed horizontally underneath. Each subheading has a list of soldier's ranks listed individually at a 90° placement. Underneath these ranks is a numerical tally of the soldiers present, with the number of soldiers from each company or detachment placed on three lines which correspond to the listings underneath the heading of Companies or Detachments depending on which company the soldier belongs too. There is a horizontal row at the bottom of the Morning Report that displays the total of soldiers in each column.

The subheading is labeled n.c. officers & privates. There are four ranks placed at a 90° placement underneath the subheading. The first rank is Sergeants and there no tally marks underneath this rank. The second rank is Corporals and there is a 1 marked on Capn House's line and a 2 marked on Capn Owens' line. The third rank is Artificen and there are no tally marks underneath this rank. The fourth rank is privates and there is a 17 marked on Capn House's line and a 15 marked on Capn Owens' line. The totals across the bottom row correlating to this subheading read ., 3, ., 32.

The seventh column consists of three subheadings placed at a 90° placement. Each subheading has a numerical tally of the soldiers present, with the number of soldiers from each company or detachment placed on three lines which correspond to the listings underneath the heading of Companies or Detachments depending on which company the soldier belongs too. There is a horizontal row at the bottom of the Morning Report that displays the total of soldiers in each column.

The first subheading is labeled unfit for Service. There is a 4 marked on Capn House's line. The second subheading is labeled in confinement. There is a 2 marked on Capn House's line and a 2 marked on Capn Owens' line. The third subheading is labeled Officers Quarters. There is 1 marked on Capn House's line and a 4 marked on Capn Owens' line. The totals across the bottom row correlating to this subheading read 4, 4, 5.

The eighth column consists of one subheading placed at 90° placement. There is a numerical tally of the soldiers present, with the number of soldiers from each company or detachment placed on three lines which correspond to the listings underneath the heading of Companies or Detachments depending on which company the soldier belongs too. There is a horizontal row at the bottom of the Morning Report that displays the total of soldiers in each column.

The subheading is labeled Total. n.c. offc. [] & privates foresent. There is a 1 marked on the top line. Capn House's line is marked with the number 57. Capn Owens' line is marked with the number 68. The total for this column is 126.

The ninth column contains the heading Absent & on command placed horizontally and contains two subheadings placed horizontally underneath. Each subheading has a list of soldier's ranks listed individually at a 90° placement. Underneath these ranks is a numerical tally of the soldiers present, with the number of soldiers from each company or detachment placed on three lines which correspond to the listings underneath the heading of Companies or Detachments depending on which company the soldier belongs too. There is a horizontal row at the bottom of the Morning Report that displays the total of soldiers in each column.

The first subheading is labeled Commanding Officers. There are four ranks placed at a 90° placement underneath the subheading. The first rank is Captains and there is a 1 marked on Capn House's line. The second rank is 1st Lieuts. and there are no tally marks underneath this rank. The third rank is 2nd Lieuts. and there are no tally marks underneath this rank. The fourth rank is Ensigns and there are no tally marks underneath this rank. The totals across the bottom row correlating to this subheading read 1, ·, ·, ·.

The second subheading is labeled n.c. officers & privates. There are four ranks placed at a 90° placement underneath the subheading. The first rank is Sergeants and there are no tally marks underneath this rank. The second rank is Corporals and there is a 1 marked on Capn House's line. The third rank is Musicians and there are no tally marks underneath this rank. The fourth rank is Privates and there is a 6 placed on Capn House's line and an 8 placed on Capn Owens' line. The totals across the bottom row correlating to this subheading read ·, 1, ·, 14.

The tenth column contains the heading Total Absens placed at a 90° placement. There is a numerical tally of the soldiers present, with the number of soldiers from each company or detachment placed on three lines which correspond to the listings underneath the heading of Companies or Detachments depending on which company the soldier belongs too. There is a horizontal row at the bottom of the Morning Report that displays the total

of soldiers in each column. On Capn House's line there is a 7 marked. Capn Owens' line has an 8 marked on it. The total marked on the bottom row reads 15.

