Kansas Memory

United States Office of Indian Affairs, Central Superintendency, St. Louis, Missouri. Volume 8, Correspondence

Section 11, Pages 301 - 323

Correspondence received by the Central Superintendency at St. Louis, Missouri. The majority of this correspondence is sent from Indian agents, including John Dougherty, Anthony L. Davis, Congreve Jackson, Richard W. Cummins, Stephen Cooper and Joseph V. Hamilton, to the Superintendents of Indian Affairs, including George Maguire, Joshua Pilcher, and David D. Mitchell. Topics discussed include nominations for tribal blacksmiths, reports of alcohol abuse, annuities from the federal government, and funds needed to uphold provisions of various treaties, including the Treaty with the Delawares (1818) and the Treaty of Castor Hill (1832). A searchable, full-text (PDF) transcription is available under "Additional Information" below.

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United States Office of Indian Affairs, Central Superintendency, St. Louis, Missouri.
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to refer the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to my letter repeating the payment to Sol Chambers, date Sept. 23. 1846, and to the time of certificates with which I informed him that the mode of payment adopted had produced the desired effect. In that letter, so far was I from believing that I acted improperly, that I spoke of my advice often and strenuously urged upon the Indians, as a means which had effected the mode of payment. I received a very Complimentary reply from my Superintendent, now on file among my papers at the late agency, and I suppose he forwarded my report to the Department as I intended. No disapproval was communicated from thence. Thos. M. Scott doubtless knows something of the disappointment of this time, for his house and premises became literally a den of pugilists through the payment. I do not mean his trading house for that was under my jurisdiction, and on my eye; but his farm house, where he lived on farm of the post.

In his closing paragraph, Mr Scott speaks of his impressions in regard to my conduct. What there was I neither know nor do I care more than for his impressions upon any other subject. My chief aim is to act honestly and faithfully for the benefit of my charge, and so as to secure the approval of my Superiors, I would like the good will of every body, but this first, if any, can be acquired. As to my acting for the benefit of the American Fur Co, that has become so old a story, that I hope the Department knows something about it by this time. The Phelps are partners of this Company, but the Ewing whom Mr Scott knows to be also Concerned with it, are as notoriously hostile to it, as were ever France and England to each other in the days of the Edwards.

Now, I believe, and have believed, that the whiskey seller Hingis has cherished no affection for me since I refused him a trading license in 1843, was sustained by the Commissioner Indian affairs Scott his Coadjutor, has for a long time been similarly affected towards me, and during the whole period they have been watching for cause of Complaint, this appears to be the most important matter which their ingenuity has enabled them to discern. And again, this did not appear to be of sufficient magnitude to be Complained of at the time, but the wrath of the whiskey Seller Hingis, having received additional impetus perhaps from Certain references in my last Annual report, to the Penitentiary in Connection with persons who furnished whiskey to Indians; from my allusions in my letter of Sept. 11. 1845, which was sent back to Col. Kearney, to the iniquitous outrages openly committed before me by Red Rock, as perpetrated in his whiskey Shop, sometimes called Sibbit's Store; and from my efforts of last Summer to prevent his obtaining payment for the

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merchandize which I believe him to have clandestinely and illegally sold to them; leaving now moreover, that I am assailed from another quarter, he appears to flatter himself with having found a favorable opportunity for demolishing me.

But since the Whisky Seller, R.H. Kenzie writes such a peculiar file for the Indians, such an interest in the character of this Agent see, it would be well for him to call for an investigation of the transaction in which he is accused of having (I know the meaning of the word stolen) a large amount of money, say three thousand dollars, from the Sac and Fox at the Semis payment of 1849 - I then tried to investigate it; One White Man told me he saw it done - Keokuk and other Chiefs, I was told, were much incensed at it - I tried to have them come before me with a Complaint - They started for my house to do so, but took the Trail, when the Whisky Shop was located, on their way - They came no further - What was the inducement and what its potency (for on that occasion it may have been the Cognomen and not Commanding effect) I did not like them to desire, others can imagine as well as I. At all events, being very much afraid of Whisky, I dropped the Matter, but it might gain the advantage over me.

