

United States Office of Indian Affairs, Central Superintendency, St. Louis, Missouri. Volume 34, Correspondence

Section 6, Pages 151 - 180

This volume of received correspondence from the Central Indian Superintendency at St. Louis, Missouri, includes holograph copies of letters received primarily from agents providing information about agency operations and contacts with various Indian nations, requests, and answers to questions of the Superintendent of Indian Affairs. Included in the correspondence are reports of Indian warfare and murders, alcohol abuse, conflicts between employees, the treaty with and emigration of the Potawatomi, supply requisitions, and smallpox. A searchable, full-text version of this volume is available by clicking "Text Version" below. Partial funding for the digitization of these records was provided by the National Park Service.

Creator: United States. Office of Indian Affairs. Central Superintendency

Date: Between 1836 and 1839

Callnumber: U.S. Office of Indian Affairs, Central Superintendency, St. Louis, Missouri, and William Clark Papers Coll. #741, vol. 34

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 224637

Item Identifier: 224637

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Genl Wm Clark
Supt. Ind. Affs

I have the honor to be
Very Resp^t to you etc etc
Jno Dougherty
Sud apt

New Hope Establishment
River St Peters 23rd Apr 1838

Sir - It becomes my duty to lay before your Excellency the partic-
ulars of a most wanton and unprovoked murder committed by an
Indian of the Yauktion Band of Sioux upon the body of an
American Citizen & licensed Indian trader, Mr Louis Prouncelle
was in our employ, and was licensed to trade upon the
Cheyenne River - while Employer

Fort Leavenworth 6th June 1838

Sir - Enclosed you will find a letter addressed to me from James
Gillmore, blacksmith for the Mo. Dept, enclosing two acct^s amounting to
\$42⁵⁰ cents, for Smith tools &c which he purchased, by order
Genl A. S. Hughes, and from the best information I can get on
the subject has never been refunded, and as it appears just
that Gillmore should be reimbursed, I most respectfully
recommend measures be taken in your office to that effect.
Gillmore was at the time of the purchase of Smith for the
Sackets and has been ever since.

I have the honor to
Jno Dougherty, Sud Apt

Genl Wm Clark
Supt. Ind. Affs

Winchaw Sub Agency 6th June 1838

Sir - I herewith enclose several acct^s amounting to \$62.15. for
articles purchased by me for order of Genl A. S. Hughes in 1835
as the amount show for the use of the Suet & Roway Smith Shps.
Genl Hughes informed me at the time that he would refund it
at my next quarterly settlement or such as yet has not been done.
Some time after the furnishing of said articles I signed
receipts to the Genl for the amount, which he says were
returned in consequence of informality.

Please enquire into this matter for me and if
the Government will refund the amount back to me it
will be thankfully received.

James Gillmore

Major John Dougherty

United States Office of Indian Affairs, Central Superintendency, St. Louis, Missouri.
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Post Leavenworth, 27 June 1838.

Sir - Your letter of 30th ult. enclosing copy from the Commr Ind. Affs, under date 19th May 1838 did not reach me until the 25. Inst.

In addition to my reports already made to you at different times relative to "the manner in which the treaties with the Sowsays and Sacs & Foxes have been executed" I beg leave respectfully to make the following statement, touching the issue of provisions made to them previous to my taking charge of the same.

The contractors themselves inform me (and it is confirmed from various other sources) that they made an arrangement last fall with Messrs William Owens & Bela Hughes, obligating themselves to pay to said Owens & Hughes, 6 cents for every ration they might purchase, on the contract, from said tribes, that the said Owens & Hughes did purchase at one sweep the whole of the rations for three months viz: Decr 1837 & Jan'y & Feby 1838, and that they the contractors paid to said Owens & Hughes 6 cents for rations for the whole amount thus purchased, but that they are unable to state, what the Indians recd of Owens & Hughes, in lieu thereof of said rations, they presumed however that all was right as the transaction was known to the Agent, & the accounts regularly made out by him and paid by the Government, that relative to the number of Indians entitled they had nothing to do, except to issue, according to the requisitions drawn on them by the Agent.

From all that I have been able to learn concerning this matter the contractors have done nothing wrong, but on the contrary have complied fully and fairly with all the requisitions of the Agent.

I have not been able to ascertain what the Indians really have recd for the 3 months rations in question, but from all the information obtained it is my opinion that they have been poorly remunerated, I will not relax in my exertions however, until I ascertain all about this matter if it is possible to do so.

In regard to a remedy for the wrongs which may have been done these tribes, it would be difficult for me to suggest any other than, that the Government continue the issue, one month longer to them, this would provision them up to the 26th of August, about which time their corn will be ripe, this suggestion is respectfully submitted for your consideration.

In relation to the small band of Sowsays, that refused to cross the River I can say nothing at present in addition to what was stated in my letter to you of 30th ult, but desire to have it in my power to do so some time next week, when I expect to be with the main body of them, you shall be kept promptly advised of every thing worthy of notice which may come to my knowledge concerning these people.

Yours
Genl. McClark
Supt Ind. Affairs

I have the honor to be
Yours
Geo. Dougherty
Ind. Agt

U. M. Agency 1st July 1838.

Genl. William Clark
Supt Indian Affairs

Sir - Herewith you will enclosed (in duplicate) an abstract of Requisitions on Capt C. Hitchcock for the half-year commencing the 1st of Jan'y and ending the 30th June 1838.

To Capt. Hitchcock, I have enclosed the Engagements of Zeph. Rencontre and Rene Pimseau both employed as Interpreters for the Upper Missouri Agency, also the engagements of Antoine Chénic and James Hayes as blacksmith and Sinker for the Hankton and Santes of Missouri River the former Smith & Striker having retired from the Service. - These persons are employed during the pleasure of



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the Government, are all competent to fill their places and at such are recommended to the Department. Zephyr, Renconté Agent Sub-preter, Pierre Pe-moua Oansa Sub-preter, Antoine Chevic Blacksmith James Hayes Striker - a strict compliance with the regulations of the Department at a point so remote - that it first to have the nominations approved, would be impracticable without great detriment to the Service and it is therefore hoped that I shall be justified in anticipating the approbation of the Commissioner.

Many reasons have induced me to select a Site some distance below the one referred to in my letter of the third of Feb. last the (mouth of White River) and I have accordingly contracted for the removal of the Smiths establishment to a point near the Vermilion River, where a shop, quarters for Smith and Striker, ware house, coal house &c are now in progress and will be completed this month. The funds made applicable to that object by the treaty of Washington with the Yanktons in October last will be sufficient to accomplish the work and no more: What will be necessary for the Agent, Interpreter, Indian house &c will be referred to hereafter. The old buildings here are no longer habitable or useful.

I have the honor to be Sir

Your Very Obedt^o
Joshua Pilcher
U. S. Agent.

U. S. Agency 3rd July, 1838

Genl William Clark
Capt. Ind. Affairs.

Sir. The state of things that have existed on the Upper Missouri for some months past and the many groundless and silly reports that have been spread through the land (some of which assuming an official character) makes it my duty to report things as they are in order that the Department may be relieved of all embarrassment upon the subject. I base this report upon an extensive personal intercourse, and upon the information of intelligent men, who are deeply interested in that portion of the Country which it has been impracticable for me to visit in person, and to be brief am to assure you, that at no period during the last Eighteen years has this country been more quiet or the Indians generally better disposed; and that all reports whether official or otherwise, respecting excitement, commotion, hostile intents &c, are wholly unvarranted & groundless. A practical test of the truth of this assurance is, that a quiet & peaceable had gone regularly on from the Councils of Eau que cour, to the Black foot post (five & twenty hundred miles above St. Louis) attended with fewer disasters than in any former year & resulted in the best returns that have ever been made. - The Steam Boat has passed up the Missouri 2000 miles uninterrupted, nor can I learn that there has ever existed an intent to molest her. Having stated facts upon the subject, I must be permitted express my regret, that idle and groundless rumours about excitement and hostility should frequently assume an official form, and immediate from sources entitled to so much respect and consideration as those to which I have allusion. - In speaking of the disposition of the tribes generally I should perhaps except the Riccard, who have very lately settled on the Missouri, and in whom no confidence can ever be placed; though they are not at present, altogether quiet, and occupy the Mandan Villages. - They may trouble the traders, but this will give me no trouble, because, if they will give these treacherous Indians the means of annoying their whole trade on

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the upper Missouri, with a full knowledge of their character, let them abide the consequences. I don't pretend to have any influence or control over them whatever.

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Small pox has generally, subsided among all the tribes East of the Mountains, whether it has been communicated to those west of the Mountains I cannot say. The objects indicated by your letter of the 27th of March last, has been as fully accomplished as the means furnished would enable me to fulfil them. Being authorized thereto, I employed a physician for the purpose of vaccinating the Indians. Your mention 15 seals in your letter, but there were only nine furnished, a part of those I sent across the mountains the 1st by a gentleman destined to that Country and the balance was expended in a few hours among the Sioux. The physician had procured some matter from other sources and it had been communicated to as many Indians as could be reached in the time allowed but it had not been found practicable to keep a register of the number sex and bands. My object was to communicate to as many as possible without regard to tribe or sex and this had been done to the full extent of the means furnished. Besides this a small quantity of matter had been procured by one of the traders, who had vaccinated a great number of the Sioux and from them procured matter for all the posts above, so that a general system of vaccination has been introduced and if the tribes are disposed to avail themselves of its advantages they can all receive it. I consider any further action on the part of the unnecessary and have made a requisition on Captain favor Otto DePoufontaine for his services in accordance with the rule laid down in your letter.