The eleventh column contains the heading Aggregate placed at a 90° placement. There is a numerical tally of the soldiers present, with the number of soldiers from each company or detachment placed on two lines which correspond to the listings of Capn. House and Capn. Owens, respectively, depending on which company the soldier belongs too. There is a horizontal row at the bottom of the Morning Report that displays the total of soldiers in each column. There is a 5 marked on the top line. There is a 66 marked on Capn House's line and a 79 marked on Capn Owens' line. The total marked on the bottom row reads 148.

The bottom of the report reads:

Lt. John Campbell 1st Regt. Infy. Doing Duty in Captain Owens Compy. not included in the report

Sick in Capn Houses Compy in Hospital. 1 in Quarters &

“ Owens “ in Inart/Enligns 1st G.

a private of Capt Houses Company deserted, Since apprehended and included in the above report.

This is written to the right of the above notes:

S G P

1 3

1 6

The report is signed by Mr. Cleves Symmes Lt. Actg. Adj. in the far right of the morning report

[Back of report]

Morning Report of the Troops
at
Camp Belle Fontaine
June 26 1810

Colo. Daniel Bissell
Commanding
Present

No 23

Vincennes 9th. Augt. 1811.

Dear Sir

Your favor of the 2nd Inst. was only delivered by Lieut. Whitlock. In a letter which I wrote to the Secretary of War shortly after the shocking affair which happened at Fort Knox I mentioned Mr. Whitlock as a proper person to be entrusted with the command of that Fort. The answer of the Secretary was that he had no other objection to Mr. Whitlock being placed in that command but from its interference with his duties as Paymaster. He informed me also that a proper officer would be sent on. Under those circumstances & knowing that the command of Lieut. Whitlock would be of very short continuance & had no hesitation in recommending to Mr. W. not to deliver your letter to Capt. Taylor. Notwithstanding the very extraordinary manner by which Capt. T. became possession of the command he certainly deserves no share of the blame. He disapproved indeed of the whole proceeding but he certainly had no alternatives but to obey the order he has received and placed in his situation I should have acted precisely as he has done altho Lt. Albright might very properly have refused to give him the command. As you cannot share a Capt. from your containment

I

[Page 2]

recommend that Capt. Taylor may be continued. He was entirely a Stranger to me when he came here, but I am much pleased with he appears to be a most amiable man and for his opportunity a good officer when the other subject contained in your letter you will I hope excuse me from giving an opinion and believe that my reasons for delivering to give one are [] as I cannot Disregard-

I have herewith enclosed your copies of two letters received from the Lieut of Worley the last mail by which you will perceive that the protection of this & the Illinois Territory has been confided to me & the means which he has authorised me to use for the purpose. Under the Strong injunctions used by the Secretary not to employ the Troops under Col. Boyd but in case of absolute necessity I have only called on Company under Capt. Piat. This will be placed in the Garrison of Fort Knox & report to you the subject to your orders in every [] it but as to a change of position. I do not think it proper for me to interfere nor shall I interfere in the notice or interval arrangements of the Military that may be subjected to my control (excepting in the way of advice) until a part of the Militia is ordered into Service. Until this does take place I can only give inspections of a General Nature- such as a change of position or something of the kind

[Page 3]

having the execution entirely to the officer commanding. I have authority from the Secretary of War to build a fort or two higher up the Wabash than Fort Knox & the present Garrison of the latter was sent here for that express purpose- How ever it would be highly improper for me to use them without a fresh authority derived from the Secretary of War or yourself. The distance to the dear of Government is too great to apply for it now – [] all that is necessary for the purpose would more properly come from you- I have therefore to request that you would send me an order to the commanding officer to receive such instructions as I may give him- assuring yourself that none other will be given than such as an strictly compatable with the [] liberations we occupy until the Militia and orders into service- The enclosed letter demonstrating the views of the Government with which to the Military arrangements in this quarter will be your complete qualification for any orders you may give on the occasion-

I meditate an expedition about the 20th of Sept. with the 2 companies of [inserted above] regular troops- 2 of Dragoons & about 14 companies of Militia- Would you think yourself at liberty upon my recommendation and request to join me with all the troops you can spare from Belle Foutain & to take command of the regular tour of my wings.