I was told yesterday that the Whisky Seller Kenzie intended to apply for a trading License among the Sacs & Foxes - I replied that I should never grant him One; that I would be glad to see Missionaries, School Teachers see among them, but that I should resist the admission of Whisky Sellers, even to the Cost of my Commission.

Major Thos. H. Harvey
Supt. Ind. affrs
Upper Mo.

Most respectfully Your Obt. Servt
(Signed) John Beach
U.S. Ind. Agt

Sir:

St Louis, Mo. March 28. 1846

I have the honor to enclose herewith certain claims for depredations alleged to have been Committed by Sacs & Foxes - The claim of Mssrs Chouteau appears to be fully explained by the accompanying Statement - The same in regard to that of Mr McClure - The sum charged for Hay appears to be very high in the claim of Mssrs Johnson - It was very Scarce in the Indian Country at the time for about $2.50 per ton.

The claim of Aiken Reed was forwarded to me by Gov. Chambers with instructions from the Comr of Indian affairs to make of the Indians the usual demand for the amount allowed - $80 - This I did at the payment in September last & the Indians demurred to the transaction, and declined paying the account.

Major Thos. H. Harvey
Supt Ind. affrs
St Louis Mo.

Very respectfully &c
(Signed) John Beach
U.S. Ind. Agt.

276.

Dear Sir: St Josephs March 17. 1846.

I herewith obtain my account Certified by myself and also a Certificate of Col. McClintock on a Separate Sheet, why he does not Sign the Certificate, Unless mine, I am unable to Say, as the One he gives is at the Same office. I do hope Sir you will take Such measures as will procure for me the money immediately; I am in miserable health and Shall visit St Louis as a Last resource as the fair of April; Should I may be able to get my money when there.

Maj. Thos H. Harvey
Sup. Ind. Affs

very truly yours &c
Agent, Wm. P. Richardson

Sir. Osage Sub. agency March 17. 1846.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th Feb. ultimo and in answer to the inquiries contained in the Commissioner's letter, respecting the Blacksmiths establishments I have to state, that I cannot ascertain the Osage nation's or Sub agent's Nov. 1844, I found two Blacksmiths with two assistants at the Shop doing work for the Osages, I examined the Contracts and made out them of the former Agents & found them Guilty of $600. per annum, and upon examining former Contracts as far back as 1840 or 1841 I found the Smiths have always been allowed $600 per annum; in 1845 both the Smiths resigned, & then made Contracts with Others at the Same rate, I Suppose this my stating in the vouchers as I have always done that the Smiths funds there were to be applied to purchasing Iron &c which he furnished the Shop - the Shop that the Smiths work at at present was built Some years ago, probably four or five, when Mr Calloway was agent, partly I understand by the Smiths then employed and partly by Some of the Chiefs of the nation; you will observe that there has been no Blacksmiths Shop returned to the Department for many years; One thing is Certain the Government has no Smiths' houses or Shops at the Osage nation nor have they for many years - the houses that were built for the Osage Smiths in 1839 have gone to decay many years ago - Such is the situation of the Blacksmiths' establishment at the Osage nation. As to the ownership of the present Shop there may be room to doubt, it cost I should think about $250 or $300 - the Chiefs contributed towards the building of it $100 - the Smiths employed & their Sons, the remainder - this was done while they were receiving pay from the Government, I believe I have answered all the inquiries Called for.

Maj. Thos H. Harvey
Sup. Ind. Affs

very respectfully &c
Signed, Jacob Vanderventer
Sub Ind Ag

Council Bluffs Sub Agency
March 10. 1846.

Sir.