Very Respectfully, Sir I have the honor to be
Your Obedt
Joshua Pilcher
U.S. Agent.

~~~~~  
Upper Missouri 18 July 1835

Genl William Clark  
Capt. Ind. Affairs

Sir: Your letter of the 15<sup>th</sup> June, together with a communication from Mr. Sibley, to Gov. Dodge and Mr. Harris's order relative thereto have just been received. The wandering habits of the Sioux and the immense region of Country over which they are now dispersed, would render any action on my part wholly unavailing, before fall, if circumstances required such action, which it is believed will not be the case, for during an intercourse of eighteen years, I have never heard of such a person as the "Horned Dog" among the Sauktons of the Missouri River, and I happened to receive your letter under circumstances that enabled me to enquire of several other persons equally well acquainted and none of them ever heard of such a person among the Sauktons, nor had I complain heard of the act complained of, until I received your letter, and one of the gentlemen alluded to confirmed it, but at the same time informed me that it was committed by a Shote of the River St. Peter. I have no doubt but such is the fact, and think it very certain, that if the Indian had come on the Missouri I should have heard of him among the Sioux of that Country. The subject however will receive a thorough investigation by the agent for the upper Missouri so soon as the situation of the Indians will enable him to make it, and nothing will be wanting on his part to fulfil the requirements of the Commissioner. But he deems it proper to say, that whenever it is deemed necessary for him to take and keep hostages among these wild wandering Indians, that (whatever their disposition under other circumstances) it will require an emense military force to sustain him in the



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execution of the order. I have the honor to be Sir,

Your very Obedt Servant  
Joshua Pilcher  
U.S. Agent,

Agency of Fort Leavenworth June 28. 1838

Sir - I have granted licenses to the following persons to trade with the various tribes of Indians within this agency, to wit: Do C. Chouteau to trade with the various tribes of Indian within the Fort Leavenworth Agency for the term of two years, commencing the sixteenth day of June 1838, which is the date of his license, the amount of Capital employed as per invoice presented is thirteen thousand, four hundred & four dollars & forty cents, the amount of his bond for the faithful observance of the laws & regulations, is two thousand Dollars - His securities are J. M. Simpson & Charles, Findley - -- Do William M. Chick, to trade with the various tribes of Indians within the fort Leavenworth Agency for the term of two years commencing the sixteenth day of June 1838, which is the date of his license, the amount of Capital employed as per Invoice presented is two thousand seven Dollars & thirty cents, the amount of his bond for the faithful observance of the laws, regulations &c two thousand Dollars, his securities are A. G. Boone and Charles, Findley, - -- Do J. Cook & Charles, Findley, to trade with the various tribes of Indians within the Agency of Fort Leavenworth for the term of two years, commencing the 16<sup>th</sup> day of June 1838, which is the date of their license - The amount of Capital employed as per invoice presented nineteen hundred & fifty two dollars and seventy two cents, the amount of his bond for a faithful observance of the laws & regulations, &c two thousand Dollars, his securities are M. R. Owen & J. M. Simpson Do A. G. Boone to trade with the various tribes, of Ind<sup>n</sup> within the Fort Leavenworth Agency for the term of two years commencing the 16<sup>th</sup> day of June 1838, which is the date of his license, the amount of Capital employed as per invoice presented two thousand, one hundred and eighty Dollars & eight, four cents - the amount of his bond for a faithful observance of the laws, regulations, &c two thousand Dollars, his securities are Charles, Findley & William M. Chick, -

I certify upon honor that the persons above named to whom license have been granted are all citizens of the United States,

With great Respect  
Yr Obedt Serv<sup>t</sup>  
Rich<sup>d</sup> W. Cunningham  
Indian agent,

Genl. William Clark  
Capt of Indian affs  
St Louis Mo

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Osage River Sub Agency  
July 15<sup>th</sup> 1835

Sir Yours of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Ult was this day received enclosing an Extract of a letter from the Com<sup>rs</sup> of Ind Affairs relative to an omission in the wording of the Contract, made on the first of August, 1835, with Mipsu Johnson & Chick and requiring information how the contract has been filled by those gentlemen.

I herewith enclose the duplicate of the Original Contract, that I gave to the Contractors, when I sent the one to your office in which you will observe the Omission complained of does not occur, which I hope will be a satisfactory explanation of how the Contract has been understood by them and accordingly filled.

As to the limitation to the Indiana Shawanawic Indians I drew the Contract, up in that way in accordance with the instructions drawn up received from your office under which I made the Contract, though that is a designation that I conceive to not be very material as the Indians themselves nor no other person can point out who is Indiana or Chicago Indians for any or all of them can claim to be either going to where they may please to locate themselves.

I immediately notified Mipsu Johnson & Chick (on the 15<sup>th</sup> inst) that their contract in question would on the part of the United States be considered as terminated received and annulled on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August of the present year. They claim the 20 days notice mentioned in the proviso to their agreement. Be pleased to instruct me on that subject as early as possible. These men have filled the contract faithfully and should be dealt with accordingly. I am

Very Respectfully  
Your Obedt Servt  
Anthony L Davis  
Ind Sub Agent

Genl William Clark  
Capt Ind Affairs  
St Louis, Mo

Agency of Fort Leavenworth  
July 24<sup>th</sup> 1835

Sir The Charms blacksmiths building have become so old, rotten & out of repair, that it will be necessary either to build a new house or repair the old one, or rather rebuild it, to repair will require a new roof, & believe, new chimneys, the cracks between the logs of the wall plastered over &c, the sills of the house lay partly on the ground & are nearly rotten, the wall was built of small logs, or rather large poles, & some of them are nearly rotten. I think it will take nearly one hundred dollars to repair the house. I am clearly of the opinion that it will be a saving of money to build a new house & here with. Enclose an estimate for that purpose, if the Department decide to have a new building erected it will be well to have it commenced in time to be completed before the winter sets in.

I am Respectfully  
Yours Obedt Servt  
Richard M Cummings  
Indian Agent

Genl Wm Clark  
Capt of Ind Affairs  
St Louis, Mo



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Agency of Fort Leavenworth  
July 25. 1838.

Sir - I have lately been informed by the Shawnee Chief, the principal Chief of the Delaware, and the principal Chief of the Kickapoo, that a great Council is to be held in the Cherokee Country about the 10<sup>th</sup> September 1838.

To this Council Cherokees have invited the Sac & Foxes of Missouri, Bottomstam, Kickapoo, Delaware, Shawnee, Ottomoi, Meas & Coring, Piankashaw & Kaskaskia, Shawnee, Seneca, and many other tribes south of the Cherokees on Red River &c. They also inform me that the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw & Creek have lately held a Council in the Cherokee Country, near the line between the White and Indian, and that the intended Council is to be further West, some distance from where the other Council was held.

The Shawnees say that they were informed by the Messengers that a great many horses would be furnished on the occasion, and that a large amount in money would be bestowed in by individuals to purchase Coffee, Sugar &c. that some individuals would throw as much as \$20 some \$5 & some \$10 &c.

I understand from the Shawnees, that the Council has been arranged by the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw & Creek, though the invitation to the tribes in this section came from the Cherokee, only. I also understand from them that the Osage & Kanza Indians have not been invited to the Council. My informants <sup>further</sup> say that the reasons which induced the Cherokee & others to call the Council is unknown to them.

To Genl. William Clark  
Supt of Indian Affairs  
St Louis Mo

I am very Respectfully  
Yr obt Servt  
Rich<sup>d</sup> W Cummings  
Indian Agent

Upper Missouri Sept 25 1838

General William Clark,  
Supt Ind Affairs

Sir, I have received your letter of the 16<sup>th</sup> ultimo enclosing a Communication from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, under date of the 6<sup>th</sup> ultimo requiring a more detailed statement upon the subject of Indians vaccinated under my direction, those carried off by the small pox &c, and accordingly make the following report.

Under authority vested in me by your letter of the 27<sup>th</sup> March last I employed a physician - Dr. Peppontaine - and with him proceeded up the Missouri River on board the Company's Steam boat which was destined to the mouth of the Yellowstone River. On the route such Indians as visited the boat, below the Agency for the Upper Missouri River, were vaccinated. They consisted of a few <sup>Osage</sup> Makas & Sautes. On my arrival at the mouth of White River 120 miles above St. Louis, and a few miles below the Agency house for the Upper Missouri River, I found assembled the Saukton and Sauté bands of Sioux of that River, together with small parties from several other bands of Sioux, amounting in all to three or four thousand. The Sauktons and Sautes had been long waiting for the arrival of the boat, to get the annuities due them the present year. The boat had experienced a detention of 25 days from the low stage of water, and the Indians who live entirely by hunting were in a starving condition as a matter of course - to gratify their wishes the annuities were delivered ~~there~~ at that point, and while employ