I

[Page 4]

Indeed if you brought no troops your personal services would be highly acceptable. You could leave the Containment & the ladies to the care of our friend Capt. Owens for a few weeks-

I am with much regard
& Esteem Dear Sir
Your Humble Servt
William Henry Harrison

Capt. D. Bissell

No 24

Lexington. February 9th 1812.

Dr. Colonel,

In the execution of my design to return no more to that country as one of its Citizens I have settled myself in this place and shall not see you again until April at which period I shall visit you country for the last time. I much hope that your kindness to me on my departure from St Louis, and my failure to return as early as I anticipated at that time, have occasioned you no inconvenience. I should much regret it if it has and in that event (otherwise I know it would not be necessary) I must throw myself upon your goodness and plead the change of unforeseen events which have altered my resolution with relation to my earlier return- In April I shall see you at camp, settle with you and in person thank you for the past. In this country we talk of nothing but convulsions, political and territorial-

[Page 2]

A thousand and a thousand times have our modern Alexander talked Quebec into ruins and Canada into subjection. Like the man of faith in the bible they can walk upon the waves. This would they pass the St Lawrence. It grieves me to hear them talk in this way. Men who expect facilely of conquest, prepare not their minds for hardship and toil. Canada is not to be won in a day- My respect to your family and for yourself accept my warmest assurances of friendship.

Mr. Thom. T. Crittenden

[Page 3]

Colo.
Daniel Bissell
Camp Belle Fontaine
Near St. Louis.

TERRITORY OF MISSOURI

GENERAL ORDERS.

St. Louis, March 1st, 1813.

The usual orders for the musters of the battalions in the Spring, will not now be given. The threatened invasion of our settlements by the northern indians, requires arrangements of another character. To repel and if possible to chastise these inroads, if they should be attempted, the acting Commander in Chief orders,

That the volunteer companies commanded by captain's Dodge, McNair, Callaway, Ashley, Young, Hughes, Millard, Ramsay, and Rankin, muster for inspection at their respective parade grounds, on Saturday the 20th of the present month, and hold themselves thenceforth, in readiness to be called into actual service at a moments warning.

That the several militia companies throughout the territory, do also muster for inspection at their usual places of parade, on the same day, to wit: 20th of the present month, and thereafter hold themselves in constant preparation for the defence of the country; but as it is probable that all their services will not be required at the same time, each captain will after exercise and inspection, distribute his company into three classes, to be denominated 1st, 2d and 3d class. The first class, will when the occasion shall require it, have the honor of being first called into the field, and will be relieved by the others successively as their tours of duty expire. If the young and the enterprising will voluntarily offer themselves for the first class, it will be the better arrangement. But on their neglect to do so, the classification must be made by draft.

The captains of volunteer companies, and the officers commanding militia companies, will make returns with all convenient dispatch to the acting commander in chief, and will at the same time, report to their immediate superior officers.

That no citizen soldier may e ignorant of the manner in which the law requires him to be equipped, he is reminded, that it is his duty to provide himself with a good musket, with bayonet and belt, or a fusil, two spare flints, a knapsack and pouch with a box therein, to contain not less than twenty four cartridges, or a good rifle, knapsack, powder horn and pouch, with twenty balls, and a quarter of a pound of powder. If this is an equipment prescribed by the laws of our country in times of tranquility and peace, surely in the moment of difficulty and danger no militia man will delay to make the preparation. The great body of the militia will do their duty: It is known that they will, they have given proofs of it- the work is their own-the defence of their own fields and firesides. They have the character too, of Americans to support, and the blessings of a mild system of government to preserve.

Let us all act with patriotic diligence and determination in our several stations, and trust the success of our efforts, to that Being in whole hands are the destinies of mankind.

Frederick Bates

By order of the acting Command in Chief
Will C. Carr

aid de camp
[Outside of letter]

Major James Morrison
Comdq 2nd Battn. 3d. Regt.

St. Charles County

No 26

St Louis March 11. 1813

Sir,

A soldier, this moment delivered your note. The express which is reported to have passed through [] has not arrived-

Every important in croent which may be communicated to us from the upper country shall be made known to you without delay.