I recommend the appointment of Charles Bourbeis & Antoine Smith for the Chippewas. Ottawas & Potawatomie Indians in the place of John Frazer resigned. Also the request of the principal Chiefs I now recommend the appointment of John Markham for one month in place of Michael Sindlinger removed. Inasmuch as Mr Markham is particularly acquainted with the habits & customs of the Indians, & it is important to have a Smith at this time, they are having their implements put in order for the Spring hunt and farming purposes, I therefore request to carry out these wishes, and it gives me pleasure to make a selection that will be useful.

Respectfully &c
Signed R. B. Mitchell
Sub Ind. Agt.

Thos H. Harvey Esq
Sup. Ind. affrs 3

Sir.

Platte City, Mo. March 10 1846

I again enclose you my official bond which I hope will be satisfactory. Some days since a few of the Indians called on me to recommend John Markham as Blacksmith to fill the vacancy occasioned by the removal of Michael Sindlinger. Knowing that Markham has been employed several times from different Agencies I decline to recommend him. I therefore recommend George Tinker as being well qualified to fill the Station of Blacksmith occasioned by Sindlinger under the 3rd Art. of the Treaty of 26 Sept 1833.

Respectfully &c
Signed R. B. Mitchell
Ind. Sub Ag.

T. H. Harvey Esq
Sup Ind affs 3

Maj. Thos H. Harvey
Sup. Ind. affrs 3

Council Bluffs Agency
March 1. 1846.

Sir. Permit me most respectfully to recommend William Mantell as Asst Smith for the Otoe & Missouria Indians in place of Samuel Cade who has quit the Service to make arrangements to move to Oregon early in the Spring. Mantell comes well recommended and if he can bear with the instructions of the Otoes, I think will fill the place of Smith very well.

Respectfully &c
Signed Jno. L. Dean
Ass Agt

St Peters Indian Agency Iowa Ter.
April 6. 1846.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 7th of March enclosing a communication from the Dept of Indian Affairs, I can only state that at my arrival at this place in the winter of 1839-40 the honorable Maj. Taliaferro

claim was to the occupancy of Scott Campbell, the Interpreter, for the Agency, and Continued to be so occupied until his dismissal, since which time it has been occupied as a residence of the Interpreter, and as Office rooms and Office (an) One has at times been used as a Store room.

In answer to the first query - By what right or title does Major Talliaferro hold said house; when and from whom he purchased, if purchased - to what use did he apply it, for the use of Government, at his own private business - what was its Condition when purchased - what improvements have been made subsequently - and at whose expense - that of his own or the United States - By what right or title does Major Talliaferro hold said house I know not from whom he made the purchase and for what sum I know not from whom the house was purchased, but I have been informed that the house was built by Captain Clark at that time Commanding at the post, and occupied by him until the Spring of 1827, when he left here, and was subsequently used as a residence for Major Loughrum then Sub Agent and afterwards by Scott Campbell the Interpreter when Capt Clark left the house was not a ready to have been built in 1825, Consequently a good Condition, when I came here as before stated, the house was in need of considerable repairs, the doors and sash, and the only repairs that have been made have been temporary - the roof has been patched and the doors and sash planed repaired from time to time at the expense of the Government - I have also put up a Store house of logs adjoining said building at a small expense on my account and purchased out of the Contingent funds for the Agency -

2nd Can the use of the said house be dispensed with by the Agency, as it absolutely necessary for the business of Government - And, by whom, and for what purpose is it now occupied, and what other buildings are in possession of the Agency, and what their value and for what purpose?

Answer - The use of the house cannot be dispensed with by the Agency - it is absolutely necessary for the use of the Agency, as a residence for the Interpreter Office and Store house - it is now occupied in part by Mr Campbell the Interpreter One room is an Office, and One temporary as a Store room.

The other building in the use of the Agency is the one that I occupy, as a dwelling which was assigned me for the purpose by Major Plympton Commanding Officer at the post, at my arrival, and had been subsequently used as a dwelling by Major Talliaferro - The house that I occupy was built by the Quartermaster, as I was informed by Major Plympton, and has always been considered appertaining to this Dependency - The value of the building would depend upon the use to which the property be applied, the present Condition of the One occupied by Major Talliaferro I should think would cost as much to repair it almost as to build a new one -

3rd - What is the actual value of the said house No 2 and what would it sell for Cash, taking into consideration the fact that the land on

which it stands belongs to the United States, and the right of Mayo Tolenfero is limited to the privilege of taking it away?