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myself, in attending to the distribution of the goods, (having explained to the Indians the object of the physician, with which they were well pleased,) he commenced vaccinating. Under such circumstances, amidst the confusion of such a number of <sup>many</sup> Indians, I knew a strict compliance with your instructions, to keep a register of ages, sexes, bands &c, to be impracticable; and being otherwise occupied myself, did not require it of the Doctor. He however, was endeavoring to keep an account of the number vaccinated, until I saw this was retarding his progress, and ordered him to pay no further attention to age, sex, band or number, but operate on as many as possible before the Camp broke up. This I knew would be the case, the moment the goods were distributed, as the Indians were destitute of provisions - and the little issue made to the Sauktons, in conformity to former practice when delivering annuities, was barely sufficient for them for a single day - and the best idea I can give of a large party of those wandering tribes, under such circumstances, is to compare them, (after the object of their meeting has been accomplished) to a flock of Crows rising from a dead carcass - they are suddenly gone and in a few hours are spread over the Country in every direction in numerous small bands. In this single Camp however, abundant subjects were found to exhaust all the matter furnished through your office; and the physician having procured some from other sources, we proceeded to the agency house where a considerable party of the different bands of Sioux were assembled and as many as required it were vaccinated there. Subsequently, I proceeded to Fort Tere, one of the Fur Company's posts, 1500 <sup>miles</sup> above St. Louis. On the route we found a number of small parties in the prairie - vaccinated such as required it - arrived at Fort Tere, and found a number of Indians assembled, many of whom had been vaccinated by the traders - the operation was performed on as many of this party as required it, and having other duties to perform attend to, after my arrival there, sent the Doctor with an Interpreter and sent him towards South Fork of the State in quest of the Tetons, a band of the Sioux, none of which had been vaccinated. He was ordered to return in twenty days as the funds placed at my disposal for his compensation did not justify a longer absence. He was taken sick in the Prairie and was not so successful in finding the Indians as I anticipated, he found however, several small bands and operated upon all that he found. You will find herewith a letter addressed to me by the physician alluded to, by which you will perceive that the aggregate number vaccinated is 3,000 men, women & children inclusive. I am satisfied that the statement is within bounds, and, if it had been practicable to keep an exact account, would much exceed the number indicated by his letter. They consist mainly of the different bands of Sioux - say Sauktons, Santes, Sauktonas, Sarmans, Tetons, and Agellabas.

It may be thought when I set out, that the boat would reach that Country in time to find most of the wandering bands within a convenient distance of the River, so that large parties might be brought together in a few days; but the early disappearance of game from the River and the detection of the boat had compelled them to separate into many small bands which were spread all over the Country from the river Platte to the waters of the Yellowstone. Among all the Indians above the Sioux (except the Blackfeet, who are so remote as to make it impracticable to obtain any satisfactory information from them,) the disease had subsided.

In answer to the enquiry of the tele made by me of the amount placed at my disposal for the purchase of provisions, I will observe, that the sum authorized to be drawn for by you, I understood to be applicable to the



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Employing a physician <sup>134</sup> - that it had been so applied, and was insufficient to compensate him for the time he was employed in the service, at the rate of \$1000 indicated by your letter - but he has no other claims upon the Department, as it was understood that, under no circumstances, could the appropriation be exceeded. This sum (\$500) together with the presents, was every thing placed at my disposal, all of which have been duly accounted for.

There seems to be an entire willingness on the part of nearly all the Indians I have seen or heard from, to receive vaccination, and a general confidence in its efficacy - The prejudice and superstition formerly anticipated by me, have been sooner overcome than I had expected. Some of the traders had procured a small quantity of matter from St. Louis, last winter, and by that means succeeded in introducing it very extensively. Apart from any motives of humanity, both their interest and safety would induce them to introduce it wherever practicable, and by the means referred to, they have taken measures to supply all their remote posts with matter, by which I think a very general system of vaccination is now existing or, as many of the Indians themselves perform the operation.

The number of each tribe or band carried off <sup>by the smallpox</sup> the human power can estimate. (You will recollect that this disease has existed among numerous wandering tribes, who inhabit a wilderness of many thousand miles in extent from the Council Bluffs to the remote sources of the Missouri River and Columbia River - and from the frozen regions of the Sate-Katch-u-an and Athabaska, to the sources of the Platte and Arkansas - and it must be obvious that any thing like a correct estimate is beyond the power of man. Most of the Sioux escaped it altogether, and I think about 1,200 the greatest number that perished among the Sioux of the Missouri - The Mandans are literally annihilated; out of about 1,600 persons there remains only from 60 to 80 including all ages and sexes - Of the Ricaras about one third perished - say 1,200 souls. Of Minutaries one half 1,200 to 1,300 persons. Of the Cheyennes, one band of 480 Cougars were entirely destroyed - they would probably average 8 persons to the Lodge of the Blackfeet, one band of 1020 Lodges were entirely cut off and from some of the more remote bands, no information had been received.

The above estimate is derived from various sources of information, in which I place implicit confidence, and would give the following aggregate -

|             |       |              |
|-------------|-------|--------------|
| Sioux       | about | 1,200        |
| Mandans     | "     | 1,500        |
| Ricaras     | "     | 1,200        |
| Minutaries  | "     | 1,300        |
| Apinaboines | "     | 3,840        |
| Blackfeet   | "     | <u>8,160</u> |
|             |       | 17,200       |

The number of Creeks carried off is not included - they are known to have had it, but no attempt, to estimate their loss, has been made - I have no doubt, if the above number was doubled, it would be within bounds; applying it only to the various tribes East of the Rocky Mountains. Whether this disease has been communicated to the tribes on the west side, along the line of the Columbia or not, I cannot say, having received no information from that Country since last year - a part of the vaccine matter furnished by the Department is sent over the Mountains in April last, by a gentleman destined to that Country, with a request that he would

— Endeavor

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Endeavor to introduce it among the Indians.  
 Hoping that this report will be satisfactory, I will conclude by renewing  
 the assurance of the very high respect, with which I have the honor to be

Your Obedt servant  
 Joshua Filcher  
 U. S. Ind agent

On board Steamer Antelope  
 Upper Missouri July 9<sup>th</sup> 1838

My Dear Sir

Having been employed for the last three months under your instructions for the purpose of vaccinating Indians of the Upper Missouri, I deem it proper to settlement of my account to leave with you a written statement of my operations, though I have acted most of the time under your own observation.

In going up the river, a number of Indians of different tribes were vaccinated as we occasionally met with them, of which no account was kept. On arriving among the Sioux at the place of payment of annuities to the Chalkons, I commenced operations, and while you were engaged in distributing the annuities, and found myself so much embarrassed by the mass of men, women and children that crowded round me, that it was found impracticable to keep an account of age, sex &c, without a great loss of time and a failure of the main object, but was endeavoring to keep an account of the approximate number, until ordered by you to lose no time in that way, but proceed with the vaccination as fast as possible, as the Indians were in a hurry to separate, and go off to their hunts, which most of them did do the same evening, as soon as the annuities were divided. Subsequently I vaccinated all that required it in the several small parties of different bands of Sioux, that were met, most of which you will recollect. Under the circumstances, alluded to, it has not been practicable to keep an exact account of numbers, age or sex. All the matter furnished by the Department however was exhausted, besides a considerable quantity procured by myself. I think the operation was performed on about three thousand persons in all.

I have the honor to be  
 Most Respectfully

Yours obedient  
 Jos R Desfontaine M.D.

Upper Missouri 5 Sept. 1838

Received a letter from Major J Filcher concerning buildings of Upper Missouri Agency &c, & buildings & place of establishment of Mandan Ind agency. Recorded in Estimate Book Page 150.



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Osage River Sub Agency  
Sept 10<sup>th</sup> 1838.

Sir I have received yours of the 23<sup>rd</sup> ult. enclosing an allotment for the Osage River sub agency for the first half of the present year, also a letter from Major Hitchcock containing instructions relative to the accounts &c. which shall be alluded to. I perceive there is an item of expenditure left out of the allotment, that is the pay of the Blacksmith & apt ~~Blacksmith~~ for the Piankeshaws, Men &c per 5<sup>th</sup> article of treaty 29<sup>th</sup> October 1832 with said tribes. I have already drawn Requisitions on Major Hitchcock in their favor for the first half of the present year & they were paid by Mr Pfister the Special agent who was here paying Indian Annuities this summer. Surely this must be a mistake in the Comps of Ind. Affairs in making out the allotment. I am very sure that it was one of the items on my annual estimate for expenditures for the year 1838.

Very Respectfully

Yr ob<sup>d</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

Anthony S Davis  
Ind Sub agent

Genl William Clark  
Supt Ind Affairs  
St Louis Mo

Osage River Sub Agency  
Sept 11<sup>th</sup> 1838.