Governor Edwards writes me that he is collecting his militia forces on the frontier of his territory & expressed a willingness to concert with me a place of operations.- I have replied to him that Gov Howard would be on the ground, in a few days, and would doubtfully be well pleased, to confess with. It is probable that the embodying of our militia at this moment [] on [] could be productive of no good effort. The small parties of Indians which harass this out [], at this early season, could rather be met or overtaken by large bodies of troops.-

I have the honor to be respectfully
Sir, your obedt. servant

Frederick Bates

Colonel D Bissell
5th US Regiment

[Outside of letter]

Colonel Daniel Bissell
5th U.S. Regiment

Belle Fontaine.-

No 27

Major James Morrison,

Portage de Sieux
21st April 1813

Sir,

I would recommend that the Battery which his Excellency Governor Howard, has ordered raised on the Island below this, by the Militia under your Command, be built agreeably to the plan, shown you this Morning, a Copy of which I will furnish you; The Log work of which ought to be strongly put together, and closely watched, and where unavoidably there is Cracks, have them well Chunked; and particular Care must be observed, to see the Fascines or Brush, and the Earth which you fill in with, be well rammed or Pounded down, or the heavy Rains will wash and injure the Works; The Battery ought to be at least four and a half or five feet thick and about seven feet high; The Logs prepared for the Port Holes for small arms, you can place, as you find will best enable the men to sight, and fire with the best possible effect.- The Picketing which you close the Rear of your work with, I would recommend, not to have left than eight feet out of the ground, and strongly and well [smudged].

I am

Respectfully

Sir Your Obdt Servt.-
D. Bissell

[Outside of letter]

Major James Morrison
Commanding the US Militia
On the Island below
Portage de Sieux

No 28

Sir

Florisant April 23d. 1813

I have just received your letter and return from the Portage while the [] of the Territory I felt much anxiety for the completion of the Fortification you are engaged in creating as well as every measure affecting the interest of the Territory especially there for its safety and defence; as an individual I still feel a deep solicitude on that subject; I am extremely gratified to learn that you have progressed so well and that your command has done themselves honor by their willingness

[Page 2]

to finish this valuable undertaking Mr. Bates is his orders will be sent up to you in due time as to further objects; I should be happy if circumstances would allow to visit you before you leave the Isleland

Your friend
Benja Howard

[Outside of letter]

Major James Morrison
Express } Isleland near Portage

No 29

[Fragment]

immediately & relieve the Detachment of that Regt. now at that place.

Lieut. Hight & Lieut. Hilliary of the Light Artillery will proceed on the recruiting Service, the former to Boston & the latter to Maryland & report themselves to the Commanding officers of thier respective Districts.-

A Genl. Court Martial to consist of three field officers, four Captains & Six Subatterns will convene at the trench mills on the 9th Inst. at such place as this President shall appoint for the trial of Irish prisoners as may be brought before it. Col. Briarly is hereby appointed President of the Court and the Adgt. Govt. Genl. at that post will detail the numbers thereof.

Capt. Bengn (?) of Egerton of the 11th & Mr. John Darnall of the 5th Regiments having offered their resignations they are accepted, the former to take effect on the 8th Inft & the latter this day-

By Command
E.P. Pinkney
Adgt. Genl []

[Outside of letter]

General Orders
7th Decm. 1813

Adj. Genl. Office []

Col. Daniel Bissell
Commanding
Chateauquy

No 30

Portage des Sioux July 11th, 1815

Sir,

As Commissioners appointed to Negotiate a treaty of peace with the tribes of Indians residing upon the Mississippi and its waters, who, at the time of the ratification of the late treaty with great Britain, were at war with the United States. We, in Conformity to our instructions, notified those tribes of the peace that had been Concluded and of the Stipulations it contained in regard to themselves, or at the same time invited them to attend by a deputation of chiefs at this place on the 6th Inst. for the purpose of Concluding a treaty of peace & amity between the U.S. & themselves.