Answer – I think that the house would not like further steps to be taken for the removal of the materials from the public lands. I would therefore refer you & Capt. Hammond's Communication to the Solicitor, to whom I applied for information respecting the house, as stated. I send you herewith (A).

If the Dept. should wish further information on this subject, Major Hampton of the U.S. Army, could furnish it fully and more satisfactorily than any other person that I know of, as he was here most of the time, and directed & aided the first in relation to the house & quarters.

The houses shown in diagram were erected in 1824 & 1825 – the one occupied by Mayo & Colo. Chapman at present, owned & the depart. thereof have undergone a few changes in my Enlightened Friend; its value is perhaps Two thousand dollars as it now stands, & it would cost more perhaps to build one as good at this place.

Also send a note from Capt. Eastman & Capt. Hammond to the Solicitor, marked (B).

Mr Russell the Interpreter who now occupies the house No. 2, has resided in the Country and most of the time near this place since 1820. I send you his Statement marked (C).

Respectfully &c
(Signed) Thos. H. Harvey
Sup. Ind. Affrs
St Louis

(Signed) Thos. H. Harvey
Sup. Ind. Affrs
St Louis

(Signed) Thos. I. Bruce
Ind. Agt.

Office Quarter Master's Office
Fort Snelling, Apr. 2 1846

Sir

In answer to your note of yesterday, I have only a Communication from the Genl. of Ind. Affrs relative to the house now occupied by Mr Russell Interpreter, and claimed by the late Indian Agent Mayo Tolenfero; I have to state that I cannot but suppose that a house which was a knowledge of every person who was at the Post when I was Stationed here in 1835 & 6 – to have been built by the Soldiers of the Command Stationed at this Post for Officers' Quarters, under the direction of the Quarter Masters of the Post, should, simply by the action of time, have become private property.

I have ever considered since I have been on duty at this Post, not only as Q. Master, but when I was heretofore Stationed here as a Line officer, that not only the house in question, but the one now occupied by Major as a dwelling, belonged to the Quarter Masters' Department.

Indeed there seems to be no doubt at all upon the subject, as it was built & occupied by Lt. Col. Garland 4th Infantry at the time he was Stationed

here as Capt and Asst. P. Master Garland. they seem to have been built as quarters for Officers and occupied as such during Col. Snelling's Command at this post, as I see from an old order book now at this post, an order of Col. Snellings granting permission to Capt Clark to "occupy quarters at the hill".

That the house claimed by Major Talliaferro was built by the troops stationed at the post at that time, Cannot I think, be well denied, as there are persons now residing in the vicinity who are known to the writer, and have a distinct recollection of seeing Soldiers there employed; whether they were detached to build it for the Indian Department I have not, but I can hardly conceive that Soldiers would be used for the private benefit of any one more especially one not immediately connected with them by ties of rank.

Believing that there are officers now in the Service who were Stationed here at the time the house was built and are probably knowing whether it was by the U.S. or not (among them Lt Col. Garland & Major Plympton) I have to state that as the authorized agent of the P. Masters Dept at this post, I claim both the house situated on the hill west of Fort Snelling and referred to as nos. 1 & 2. in the Communication from the Com. of Indian Affairs, as property belonging to the P. Masters Dept. of the Army, and shall report the subject to the P. Master General for his action thereon.

I shall now proceed to answer the queries contained in the Communication of the Com. very categorically and 1st. By what right or title does Major Taliaferro hold said house? By the right of having been allowed to occupy it as well as another building belonging to the P. Masters Department for his public & private use, for some 8 or 10 years free of expence. "What was its Condition when purchased, what improvements have subsequently been made and at whose expence, that of his own or the United States? The house when he first occupied it must have been in very good Condition, probably as good as building as could be found about St Louis, and when I left this post in 1837 it was hardly habitable. One room at however had been occupied for about a year by a guest of Major Taliaferro (the late lamented W. H. Ashley).