Sir - I have received your letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> ult. enclosing a register of debts of the Totonatomis, and copies of letters from the War Dept. on the subject, which I will attend to agreeable to future instructions. This is a matter that will probably be very difficult to arrange as some of the Indians in my charge have nothing to do with this matter. However that will very much depend on the manner in which the payment is ~~made~~ arranged. I am Sir

Very Respy<sup>t</sup>

Anthony S Davis  
Ind Sub agent

Genl William Clark  
Supt Ind Affairs  
St Louis Mo

Agency of Fort Leavenworth  
September 28<sup>th</sup> 1838

Sir - I received a letter on the 25<sup>th</sup> inst. from Mr Geo Maguire clk Supt Office St Louis, Mo, dated the 17<sup>th</sup> inst, enclosing a copy of a letter from you to Genl Clark dated the 1<sup>st</sup> inst, requesting him to instruct Major Cummins or some other Indian agent, to attend any grand Council that may be held among the Cherokees.

It is understood here that the Council was to commence about the 11<sup>th</sup> of the present month, of course it would be useless for me to attend at this time as it must be over.

I have the satisfaction to inform you that the Shawnees, Delaware & Kickapoo, refused to attend the Council for the very good reason that the Cherokee had not made known the object of the same, believing it might give just cause of offence to the United States.

Hon C A Harris  
Com<sup>r</sup> of Ind. Affs  
Washington City

I am very Respectfully

Yr ob<sup>d</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

Reed S Cummings  
Ind agent

United States Office of Indian Affairs, Central Superintendency, St. Louis, Missouri.  
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Agency of Fort Leavenworth  
September 16. 1838.

Sir - I nominate Benjamin Argert as a pistant blacksmith to the Shawnee  
Indians, under the 4<sup>th</sup> article Treaty of August the 8. 1831.

Respectfully,

Yr mo. obt. Servt.

Richd W. Cummins  
Sub. Agent.

Hon C. A. Harris  
Comm. of Ind. affrs.  
Washington City

Agency of Fort Leavenworth  
October 18. 1838.

Sir - In obedience to Instructions received from Gen. M. Clark, Supt of Ind. affrs of  
July 10. 1838, on the subject of Establishing a manual labor school by the Missionary Soc-  
ciety of the Methodist Episcopal Church among the Indians, I have in conjunction  
with the Rev. Thomas Johnson agent for the Society, designated a site on the Shawnee  
land about six miles, nearly due south of the <sup>mouth of</sup> Kansas River and about half a mile from  
the western boundary of the state of Missouri. The site is on a beautiful elevated rich  
prairie near & adjoining a beautiful grove of timber, on the south on a small creek  
known by the name of Brush Creek which is near the site and always affording  
water in abundance for stock. There are also three Springs which are in a line  
in the edge of the timber, parallel with & close to the edge of the prairie which  
we believe will afford water sufficient for all the purposes of the Establishment.  
The Country in the immediate neighborhood, although very rich has a healthy  
appearance, no lakes, ponds, or stagnated water near.

I am Respectfully,

Yours Obedt. Servt.

Richd W. Cummins  
Sub. Agent

Hon C. A. Harris,  
Comm. of Ind. affrs.  
Washington City,

I certify on honor, that the whole subject contained in the above letter,  
respecting the establishing a manual labor school by the Missionary Society of the  
Methodist E. Church at the site designated as above described and every thing con-  
nected or to be connected with the school as far as understood by me, was fairly  
and fully by me explained to the Chiefs and Councilors of the Shawnee Nation  
and by them to the tribe in my presence, and that they (the Shawnee nation) gave  
their full and entire consent that the Society of Methodist should might establish  
the school at the place designated with the privilege of using as much  
land and timber as would be necessary for carrying on the Establishment  
the Rev. Thomas Johnson, agent, agreeing on his part, to discontinue the Mission  
which they have already established, among the Shawnees.

Richd W. Cummins

Indian agent

If the Department approve of the location made for the Establishment of  
the Manual Labor school among the Indians, the Rev. Thomas Johnson  
respectfully requests early information, as he wishes to commence operations as  
soon as possible

Respectfully,

Richd W. Cummins  
U. S. Ind. Agent



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Agency of Fort Leavenworth  
October 29. 1838.

Sir. I nominate Joseph Bizion, (a Delaware,) as a pistant blacksmith for the Delaware Indians under the 6<sup>th</sup> article of their treaty of October 1818. and the 7<sup>th</sup> section of the act approved June 20<sup>th</sup> 1834. Henry Anmons left the ship.

I am Respectfully,

Your obt. Servt.

Rich<sup>d</sup>. W. Cummins

Indian Agent

Mr C. A. Harris,  
Com<sup>r</sup> of Ind affs.  
Washington City.

Agency of Fort Leavenworth  
October 28. 1838.

Sir. I received instructions from Genl. Clark Supt Ind affs dated the 24<sup>th</sup> July requiring me to ascertain in what way the Delawares wish their school funds applied, & if they prefer a school among themselves, to report a plan &c.

On this subject I have had three Councils, (the last yesterday) with the Delawares. They say they are unwilling to send their children to the Choctaw academy. In making this report, I am at a loss to report a plan that I believe will benefit the Delawares at present. If a school is established among them, I am sure from experience that they will not send their children, unless they are furnished with something to eat while in attendance at school and then they will send them so irregular that they will be but little benefitted. The great difficulty I conceive in educating Indian children is in procuring a regular attendance for a period sufficient to complete their studies and this can scarcely be done when they are put to school from their own homes.

As they refuse to send their children to the Choctaw, and the Department should think it best to establish a school among them at this time, which I believe would be essentially be a waste of money, I would propose to erect suitable buildings for a boarding school, and employ a teacher at a stated salary per annum, & a fixed price for board &c, or a fixed price for board, tuition, clothing, &c per scholar. I will however suggest that if it might be well to defer the matter until the Methodist Missionary Society get their Manual labor school into operation, perhaps the Delawares would be willing to send their children to a school of that description, if not I hope their minds will in a few years be better prepared & that they will have a better knowledge of the importance of educating their children than what they now have.

I am Respectfully,

Yr. obt. Servt.

Rich<sup>d</sup>. W. Cummins

Ind Agent

Mr C. A. Harris  
Com<sup>r</sup>.  
Washington City



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Upper Missourie Mouth of  
Eau que River 27<sup>th</sup> October 1838.

Gen. William Leake  
Superst. Ind. Affairs

Sir I reached here yesterday from a long and very unpleasant ~~to~~ tour through all the Sioux Country above which has been rendered necessary by several causes. The execution of an order from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs relative to the half breed land between the Kiowa has been found very difficult, the Indians being scattered over such a great extent of Country and in so many different bands. To insure the accomplishment of any object with these wandering tribes, it must be done when they are assembled in the Spring. The order is not yet accomplished, but I will effect it in a few days unless prevented by my ill health, which has been essentially impaired by the incessant exposure & privation of the last two months.

Owing to the increased competition in the trade and number of persons employed it has been thought advisable to visit all the posts in the upper Missourie Agency, and in doing so, I have had interviews with nearly every band of Indians in that region, and find them all very well disposed and perfectly quiet. I have received satisfactory information from the most remote parts of the Country, east of the Rocky Mountains and am happy to find that the Small pox has long since disappeared.

Antonio Mouton, William Kendaun and Grand Seclere are three persons whom I have thought proper to order out of this Country and as I could not reach either of them, I have, (to the end that the order may be accomplished) forbid all the traders to employ, or afford them any patronage. They are worthless fellows, of no considerable talents, and I merely refer to them in order that you may refuse, if application should be made, to embrace them in any license hereafter.

At Fort Pierre the principal depot for the Sioux trade, and an important branch of the House of Messrs. Frazer, Chouteau & Co, I accidentally found some articles, obviously intended for distribution among the Indians, which I did not hesitate to prohibit in the most peremptory manner, and to order that if any had been distributed that they be taken back. I will call them what I suppose they were intended to be called, The Astor Medals. They are made in every respect like those of the government, except that they bear the likeness of John Astor and a different inscription. I believe the young gentleman in charge of the post made some allusion to a former permission, which if it had an existence, I can only regard as an act of weakness, holding, as I do, that no man has a right (either legal or moral) to cut his own throat or to assassinate me - that is, to destroy the means placed in my hands to give me and the government weight and influence. I have therefore, prohibited the distribution without stopping to look for a



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law applicable to the case, <sup>140.</sup> and in this measure shall expect the  
appropriation and support of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs as well  
as your own.

I have the honor to be Sir  
Your obt. Servt.  
Joshua Pletcher  
U.S. Ind. Agent

Fort Leavenworth Agency  
November 20. 1838.

Sir - I have received through Mr. Maguire, Clerk office of Supt.  
of Indian Affairs, St. Louis Mo, a copy of your letter to Genl Clark of  
the 3<sup>d</sup> September, on the subject of the price of an average section of  
land in the 13<sup>th</sup> article of the Shawnee Treaty of the 5<sup>th</sup> August 1835,  
for the removal of the Shawnees of River Huron, Territory of Michigan.