The friendly overtures of the government, do not however appear to have been met by a Correspondent disposition on the part of those tribes

None of them have as yet sent forward a sufficient deputation to treat with us. Several of them have not sent a single man; nor have we any ground to expect they will do so. and while a Considerable number of the most insignificant & contemptible persons of the Sauks & Foxes off North river, have attended without

[Page 2]

more than one chief; we have been informed & have reasons to believe that their principal chiefs & warriors continue to cherish the most inveterate & deadly hostility towards the american people & govt. & that war parties from those tribes recently started for our frontiers, which Statement is rendered the more probable by the occurrence of Some very late acts of hostility of which they had previously committed many, Since they were informed of the peace.

The Kickapoos Sent forward one chief only & there are Strong grounds to believe that they have identified themselves with the Sauks & Foxes in their late hostilities, & that they participate their present unfriendly disposition.

those three tribes left here privately last night and we feel it our duty to State to you as our opinion that the exertion of the military power of the government will be necessary to Secure the peace & Safety of this Country.

We have the honor to be very respectfully
Your Mo Obt. H. Svts
Wm Clark
Nimian Edwards
Aug. Chouteau

[Page 3]

Letter from Majors
Wm Clark N. Edwards &
A Chouteau- Commissioners
July 11th 1815

[Outside of letter]

Genl. Dan. Bissell
Belle Fountain

No 31

Division of
the South

Head Quartey Nashville
December 20th. 1820

Sir

I am directed by the Commd. Genl to notify you, that the instructions given to you in my letter of the 15th inst. in relation to the removal of the Detachment on the Sabine River are hereby changed, and if you shall have issued an order previous to the receipt of this, removing the Detachment, you will immediately suspend its execution, and continue the Detachment on the Sabine until a change be made in compliance with the enclosed instructions from the Secty of War to Gen Jackson-

Gove. J Villeri represents the extensive Parish of Natchitocky as thinly populated on its frontier, and without an adequate regular force to protect it against the invasion, that may be attempted by the Spaniards or by the Indians with whom they may associate or enlist against us in the surrounding country, and in order to ensure security to the Parish and deprive the Spaniards of the power of disturbing us with the Indians, he has suggested to the President the propriety of building and garrisoning a small Fort on the Sabine River. This suggestion included the instructions

[Page 2]

enclosed.

In order to effect the object of the Secty of War, the Genl. directs that you report to him as soon as practicable the strength and situation of the Detachment on the Sabine and the company at Natchitocky, and that you dispatch a confidential officer to explore and select a suitable spot on or near the Sabine for the erection of a Fort and with instructions to report to you whether the Garrison at Natchitocky would not afford equal protection to the Frontier being advanced to or near the Sabine river,

I am Sir very respty
Yr. Mo Obt servant

Andrew J. Donelson
Aid de Camp

D Bissell, Brig Genl
Commdq 8th my Dept.

The Quarterly Return of the Troops is laid out horizontally across a sheet of paper

The top of the Return reads: Quarterly Return of the Troops belonging to the First United States Regiment of Infantry stationed in the District of Louisiana Commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Bissell for the Months of January, February and March 1811.

The first column contains the heading Belle Fontaine placed horizontally. There are three subheadings laid out at a 90° placement. The first subheading reads Station. Underneath the subheading is a list of 5 stations listed in rows. They read Belle Fontaine, Fort Osage, “ Madison, Belle Fontaine, and Fort Knox. The second subheading reads Regiment. Underneath this subheading is a list of 5 regiments. The first row contains the name 1st Infantry. The following four rows contain “ “, indicating that they are all 1st Infantry. The third subheading reads Company. Underneath this subheading is a list of 5 companies listed in rows. They read Field & Staff, Capt Clemson, “ Stark, “ Owens, Detacht late Lieut Whitlocks.

The second column contains the heading Present placed horizontally. There are four subheadings placed at a 90° placement. The third subheading, Sick, is placed horizontally. Each subheading has a list of soldier’s ranks listed individually at a 90° placement. Underneath these ranks is a numerical tally of the soldiers present, with the number of soldiers from each company or detachment placed on the line which correspond to the Company they belong too. In the spaces where there are no numbers marked, there is a “ mark. There is a horizontal row at the bottom of the Quarterly Return that displays the total of soldiers in each column.