The 2nd query I pass by as being entirely in your own Department. Next to the 3rd. What is the actual pecuniary value of the said house no 2, and what would it sell for if sold, taking into Consideration the fact that the right of Major Taliaferro is limited to the privilege of taking it away? I sincerely believe that no person could be found to take the building as a gift if he is compelled to remove it from the premises . . . . .

If it was sold with the privilege of taking a part & parts of it away the Window Sash, being the only part worth any thing, might possibly sell for $8 or 9 Dollars. The walls of the house (being of Stone) are the only part of any value, and they of Course are only of value to those who can repair it as it now stands.

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter from Capt. Eastman 1st Inf. who was stationed here as late as 1830. from which you will see that he has the same opinion of the pretended claim of Major Talliaferro as my self. Also returns to you the Communication from the Com.r of Indian Affairs.

Col. A. P. Bruin
Ind. Agt.
St Peters

I am Sir very respectfully &c
Sydney Smith Hummes
Capt. & Asst. Q.M. U.S.A.

Capt. Fort Snelling. I.T. April 3. 1846.

In answer to your letter of the date, in reference to the buildings now occupied by the U.S. Interpreter, for the Sioux Agency; Dear Sir, that I was stationed at this post as far back as 1830; at that time Major Taliaferro was the Indian Agent for the Sioux, and Major Langham the S.A. agent the latter occupied the house as quarters, and it was at that time, as it has been ever since understood by the officers stationed here as U.S. property, and I never heard any individual pretending to set up a claim to it, there are at the present time, some traders in the Country who were here at the time the house was built, and I think they will confirm what I say. I was located by U.S. Soldiers, and that no individual has any claim to it whatever.

Very respectfully
Sydney S. Eastman
Capt. U.S.A.

Capt. S. M. Plummer
Capt. & Asst. Q. Master U.S.A.

Saint Peters Indian Agency
April 7th 1846.

Sir

In reply to your request of me to give you all the information I could relative to the buildings now occupied by you as Indian Agent, which is called No. 1. also No. 2. which is now occupied in part by myself as Interpreter One room for office and Counsel, and One room for a Store room.

These buildings I believe were commenced in 1824, and I believe finished in 1825- they were built by the Soldiers of the 5th Regt of Infy. at that time I lived some one a mile distant from St Peters, and was daily in the habit of going to the Fort and have to pass by where the buildings No. 1 & 2. were erecting and Know the whole was done by the U.S. troops- and was told at the time that the buildings were for quarters for some of the Officers of the 5th Infy. after these buildings were Completed, another large building was built near by for the Indian Department this was built by the 5th Infy. also, the building Major Taliaferro occupied for his residence and office and Counsel house and Store house until the 5th Infy were ordered to move, after which time Major Taliaferro got permission of the building No. 1. and Mr. E. F. Langham Subagent

Camo as and occupied no 2. until Major Brooms Sub Agent Came as and occupied the no 2. building until the Sub Agency was discontinued at St Peters about the time the Council house, which was occupied by Scott Campbell the Interpreter, was destroyed by fire and was rebuilt 2 part of the work was done by the Sioux and part by Citizens - I helped cut the logs to rebuild the Council house - the Interpreter lived at no 2 until Major Brown went away, then no 2. building was occupied by W. Campbell Interpreter until his dismissal, I have lived in this County most of the time Since 1820, and always understood that the buildings no 1. 2. belonged to the United States - to move no 2. building it would be of no value to any person as the inside material is much decayed and nearly worn out, but State it is of use to the Agency at this place as there is no other place for the Interpreter to live, and no other place for a Council house or an Office, nor there is not Store rooms enough within the building - and as it is the Agent is Compelled to have Some of the Annuity provisions stored in Fort Snelling. Very respectfully &c

Sylvan P. Pierce
Interpreter

Ed. A. J. Brown
U.S. Ind. Agent, St Peters Agy.