On this subject I have held a Council with the Shawnee Chiefs  
who were parties to the treaty. They say that there was never any con-  
versation or agreement made or entered into by or between them and  
the Commissioners, or between them and any other person or persons, to  
reserve the price of an average section of land for the removal of the  
Shawnees of the River Huron or for their benefit in any <sup>way</sup> whatever.  
That at the time they made a reserve of a section of land for Joseph  
Parks, they the Chiefs made an agreement with Col. S. D. Gardner Comr.  
to reserve for the use and benefit of the Chiefs who were parties to the  
Treaty, the price of an average section of land, to compensate them, the  
Chiefs, for their trouble in negotiating the treaty, which he the said Col.  
Gardner said he would take in the treaty as soon as he went to the  
house where his Secretary was, which was about three hundred yards,  
from the house where they were in Council when the agreement was made.  
After we had got through the Council, for that time, Col. G. was ~~asked~~  
enquired of J. Parks what he would do with the money that he would  
get for the section of land reserved for him. Parks replied that he would  
have use a plenty for it. He said that he had some relations living on the  
River Huron; that it would enable him to help them move west if ever  
they wished to follow the Shawnees of Wapagkonetta & Hog creek. The  
Chiefs and J. Parks who was the Interpreter say they cannot account for  
the error made by Col. Gardner in placing this section of land in the  
treaty in the way he did, unless he was not properly at himself at  
the time he made the agreement, and only recollecting a part of the  
agreement with the Chief, and a part of the conversation between  
him and J. Parks, the Interpreter and placed the 13<sup>th</sup> article in the Treaty  
as it now stands.

Upon enquiring I find that all the Shawnees of the River Huron,  
except two who I am informed married among the Wyandotts, moved  
to this place at the same time & with the Shawnees of Wapagkonetta & Hog creek.  
The Chiefs are unwilling that the price of the average section  
in the 13<sup>th</sup> article of the Treaty or any part thereof should be given  
to the Shawnees of the River Huron. They say no part of it was

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intended to be applied in any way for their benefit, they still insist & believe that they the chiefs, should receive it; that that was the true intention of the agreement between them and the Commissioner Col Gardner.

I enclose herewith the certificate of Capt Joseph Parks who was the Interpreter for the Commr when making the Treaty

Wm. C. Harris  
Commr of Ind. Affs  
Washington City

Respectfully  
y<sup>r</sup> Obedt<sup>t</sup>  
Richard W. Cummins  
Indian Agent

Fort Leavenworth Agency Nov 20. 1838.

I certify, on honor, that I was the interpreter for Col. S. P. Gardner, Commr on the part of the U. States, and the Shawnee chiefs, on the part of the Shawnee nation when they made and concluded the Treaty of Wapakongonetta & Hog creek the 5 of August 1831, and that the price of the average section of land reserved in the 13<sup>th</sup> article of the said Treaty for the removal of the Shawnees of the River Huron, Territory of Michigan, was, by mutual agreement of Col Gardner and the Shawnee chief, parties to the treaty, reserved for the use and benefit of the Shawnee chief, parties as aforesaid & that he the said Col Gardner agreed and promised to have the same so entered in the treaty, and that no conversation was held at that or any other time between the parties through me for the purpose of reserving the price of an average section of land for the removal of the Shawnees of the River Huron.

Witness  
Richard W. Cummins  
Indian Agent

Joseph Parks  
mark

Agency of Fort Leavenworth  
December 1. 1838.

Sir - In reply to that part of the Commr's letter of September the 3<sup>d</sup> to Genl Clark which embraces the subject of a blacksmiths shop &c. under the 4<sup>th</sup> article of the Shawnee Treaty of the 5<sup>th</sup> of August 1831. Under this article & Treaty the necessary tools has been furnished & a blacksmith employed, now in service. No shop however has been built, the only shop fit for use under this & the Treaty of 1825, a blacksmith hired the building of, during the period that M. G. Clark, Ind. Agent, had charge of the Shawnees, this shop which belongs to a late blacksmith, who married the daughter of Capt J. Parks a Shawnee, (since resigned,) but still lives in the nation with his wife, he says he intends to remove for his own use, unless he is paid for it, as he had the building and paid for it out of his own money. It can be purchased for \$50. It is new and of good materials well put together. The blacksmiths are now using it; their work benches, fire places, tools &c. are fitted off in good order. I think it will cost at least \$75 or more to hire the building of one as good; it certainly will be better to buy it than to build a new one. It will save money, & the blacksmiths of the trouble of rebuilding their fire places, chimneys &c.

I will take the liberty of again suggesting the propriety of



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1 building a house for the blacksmiths, to live in. The Comr in his reply of August 27 to Gen Clark's letter of the 16<sup>th</sup> & mine of the 24 July authorizes the repairing of the old house. Before I received the instructions it became late in the season, the weather commenced getting cold, & the blacksmiths believing that they would have no other chance but to winter in the old house, made such repairs as would enable them to winter in it.

I have often examined the house, and to spend \$150 in putting new work of good materials to an old cabin that is so far spent & rotten, seems to me to be a waste of money. There is only two small rooms, each 15' 1/2 by 13' 1/2 feet for two blacksmiths, two assistants and a family. If the Comr should determine to have a new house built (as I hope he will) I refer him to the estimate that accompanied my letter of July 24.

It may not be amiss for me to mention here that I have great difficulty in procuring good blacksmiths, & assistants for the wages allowed when they have comfortable cabins to live in. A good hand to work among the whites ~~among~~ on a farm can easily get \$20 per month & his board found him. It is not reasonable to suppose that a good hand would deprive himself of the society of the whites, & board himself in the Indian country where provisions are higher than what it is in the white settlements, for the same wages, \$20 per month. The mechanics among the Indians, within my agency particularly, among the Shawnees, Delawares, & Kickapoos, have to render reasonable service, or leave the shop. The Indians keep them constantly employed and then they are not able to supply all their wants.

Mr Geo Maguire clk  
office of Supt. of Ind affs,  
St Louis Mo

I am Respectfully  
Yr. obed<sup>t</sup> Servt  
Rich<sup>d</sup> W Cunningham  
Indian Agent

Fort Leavenworth 6<sup>th</sup> Dec 1838.

Mr George Maguire, Clerk  
& Acting Superintendent,  
Indian Affairs St Louis Mo

Sir

I have the honor to nominate the following named gentlemen to fill the several offices, as herein after indicated, viz;

Elisha Stephens Blacksmith for the Tottosalamie Indians from the 1<sup>st</sup> October 1838, at which time he commenced work, in the place of Charles Benz, discontinued for the lack of industry. John Chase assistant Smith for same Indians, from the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 1838, in the place of Capoint, discontinued. Jonathan D Miller, Blacksmith for the Pawnee Indians from 15<sup>th</sup> November 1838, at which time he commenced work. Ray Harvey assistant Smith for the same Indians commenced work same day with Miller. John McKimney, assistant Smith for Omahaw Indians from 20<sup>th</sup> November 1838, in place of Simon Henry, time Expired. James Duncan farmer for Coway Indians, from 1<sup>st</sup> October 1838, in place of William Duncan resigned. Benjamin D Catlet, Farmer for Mipouri Sac & Fox Indians from 15<sup>th</sup> October 1838.



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in place of Leonard Searay, discontinued in consequence of neglecting his duties & repeatedly absenting himself without the permission or knowledge of the Agent. On my way up to the Tottomatamis I found it necessary to employ the several above named persons & put them to work immediately without waiting the confirmation of the Department, it not being convenient for me to forward their nominations at that time, and a have delayed employing them, the interests of the Indians must have suffered. Some of their shops, being without Smiths, some without strikers, and the Soways & Sars had just received a number of Cows & Calves, which made it the more necessary for them to have farmers to aid in taking care of their cattle, this being their first attempt at stock raising. Under these circumstances, I hope the course I have taken in these matters will meet the approbation of the Department, and that the above nominations will be approved. I have endeavored to select the best men possible. I assure you I find it very difficult to get good men at any price to reside among the Indians. We have men enough who would like to get the salary if they could do so without ~~performing~~ performing the labor required of them.

I am very Respectfully Sir  
Your obt. Servt.  
Geo. Dryden  
Sub. Agt.

---

Agency of Fort Leavenworth  
November 20. 1835.

Sir, I have this day granted a license to J. Peuceaux to trade for one year to wit the Kickapoo Indians at the first point of Bluffs above the mouth of Salt creek & about three and a half miles above Fort Leavenworth - Amount of Capital Employed by him, as per invoice exhibited, Two thousand and twenty five Dollars and Eighty ~~five~~ <sup>two</sup> Cents - amount of bond for the faithful observance of the laws and regulations - Two thousand Dollars. C. Chouteau, Security.

Respectfully,  
Geo. W. Cummins  
Indian Agent

Mr. Geo. Maguire, Clerk  
Office Supt. of Ind. Affs.  
St. Louis, Mo.

I certify, on honor, that J. Peuceaux, the person to whom the license has been granted is a citizen of the United States.

Richard W. Cummins  
Sub. Agent



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Agency of Fort Leavenworth  
December 17, 1838.