The first subheading is labeled Commissioned Officers. There are five ranks placed underneath the subheading at a 90° placement. The first rank is Lieut Colonels and there is a 1 placed under the company Field & Staff. The second rank is Captains and there is a 1 placed under the company of Capt. Owens. The third rank is 1 Lieutenants and there is a 1 marked under Capt. Clemson, a 1 marked under Capt. Stark, and a 1 marked under Capt. Owens. The fourth rank is 2 Lieutenants and there is a 1 marked under Capt. Owens. The fifth rank is Ensigns and there is a 1 marked under Capt. Owens. The totals in this subheading are 1, 1, 3, 1, 1.

The second subheading is labeled Non Com’d Offrs Musicians and Privates. There are five ranks placed underneath the subheading at a 90° placement. The first rank is Sergt Majors and there is a 1 placed under Field & Staff. The second rank is Sergeants and there is a 3 marked under Capt. Clemson, a 1 marked under Capt. Stark, a 4 marked under Capt. Owens, and a 1 marked under Detacht late Lieut Whitlocks. The third rank is Corporals and there is a 3 marked under Capt. Clemson, a 1 marked under Capt. Stark, a 2 marked under Capt. Owens, and a 1 marked under Detacht late Lieut Whitlocks. The fourth rank is Musicians and there is a 3 marked under Capt. Clemson, a 1 marked under Capt. Stark, and a 2 marked under Capt. Owens. The fifth rank is Privates and there is a 40 marked under Capt. Clemson, a 44 marked under Capt. Stark, a 40 marked under Capt. Owens, and a 3 marked under Detacht late Lieut Whitlocks. The totals in this subheading are 1, 9, 7, 6, 127.

The third subheading is labeled Sick. There are four ranks placed underneath the subheading at a 90° placement. The first rank is Sergeants and there are no marks underneath this heading. The second rank is Corporals and there is a 2 marked under Capt. Stark and a 1 marked under Detacht late Lieut Whitlocks. The third rank is Musicians and there are no marks underneath this heading. The fourth rank is Privates and there is a 2 marked under Capt. Clemson, a 5 marked under Capt. Stark, and a 9 marked under Capt. Owens, and a 2 marked under Detacht late Lieut Whitlocks. The totals in this subheading are “, 3, “, 18.

The fourth subheading is labeled In Arrest or Confined. There are four ranks placed underneath the subheading at a 90° placement. The first rank is Sergeants and there are no marks underneath this heading. The second rank is Corporals and there are no marks underneath this heading. The third rank is Musicians and there are no marks underneath this heading. The fourth rank is Privates and there is a 1 under Capt. Stark, and a 2 marked under Capt. Owens. The totals in this subheading are “, “, “, 3.

The fifth subheading is labeled Unfit for Service. There is one rank placed underneath the subheading at a 90° placement. Underneath the rank of Privates, there are no marks. The total for this subheading is “.

The third column contains the heading Total Non Commissioned Officers Musicians and Privates Present placed at a 90° placament. Underneath the heading are the numerical tallies for the total of non commissioned officers, musicians, and privates present from each Company. The totals read: 1 for Field & Staff, 51 for Capt. Clemson, 55 for Capt. Stark, 59 for Capt. Owens, and 8 for Detacht late Lieut Whitlocks. The total for this entire column is 174.

The fourth column contains the heading Absent placed horizontally. There are two subheadings placed at a 90° placement. Each subheading has a list of soldier's ranks listed individually at a 90° placement. Underneath these ranks is a numerical tally of the soldiers present, with the number of soldiers from each company or detachment placed on the line which correspond to the Company they belong too. In the spaces where there are no numbers marked, there is a “ mark. There is a horizontal row at the bottom of the Quarterly Return that displays the total of soldiers in each column.

The first subheading is labeled Commissioned Officers. There are four ranks placed underneath the subheading at a 90° placement. The first rank is Captains and there is a 1 marked under Capt. Clemson and a 1 marked under Capt. Stark. The second rank is 1 Lieutenants and there is a 1 marked under Detacht late Lieut Whitlocks. The third rank is 2 Lieutenants and there is a 1 marked under Capt. Stark. The fourth rank is Ensigns and there is a 1 marked under Capt. Clemson and a 1 marked under Capt. Stark. The totals for this subheading are 2, 1, 1, 2.