Sir. Selects Post May 11. 1846

I am gratified in being able to inform you, that the Sacs & Foxes of my charge have come to a final conclusion in regard to their future home - On the 8th Inst. I Selects Council about 60 miles from this place, up the Kanjo River, at which the chief Hardfish was present representing his band of Sacs also Keokuck with a number of braves representing the rest of the Sacs, and the band of 250 Foxes. It was then decided that they would accept of the tract offered them by the Government as the head of the Osage, known as no 3. towards which Hardfish's band were then actually moving, and Council being held the Council unattended - Wellemak and Keoguark, the Foxes whose decision Powesheik had left me word that he would go with (See my letter of 1st Inst.) now present, but declined any public speaking, alleging that the braves of their bands would be dissatisfied with them for what they might do - The case then as it now stands is this, - the treaty of 1842 required of the Sacs & Foxes to remove from their lands in Iowa by the 11th Oct. 1845, and to settle upon said tract upon the waters of the Missouri, as the U.S. Government should select for them - The Sac tribe then numbering 1207, Started with promptitude and with more or less promptness arrived upon the Grounds now set as ground of their stopping while they could examine and choose between the two tracts offered them - Of the 1271 Foxes also 250 or 5, arrived among the Sacs as above - Returning among their Indians early in April

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I could learn nothing of the rest of the Foxes - I dispatched a messenger to find and bring them in and rec'd from Poweshiek their chief a reply that he should remain through the Summer upon the Potawatomie Lands, but would be governed by what these two designated Foxes should agree to in his behalf - I appointed a Council and caused these two Foxes to be brought to it - they agree to visit the matter - The rest, a large majority of the nation, having so far acted in accordance with their obligations, but up to the time prevented from a final decision by a very proper desire that the whole people should participate in it, and while thus waiting subjected to great inconvenience, the time for Corn planting almost past, are at last forced to decide, and the result of this decision effects a final fulfilment of their treaty stipulations. One band of the Sacs are already in route and by the remaining Sacs band of Foxes, who by reason of the premises delay, had felt obliged to obtain permission of the Shawnees to pass the Summer on their Lands have commenced their farming Operations, must and remain to attend their Corn, but agree to join the others as soon as they gather it, in the mean time, Confide the Keys to their Houses, expect them to transact all their public business arising in the interval, and desire their Smiths Shops, Trading Houses &c to be located and erected there without delay.