Sir The 5th article of the treaty of 1821, with the Kickapoo provides, that the United States will pay \$1000. annually for five successive years for the support of a blacksmith & stickers, purchase of iron, steel, tools &c for the benefit of said tribe.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> day of Feb'y 1839, the Blacksmiths & Stickers, term of ~~five years~~ will expire. I however recommend that they be continued a few years longer, if the Department have the power of continuing them. The Kickapoo are rapidly progressing in agricultural pursuits & I fear if they lose their blacksmiths, that they will not progress so rapidly. In case the Blacksmiths are not continued, I wish to be informed whether the Dept. intends the Kickapoo to have the blacksmiths tools. It seems to me that they are entitled to them by the article and treaty above referred to; if not inform me what disposition is to be made of them

Yours Respectfully

Wm. S. Galt

Richd W Cummings  
Ind. Agent.

Mr Geo Maguire, Colk  
Office of Supt of Ind. Affrs  
St Louis Mo.

Fort Leavenworth

20<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1838.

Sir, The enclosed memorandum was handed to me by Billy Caldwell, with a request that I would make the inquiries indicated.

The only means I have of complying with this request is to send the memorandum to you, and hope you will be pleased to give such information on the subject as you may possess and deem proper to communicate.

Very Respectfully

Wm. S. Galt

W. Geo. Maguire  
Colk. & Acty. Supt.

Enclosed - The papers sent herewith  
to Mr Caldwell, Jan 9, 1839 - & which  
in both "Inquire Letter & Answer"

Wm. Dougherty  
Ind. Agt.

Memorandum for Major D.

Enquire relative to the money in lieu of goods - annuity of last year 1838 \$5000. - Enquire about 10,000 relating to consideration of alteration of boundary line page 602: - Another Blacksmith for Galt's and supplies for his shop. - Mar Buncer (reservation) wants to sell it to the U.S. - Agric<sup>l</sup> implements to be sent up in the spring

8. 1837.



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Pottowatomie station  
Upper Mo. March 17<sup>th</sup> 1838

C. H. Harris Esq  
Com<sup>r</sup> of Ind<sup>o</sup>: Affrs.

Sir,

I wish to sell to the U. States my reservation of five sections of land adjoining the reservation of Quaqua Tan, on Little Rock a branch of the Kaa-ha-kee river, in the State of Illinois. The white people have already taken possession of the land without my permission, as I cannot get them off, or live there without them I hope you will see fit to purchase the land for their use, I ask for it at the rate of one dollar and twenty five cents per acre.

Nah-bon-seh <sup>his</sup> mark

In presence of Edwin James Sub. agt  
D. Hardin, Farmer for Pott.

Fort Leavenworth  
20<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1838.

Sir, Enclosed herewith you will find copy of a letter from Nah-bon-seh, an old Pottowatomie Indian warrior, to C. H. Harris Comm<sup>r</sup> Ind<sup>o</sup>: Affrs, dated 17<sup>th</sup> March last. Nah-bon-seh states that he has never rec<sup>d</sup>: an answer to his communication, and being anxious to sell his land to the U.S. requested me to forward the copy, and to state that he would be much gratified to have the views of the Department respecting his proposition, made known to him as early as convenient.

I am respectfully

Yr. ob<sup>t</sup>: serv<sup>t</sup>,

(S) Jno: Dougherty  
Ind<sup>o</sup>: Dept.

Mr. J. Maguire  
Chk. & Actg. Supt.

Fort Leavenworth  
29<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1838.

Sir The mills now under contract for the Iowa & Mo. Sac Indians will soon be completed.

I would very respectfully suggest, the necessity of appointing two good white men as millers one for each mill to take charge of them so soon as they shall be finished. These tribes, being entirely unacquainted with mills, it will be useless to give them charge, at least, until they learn from the whites something about milling.

Please let me know the views of the Department on this subject as early as convenient.

Very Respectfully,  
Jno Dougherty  
Ind<sup>o</sup>: Agent

Mr Geo Maguire  
Chk & Actg Supt Ind Affrs  
Saint Louis Mo



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Agency of *Fort Leavenworth*  
December 25. 1838

Sir: *J. Reynolds*, *Ass. Agt.* who arrive here a few days since, informs me that no funds have been forwarded to pay the *Nickajaw* blacksmiths, for their services for the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> yrs of the present year. He thinks the reason why the money was not forwarded, is because the term, five years, which the *Nickajaw* under the 5<sup>th</sup> article of the Treaty of 1832, were to have blacksmiths has expired.

Under the 5<sup>th</sup> article, Treaty of the 24<sup>th</sup> October 1832 with the *Nickajaw*, the United States, agreed to pay 1000<sup>00</sup> annually for purchase of iron, steel, tools &c, for the benefit of said tribe &c.

*Nirson Morgan* their first <sup>black</sup>smith  
Commenced the 4<sup>th</sup> November 1833 } year, months, days.  
Ending The 31 of March 1835 } 1. 4. 26. at \$420 per annum \$562.

*No assistant Smith.*

*J. P. Smith, 2<sup>d</sup> Smith*

Commenced the 1<sup>st</sup> April 1835 }  
Ending the 15<sup>th</sup> November 1837 } 2. 7. 15 . . . 1260.

*J. P. Smith, asst*

Commencing 1<sup>st</sup> April 1835 }  
Ending 18. Nov. 1837 } . . . . . 240 . . . 630

*Andrew Keller, 3<sup>d</sup> Smith*

Commencing the 1<sup>st</sup> April 1838 }  
Ending the 30 June 1838 } . . . 3 . . . 480 . . . 120

*Charles Dick, asst Smith*

Commencing 1<sup>st</sup> April 1838 }  
Ending 30 June 1838 } . . . . . \$240 . . . 60

paid for 3 & 4 yrs of 1838 }  
Blacksmith & asst } . . . . . 6 . . . 360

Blacksmith's Shop & dwelling house }  
per contract, with *J. Henderson* of *Seby* 1834 } . . . . . 250

4 years, months & 10 days \$3242

Now, steel & tools, Estimated, for bill, of the amt of the purchase or cost was not furnished me, to average for annum \$320, which I am sure will exceed the amount expended for that purpose - - 1100.

Dollars 4342.

The whole amount including \$360 for the 3 & 4 yrs of 1838, applied under the above article & Treaty, up to the 31 day of December, 1838, is \$4342 & up to this time they have been furnished with blacksmiths, four years, nine months and ten days, I regret that the money has not been forwarded, as the blacksmith is greatly in need & has faithfully earned it. Be pleased to give your earliest attention to this subject and inform me how much longer the smiths must be continued.

*Doct. J. Reynolds* also informs me that no funds have been placed in his hands to pay the *Kansas* farmers, for his services for the 3 & 4<sup>th</sup> yrs of the present year, I will thank you to engage into this also. I think *Maj. Hitchcock* has the funds under the



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4<sup>th</sup> art. Treaty of 1825 with the Kansas. I see the appropriation is made for the present year

Mr Geo. Maguire clk &c  
Indian Affairs  
St Louis Mo

I am Respectfully  
Yrs obt Servt  
Richd W. Cummins  
Ind. Agent

Fort Leavenworth  
1<sup>st</sup> January 1839.

Sir. Enclosed you will find herewith duplicate abtts of Requisitions drawn by me on Majr. E. A. Hitchcock, Sr. Lt. Col. P. S. Sgt. Sub. Capt. for disbursements during the quarter ending 30<sup>th</sup> June, 1838.

The persons employed among the Indians in my charge, being so widely scattered, together with other duties with the Pawnee Indians and my long illness last summer, has prevented my sending this abt. at an earlier period

Very Respectfully  
Yours obt. Servt  
Mr Geo. Maguire  
Clk and acting Supt Ind. Affs  
St Louis Mo

Richd W. Cummins  
Ind. Agent

Fort Leavenworth Agency  
Jan 5. 1839.

Sir. I have just been informed by a letter from Majr Hitchcock that no funds are on hand to pay the Delaware Millers.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> article of the Delaware treaty, of October 1802, provides for a person to attend their mill for five years and for the repairs of the same during the said period, Two Thousand five hundred Dollars.

E. Brafford, 1<sup>st</sup> miller commenced the 5<sup>th</sup> day of July, and ending the 24<sup>th</sup> day of September 1833, 2 months & 20 days, at 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  per month \$32.00

W. James, 2<sup>d</sup> miller, commenced the 1<sup>st</sup> day of October 1833, and ending the 20<sup>th</sup> day of April 1836, 2 years, 6 months & 20 days, at 500 $\frac{1}{2}$  per annum 1277.75

N. Allen, 3<sup>d</sup> miller, commencing the 21<sup>st</sup> day of April 1836, & ending the 20<sup>th</sup> day of November 1837, 1 year & 7 months at 500 $\frac{1}{2}$  per annum 791.66

E. Brafford, 4<sup>th</sup> miller, commenced 1<sup>st</sup> day of January, & ending 30 day of June 1838, 6 months at 500 $\frac{1}{2}$  per annum 250.00

Making 4 years, 10 months & 20 days, ending on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June 1838, that they have had a miller, and the amount of money expended for that purpose & for keeping their mill in repair 2557.40 $\frac{1}{2}$ , leaving a balance of the amount specified in the treaty unexpended of 1480 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. Be pleased to enquire into this subject.

I am Respectfully  
Yrs obt Servt  
Richd W. Cummins  
Ind. Agent  
Mr Geo. Maguire Clk  
Ind Affairs  
St Louis Mo  
(2mm over)



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(Memo.)

I enclose herewith a letter to me from the Kickapoo Chiefs, of  
Pier St. He pleased to forward it as a copy to the Comr of Ind affs  
"Kick's 10.6"

Fort Leavenworth Agency

January 6. 1857.

Sir I enclose herewith a petition to Congress, wrote by me at the request of  
the Delawares & Shawnees that engaged in the Seminole War during the  
winter of 1837 & 8, on the subject of their pay. These Indians respectfully  
request the favor of you to lay their petition before Congress, with such remarks  
in their behalf as you may think right & proper.

I will add that the whole of them are dissatisfied and that  
unless they succeed in getting their pay promised them, they will not  
cease to trouble us on this subject for a long time. A large portion of  
them refused at first to receive the pay sent them, believing that if  
they signed the receipts, it would operate against any further claim.  
& others were unwilling to receive any part unless they could get all.  
However they finally agreed to receive what was sent, & petition  
Congress for the balance.

I am Respectfully Yr obt Serv

Richard W. Cummins

Ind. Agent

Mr J. H. Crawford

Comr Ind affs

Washington City.

Fort Leavenworth 8<sup>th</sup> Jan'y 1857.

Sir On my way down a short time since from the Upper Country, I passed  
by the old Iowa Sub Agency for the purpose of ascertaining the state  
of the public buildings and other public property at that place. I found  