The second subheading is labeled Non Com'd Offrs Musicians and Privates. There are four ranks placed underneath the subheading at a 90° placement. The first rank is

Sergeants and there is a 1 marked under Capt. Clemson and a 1 marked under Capt. Stark. The second rank is Corporals and there is a 1 marked under Capt. Clemson. The third rank is Musicians and there is a 1 marked under Capt. Clemson and a 2 marked under Capt. Owens. The fourth rank is Privates and there is a 19 marked under Capt. Clemson, an 11 marked under Capt. Stark, a 9 marked under Capt. Owens, and a 1 marked under Detacht late Lieut Whitlocks. The totals for this subheading are 2, 1, 3, 40.

The fifth column contains the heading Total Non Commissioned Officers Musicians and Privates Present and Absent at a 90° placement. Underneath the heading are the numerical tallies for the total of non commissioned officers, musicians, and privates present and absent from each Company. The totals read: 1 for Field & Staff, 73 for Capt. Clemson, 67 for Capt. Stark, 70 for Capt. Owens, and 9 for Detacht late Lieut Whitlocks. The total for this entire column is 220.

The sixth column contains the heading Alterations placed horizontally, with 8 subheadings placed at a 90° placement underneath. Each subheading contains a numerical tally of the soldiers present, with the number of soldiers from each company or detachment placed on the line which correspond to the Company they belong too. In the spaces where there are no numbers marked, there is a “ mark. There is a horizontal row at the bottom of the Quarterly Return that displays the total of soldiers in each column.

The first subheading is labeled AGGREGATE. The numbers are as follows 2, 76, 71, 74, 10.

The second subheading is labeled Joined. There is a 1 marked under Capt. Stark..

The third subheading is labeled Transferred. There are no marks underneath this subheading.

The fourth subheading is labeled Discharged. There is a 1 marked under Capt. Clemson.

The fifth subheading is labeled Promoted. There is a 3 marked under Capt. Owens and a 2 marked under Detacht late Lieut Whitlocks.

The sixth subheading is labeled Reduced. There is a 1 marked under Capt. Stark and a 1 marked under Capt. Owens.

The seventh subheading is labeled Deserted. There are no marks underneath this subheading.

The eight subheading is labeled Dead. There is a 1 marked under Capt. Stark and a 1 marked under Capt. Owens.

The totals for this column are 233, 1, “, 1, 5, 2, “, 2.

The left hand side of the bottom of the Quarterly Return reads:

Commissioned Officers

Captain EB Clemson on Furlough
Ensign Lewis Bissell Capt Clemsons Company on Command
to Belle Fontaine
Captain Starks on Command to Vincennes
2nd Lieut RC Page on Command to Belle Fontaine
Ensign B Vassquez [some little abbreviation that I don't know]
1st Lieut A Whitlock in Arrest at Vincennes

B The Detachment returned in my last Return as
Commanded by Lieut Peyton have Descended to
Washington Mississippi Territory per Order of the Able
Secretary of War.

The middle of the bottom of the Quarterly Return reads:

Absentees accounted for

<u>Company</u>	<u>Non Commissioned Officers. Musicians and Privates</u>
Capt Clemsons	One Sergeant one Musician and eighteen Privated on Command at Belle Fontaine One private on Command Waiter to Capt Clemson
“ Starks	One Sergeant and eleven privates on Command at Belle Fontaine
“ Owens	Nine Privates on the Mississippi cutting Timber, two Musicians and one Private on Command at Fort Madison
late Lt. Whitlocks	One Private at Vincennes

Return is signed by D. Bissell Lt. Col.

[Back of return]

Quarterly Return of the Troops belonging to the 1st U States Regt of Infy stationed in the district of Louisiana Commanded by Lieut Colonel Daniel Bissell for the months of January, Feby and March 1811

Copyright St. Louis Mercantile Library at the University of Missouri – St. Louis