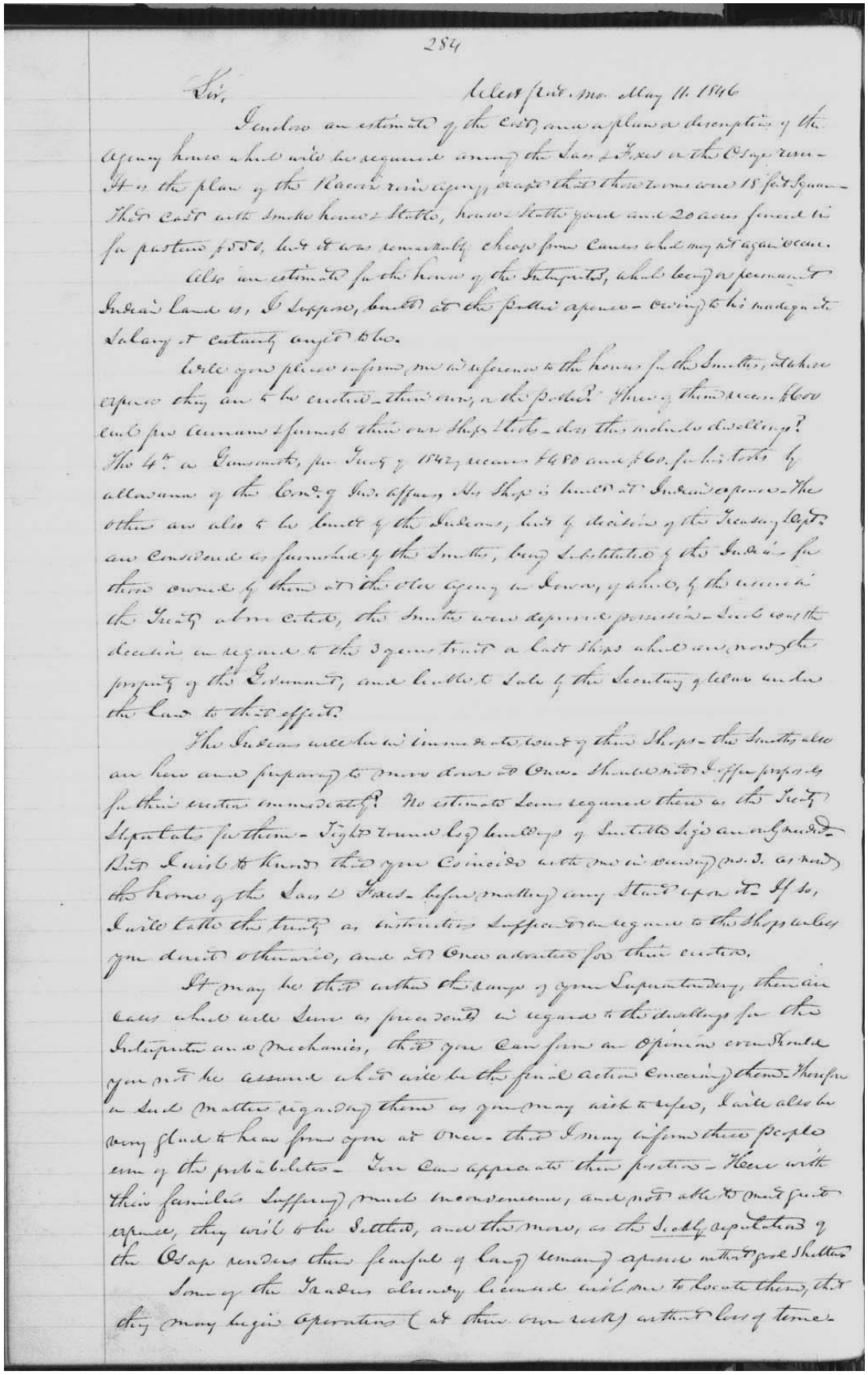
Poweshiek and his Foxes, Gun Sac will be decidedly friendly. They have been so with them treaty from the first, and the feeling is kept up by white men, some of whom having been prevented from obtaining the payment of their whisky and other dishonest accounts against them, have used indirect endeavours to cause difficulty. I suspect persons who lived along the line in Iowa - One of them is now following up the Indians - But Poweshiek says, if he may be said to him Complied with all with the treaty, has done so only in a frank and partial manner, should he now be disposed to object to the decision of the Majority of the nation, cannot as I see, be legitimately sustained in any opposition - I Consider the tract No. 3. under all the Circumstances of the Case, to have now become of the first, the permanent home of the Sacs & Foxes of the Mississippi, and altho. my own wishes would have led me to prefer the other tract or No. 4. yet my chief aims will be accomplished in securing the Indians settled in their late positions: and I am now ready and anxious to devote what energy I may possess to the immediate performance of those duties and labors which may tend to their Comfort & Convenience in their new Homes.

The high price demanded by the Shawnees for their Lands put an effectual stop to any further Consideration of the question of Purchase of the Sacs & Foxes - Last fall I left the maps on which were delineated the two tracts selected by Major Cummins - a small & the graph Maps - It may be that you have some of them, if so, you will greatly oblige me if you will send me One. with pleasure.