several families occupying the buildings some of which were still in  
good repair. There are three considerable Corn fields, attached to the Agency  
all of which were cultivated the last season by the above mentioned  
occupants. These families informed me that they had taken possession  
of the Agency by permission from Newbryles. I am of opinion that  
that the houses, boards, rails & fields, could be sold at public sale for  
something well worth the attention of the Department and would  
therefore respectfully suggest the propriety of some such measure, other-  
wise the place will soon go to ruin.

I am Very Respectfully Yr obt Serv

Geo. Dougherty

Ind. Agent

Mr George Maguire

Chk & Acty Supt Ind. affs

Saint Louis Mo

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Fort Leavenworth,  
21<sup>st</sup> January 1839.

Sir Enclosed you will find herewith, a list of articles required by the Indians under charge of for the year 1839, in payment of annuities, and agricultural implements. You will also find, the decisions of the Cttee, Missions, Missions & Fox & Sway tribes, relative to payments in 1837, all of which ought to be paid in the month of September or Early part of October.

I am Very Respectfully  
Your obt. Servt

Mr George Maguire  
Clt & Sect. Wtpt  
Ind. affs. St Louis. Mo.

Geo Dougherty  
Ind. aff

St Louis 27<sup>th</sup> February 1839.

Mr George Maguire,  
Now in charge of the office  
of the Indian Department at St Louis Mo.

Sir - Enclosed please find Copies of the letter of Ed Johnson Esq, in behalf of the Commissioners for the investigation of the Claims to the Sac & Fox & Half breed Lands in Iowa Territory, to Major Estlin & R. Mil. Esq. &c and the accompanying receipts for Copies of all the papers in your office, & of the maps &c relating to the said lands: Major Estlin & R. Mil. Esq. being absent, we make hereby application to you, for the said <sup>papers</sup> maps, & request you to state at what time it will be convenient for you to deliver them to us, if you believe your instructions from the Comd of Indian Affairs will justify you in delivering them, on the requisition of Mr Johnson as contained in the enclosed copies. If you think your instructions will not justify you in such a course you will please state your reasons in writing, that they may be forwarded to the War Department, & other instructions sent that will be more explicit than those already received by your office - The receipts (copies whereof are enclosed) from Mr Johnson, we suppose are to be appended to descriptive lists of all the papers furnished by you to us, which descriptive lists we believe Mr Johnson intended should be prepared by your office, as you must necessarily be more conversant with the contents of the papers than any other person.

Respectfully Yours obt. Servt  
Geo. E. Crozman  
U. S. A.  
J. M. Walsh

(Copies referred to in foregoing communication)

Office of the Commissioners, appointed to investigate the claims to the "Half breed" Lands.

To Major Estlin & R. Mil. Esq. &c  
now in charge of the Ind. Dept  
at St Louis Mo

Sir - You will be pleased to deliver to Joseph M. Walsh Esq of Saint Louis, or Capt Geo. E. Crozman, U. S. A., authenticated copies of all papers, maps &c in your office relating to the Half breed



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lands lying between the Osage & Mississippi river in Iowa T.

Montrose See Com Iowa T.

January 17<sup>th</sup> All 1839.

Ed. Johnston

in behalf of the Comrs  
above named.

Recd of Maj. C. Hitchcock, now in charge of the Indian Department at  
St. Louis, authenticated copies of the papers &c. relating to the Sac & Fox  
tribe lands in Iowa Territory & named in the descriptive list, which is  
appended. All 1839

Ed. Johnston

in behalf of the  
Comrs: appointed to  
investigate the claims  
of said lands.

(Duplicate of this recd.)

Fort Leavenworth

25<sup>th</sup> January 1839.

Sir. I find on looking over my letter to you of the 6<sup>th</sup> ult, containing sundry  
nominations, I omitted to include the names of James Andrew, as Striker for  
the Iowa<sup>13<sup>th</sup> Dist</sup> Smith, Francis Bishnell having left the service in consequence  
of some difficulty with the Smith who found it necessary to employ  
Andrew on the 1<sup>st</sup> October last, in his place, since which time he has  
been at work in the shop - I therefore respectfully beg leave to nominate  
him for the appointment of Striker from that day - I would also nominate  
Peter Bonhomme for the appointment of Sulciple for the Iowa T. &  
Frenchmandan from the 1<sup>st</sup> of Jan'y 1839, on which day I found it necessary to  
employ him, there being none for that tribe - I found also on examination  
of the statement of persons employed in the Grand Neuchawak Agency  
forwarded to you 1<sup>st</sup> Sept last, that I ~~omitted~~ committed an error which  
I now beg leave to correct; Samuel McElmore, & not Benjamin Cattet, should  
have been reported as a pistant blacksmith for the Sac & Fox tribe.

Very Respy Servt

Jno Dougherty  
Indy

Miles Maguire Clerk & Acting

Supt Ind Affs

St Louis Mo

Fort Leavenworth Agency

January 29. 1839.

Sir. A party of Shawnees Indians from Neosho Arkansas, are now here. they  
state that all the Shawnees of Arkansas, Neosho (perhaps more than one  
hundred) intend moving to this place as soon as the winter breaks. They  
ask for a year provisions and agricultural implements to enable them to  
build houses, make farms &c. They wish provisions to be ready for them by the  
time they arrive here as they say that they will not have money to buy  
they request an answer soon & have an express here to convey the same  
to Neosho.

If the Commissioners has them furnished with provisions as I have

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no doubt he will, it may not be amiss to remind him that a small party (30) of  
the same band are now receiving provisions here, under contract with J. B. Wells.

Mr. Geo. Maguire  
clerk Ind. Affs.  
St. Louis, Mo.

I am Respectfully  
Yours etc.  
Richd. M. Cummins  
Indian Agent

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Fort Leavenworth 27 January 1839.

Mr. How's letter of the 5<sup>th</sup> inst was received on the 25<sup>th</sup>. In answer to that part of  
it suggesting a report from me relative to the blacksmith shop in the Pottowattamie  
memorandum, I beg leave to state that they claim it is under the 3<sup>d</sup> article of the  
treaty of 26<sup>th</sup> Sept 1833 at Chicago. In regard to establishing another smith shop and  
furnishing the agricultural implements desired in said memorandum, I find it extremely  
difficult to give a decided opinion. These Indians agreed with Major Davis & myself  
last fall to examine the Country offered them in exchange for their present residence  
next spring. Caldwell has since sent me word, and has also got Capt Gault to  
write that it is very doubtful whether they will be able to do so before next fall.  
This man Caldwell is a cunning, designing, dangerous, speculating, unprincipled,  
drunkard, & spoils man character. I have kept my eye on him for the last two years  
and am forced to the opinion that the Pottowattamies will never prosper  
until he is put down and no longer considered a Chief among them.  
The officers of the Government have given him his present influence over  
the tribe, and it should be taken from him without delay for I feel confident  
in my own mind that he is exercising a bad influence against the American  
Government, & is, though as fervently as he did during the last war. He  
has, I think, no other blood in him, but is a secret savage at heart of the  
order ever educated in the school of the notorious Gen. Proctor, at the River Raisin -  
When sober, he is very cautious in his expressions, but when under the influence  
of liquor he is unceasing in his abuse of all treaties with the United States,  
and of all officers of the Government from the President down, excepting always  
Gov. Cass, who he says was banished from the U.S. for the express purpose of  
getting him out of the way on account of his true friendship to the Indians  
generally - I received a letter the other from Capt Gault under date 19<sup>th</sup> Dec  
1838, in speaking of the Pottowattamies, he says "and I believe some of them are  
induced to believe their annuity was stopped to force them into a treaty; indeed  
some intermeddling persons have told them so - Caldwell told me (the other day)  
if the U.S. would offer the Pottowattamies land on the Missouri river from the big  
Kiamahaw up they would remove without delay." The old Cock requests me to say  
to you the Pottowattamies requests you will make every exertion to cause  
their agricultural implements to be sent up as early as possible in the  
Spring." Besides this extract from Capt Gault's letter you will find enclosed  
herewith a letter from Elisha Stephens, the present smith for the Pottowattamies  
written it appears, at the request of Caldwell requiring the erection of an  
additional smith shop - I think it would be well to send as early in the  
Spring as practicable to the Pottowattamies about 400 cow hoes, 200 good axes,  
30 good one horse ploughs with harness complete, and 5 or 6 two horse ploughs  
together with such iron, steel & smith tools as are required for the shop already  
established, but nothing towards the establishment of the additional



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one until it is ascertained whether the Indians remove from their present location. I am induced to recommend the furnishing the above mentioned articles for the reason I consider it altogether probable that should an Exchange of Country be effected in the Spring, the Indians will not leave their present homes before fall as it will take considerable time to explore the Country on the South, if so they will be desirous of raising a crop where they are.

My remarks in relation to Caldwell have been made from a sense of duty for the purpose of giving you some knowledge of the Character of the man who it appears is the head chief of the *Pottawatomie* and who is receiving a large annuity of \$1000 from the United States.

I am Very Respectfully

Mr. Geo. M. Quinn

Chief of the Indian Affairs  
St. Louis Mo.

Winnott Jot

Winnott Jot  
No. 111

Toucan, Mo. 7<sup>th</sup> 1839.

Dear Sir - I inform you that I am in good health at this time hoping these lines to find you in the same state of health. Capt Caldwell wishes I should write to you to send by the first box. miles said as much iron as I hold <sup>weight</sup> ~~weight~~ to you for - We wish to get the box miles - If we get no more <sup>weight</sup> ~~weight~~ to get four dozen miles, three dozen of a small size, one of a large size - I wish to get bare iron one inch and five square two hundred pounds - I would be glad these would be another Smith in the Spring - I am pushed very ~~much~~ <sup>much</sup> if you send a mother suit you can send as much iron as you see proper I would be glad to get at least 500 lbs pounds of bare iron 2 inches wide and 3/4 thick - also 500 lbs pounds of bare iron 3 inches wide and 7/8 thick also 30 pounds of common Spring steel a few pounds Cast steel a few pounds of blister steel 20 pounds of borax one rim of fine wire and three iron a boiler of every quality as much as suits you.

Nothing more but Yours Respectfully

Elisha Stephens

Fort Leavenworth Agency  
February 12, 1839.

Sir. A party of Delaware, from Canada, emigrated to this place some time since. They state that they have annuity are then from the United States, that they have not received since they got 1834, for the years 1837 & 18, and requested me to enquire why it has not, or this proposition of it, sent to them. They state that the party, entitled to this annuity, numbers a little upwards of two hundred, that about one hundred and seventy five started from Canada, for this place, when they did, but in consequence of the poverty of a part of them, that about seventy stopped among the Stockbridge Indians, near Lake Winnebago. This annuity, as I understand, arises from the sale of the several tracts of land of 2400 acres each in the County of Tuscarawas, State of Ohio, which were granted by Congress in 1796, to the Society of the United Brethren, in trust for the sole benefit of said Indians. (See the act providing for the disposition of the three tracts of land, approved

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These Delawares state that they are very poor, (which I believe to be true) and ask to be furnished with provisions for one year, as other emigrating Indians are. They state that they number about 75. I have not counted them. If the Department furnishes them with provisions, their proper number will be ascertained when the muster rolls are taken.

I am Respectfully,

Wm. A. Hasty Crawford Comr  
Washington City.

Your obt. Svt  
Richard W. Cummins  
Ind. Agent

Fort Leavenworth Agency  
July 13. 1839.

Sir, the Shawnees state that they have understood that their old friends the Wyandots have stated that they would be willing to move to this country if they could get a tract of land as good as that which the Shawnees now reside on; and that they the Shawnees have a great desire to have their old friends the Wyandots for neighbors once more.

On this subject the Shawnees have lately held a National Council, and have decided that if the Wyandots wish to move to this country, that the Shawnees are willing to sell to the United States, for the Wyandots exclusively, a strip of land, two miles in width off of the East end of their tract, (50 sections) all of which the Shawnees requested me to report to you. I will add that I believe, if desirable, that a larger quantity of land could be procured.

I am Respectfully,

Wm. A. Hasty Crawford  
Comr. of Ind. Affs  
Washington City.

Your mo. obt. Svt  
Richard W. Cummins  
Ind. Agent

Fort Leavenworth Agency  
July 17. 1839.

Sir, the Shawnees from the River Huron have relinquished to the Shawnee chiefs, all their interest in and to the proceeds of the section of land specified in the 13<sup>th</sup> art. treaty of August 1<sup>st</sup> 1834, which I herewith enclose.

There is no chieft among this little band of Shawnees from the River Huron. The Shawnee chiefs are still unwilling for the Huron party to have any part or interest in the provision contained in this article. They are much exasperated with Capt. J. Parks, who was the interpreter when the treaty was concluded. They now believe that he was instrumental in having this section of land arranged for the benefit of the Huron party, contrary, they say, to the positive agreement and understanding of all the chiefs, parties to the treaty. They say they gave him one entire section of land which they think should have satisfied him. I feel sure that if the Department feel authorized to have this money paid to the Chiefs, that it will give general satisfaction to the tribe.\*

I am Respectfully,

Wm. A. Hasty Crawford  
Comr. of Ind. Affs  
Washington City.

Your mo. obt. Svt  
Richard W. Cummins  
Ind. Agent

\* The relinquishment herein referred to, occurred Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> 1839. Ind. Affairs & Speeches, -



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Fort Leavenworth, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1839.

Sir, I recently returned from a visit of ten days to the Iowa and Missouri Saes, being informed that they had nearly all arrived from their fall and winter hunt on the waters of the Osage, Grand River, Neosho, & Mokane, and Mokane rivers. My principal business to their villages was to obtain correct information relative to an Iowa that was reported to have been killed during the winter on the Mokane by some white man that was found dead shot through the head in a cabin on the M. river, within the strip of country lately attached to the state of Mo., and near the upper end of said strip, ~~but~~ 20 miles below the big river, Platte. From the best information I have been able to obtain, the Iowa was killed by two brothers by the name of Nesson, and a man by the name of Comb. These three men are notorious in this country, and have been for many years, as whiskey vendors on our border. The Iowa chiefs, among whom was the father of the Indian that was killed, state that the Nesson & Comb came to their principal hunting camp with a barrel of whiskey, and commenced in the evening to retail it out to the Indians for skins - that some time in the night the Indians became very much intoxicated and commenced quarreling and fighting among themselves, which soon extended to the whites, who took flight and ran off leaving the balance of their liquor &c behind, and proceeded on down the Mokane, and some time the next day, fell in with two Iowa families who were encamped, and knew nothing of what had taken place the over night in the whiskey frolic, that the Nesson asked a young Indian, called Mock-the-money, who was living and hunting with his father and an old chief by the name of Wap-hom-fee, to go with them and aid in tracking up a horse that they had lost, that Mock-the-money went with them, but not returning at night, the next morning the Indians went in search of and found him shot through the body by a rifle ball, his back powder burnt and the tracks of the white men leading from the spot. In regard to the white man found dead the Iowa declared that they knew nothing. This however I am inclined to doubt as some of their young men were in the neighborhood at the time the man was found, and from the fact that one of their own tribe had been killed a month before by the whites, (as they say) I think it good grounds, for at least suspecting of the murder of the white man. I presume however the truth will come out soon, as it is very hard for difficult for Indians to keep such things secret. They and the Saes brought in a considerable quantity of dressed meat which will be of great service to them. If they have a good supply of corn, and the Iowa water mill was nearly completed when I left there, and an excellent one it is. The Indians have already had considerable grinding done and are highly pleased with it, as well as with their hogs, and cows of which they appear disposed to take good care. They and the Mo. Saes are both anxious to receive the balance of the cows and hogs due them, under 3<sup>rd</sup> article treaty 17<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1836. The most of their Prairie grounds under contract are ready for planting and the whole will be in due time, their houses are progressing very well and would have been completed long since but for the unusually early & severe winter.

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Having business of importance to me, which will require my presence in St. Louis, between now and the month of June next, I most respectfully beg leave to be indulged with permission to be absent thirty days from my agency, whenever I can do so without injury to the public service.

I am very respectfully  
Yours obt. servt

Mr George Maguire  
Clerk of Acting Supt  
Ind. Affs. St. Louis, Mo.  
M. J. M.

Mr Dougherty  
Ind. Affs.

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Fort Leavenworth  
4<sup>th</sup> March 1837.

Sir: The Loring mill being nearly completed, I have the honor, in obedience to the Commr. Ind. Affs. instructions, forwarded by you on the 2<sup>d</sup> ult., to nominate William P. Hupperts for the appointment of miller. Mr H. assisted in building this mill, is capable of keeping it in good order, and is highly recommended as an honest, industrious and worthy man.

Very Respectfully, Yr. obt. servt

Mr George Maguire  
Clerk of Acty. Supt.  
Ind. Affs. St. Louis Mo. M. J. M.

Mr. Dougherty  
Ind. Affs.

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Osage River Sub. Agency  
Feb'y 1<sup>st</sup> 1837.

Sir: I have appointed Luther Rice Interpreter for the Osage River Sub Agency. He is a full blood Indian, I would therefore respectfully recommend him to the Dept. as being well qualified to fill that office.

I am Sir very Respectfully  
Yours mo. obt. servt

Geo. Maguire Clerk  
office Supt Ind. Affs.  
St Louis Mo. M. J. M.

Anthony L. Davis  
Ind. Sub. Agent

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Fort Leavenworth March 18. 1837.

George Maguire, Clerk of Acty. Supt Ind. Affs.  
St Louis Mo. M. J. M.

Sir: I have the honor to nominate Mr Doctor Smith of Platte County Missouri for the appointment of miller for the Missouri Sac & Fox Mill, which it is believed will be completed by the 15<sup>th</sup> of next month; it was, agreeably to contract, to have been finished on the first day of March inst, but owing to the winter weather having set in a month earlier than usual, the contractor has failed to comply with his contract. He and his securities request to be indulged by the Department. The iron, stone, & most all the timber &c for the mill are on the ground & framed ready for putting up together, and the floor & case are nearly completed. An additional number of hands are now employed, and I think the whole will be completed by the 15<sup>th</sup> of April next. Under these circumstances I most respectfully recommend that some indulgence be granted in this case. Mr James Gilman, Blacksmith for the Missouri Sac & Fox Indians, and Mr Samuel<sup>16</sup> Gilmore Shaker for the same have informed me that they wish to resign their appointments. They