Maj. Gen. A. Harney,
Sup. Ds. No. 3

(Signed) John Read
Ind. Agt

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Sir, Iowa Point, Mo. May 11. 1846

I enclose an estimate of the cost and a plan or description of the Agency house which will be required among the Sacs & Foxes on the Osage river. It is the plan of the Kansas river Agency, except that there it was one & ½ stories high. The cost with smoke house & stable, house & stable yard and 20 acres fenced in for pasture $550, but it was remarkably cheap from causes which may not again occur.

Also an estimate for the house of the Interpreter, which being on permanent Indian land is, I suppose, limited at the public expense - owing to his undergoing salary & custom ought to be.

Will you please inform me in reference to the houses for the Smiths, what expense they are to be erected - there are, at the public? There is there seven $600 each per annum & farmers three over Shaw Nation - does this include dwelling? The 4th is Gunsmith, per Treaty of 1842, receives $480 and $60. for his tools by allowance of the Comr of Ind. Affairs. No Shop is limited at Indian expense. The other are also to be limited by the Indians, but by decision of the Treasury Dept. are considered as furnished by the Smiths, being substituted for the Indian for them owned by them at the other Agency in Iowa, & also, if the removal the Treaty above cited, the Smiths were deprived positive - such was the decision in regard to the Agency tract & Shops which are now the property of the Government, and liable to sale if the Secretary of War under the Law to that effect.

The Indians will be in immediate want of their Shops - the Smiths also are here and preparing to move down to Osage. Should not I offer proposals for their erection immediately? No estimate I see required there as the Treaty stipulates for them - Eight rooms log buildings of suitable size are required. But I wish to know that you coincide with me in view as I understand the terms of the Sac & Fox - before making any stand upon it. If so, I will take the treaty as instruction suppose in regard to the Shops unless you direct otherwise, and let Osage advertise for their erection.

It may be that under the laws of your Superintendency, there are cases which will serve as precedent in regard to the dwellings for the Interpreter and Mechanics, that you can form an Opinion even should you not be assured what will be the final action concerning them. Therefore in such matters regarding them as you may wish to refer, I will also be very glad to hear from you at once - that I may inform these people even of the probabilities - for I can appreciate their position - Here with their families suffering much inconvenience, and not able to meet great expense, they will to be settled, and the more, as the scarcity of the Osage renders them fearful of being remanded upon without proper shelter.

Some of the Traders already licensed will move to locate them, that they may begin operations (at their own risk) without loss of time.

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I see no objection to doing so, but think not License any new traders, if application be made, before hearing from you.

Finally, Mr Kirk in the party the Govr, has applied to me to employ Dr. V. Spalding, to be attended Physician to the Govr at $750 per annum, exclusive of any arrangement into which the Govr may enter with him - The Indians as well as the whites anticipate much sickness as Govr to be the misfortune of all who visit this Country - I think the plan a good one, as I do any useful arrangement which will secure the least portion of this money from waste - The 5th and 6th Treaty of 1842, make the requisite provision - The Doctor has gone for medicines (as will probably Call on you - Is there any forms of agreement, Appointment, or other papers needed in this Case? - Please inform me, and if his nomination to the Dept is requisite as it may be under the Spirit of the 4th para of the Annual Regulations Mr B. shall forward nomination to him.

Very respectfully &c
(Signed) John Beach
Sub Agt

Major J. H. Harvey
Sup Ind Affs

Kansasville Van Buren Co Mo
March 14. 1846.

Sir:

The 2d Auditor of the Treasury Dept in his letter to Mr Sugt "Bills of parcels & prices Current of the 28 Barrels of flour and 19 Barrels pork made to the 3rd quarter of 1844 are stated wanting" - These provisions you will recollect were delivered at Council Bluffs, unaccompanied by either bills or prices.

I will thank you to explain to Gov. McCollum this transaction.

I take also take it is a favor if you will procure the Certificate of P. M. Sarpy (of your City) to the delivery of the Provisions named for in his presence as witness, on 7 Sept. 1843 & 11th Sept. 1844, & forward the same to 2d Auditor.

Major Thos H Harvey
Supt Ind Affs
St Louis Mo

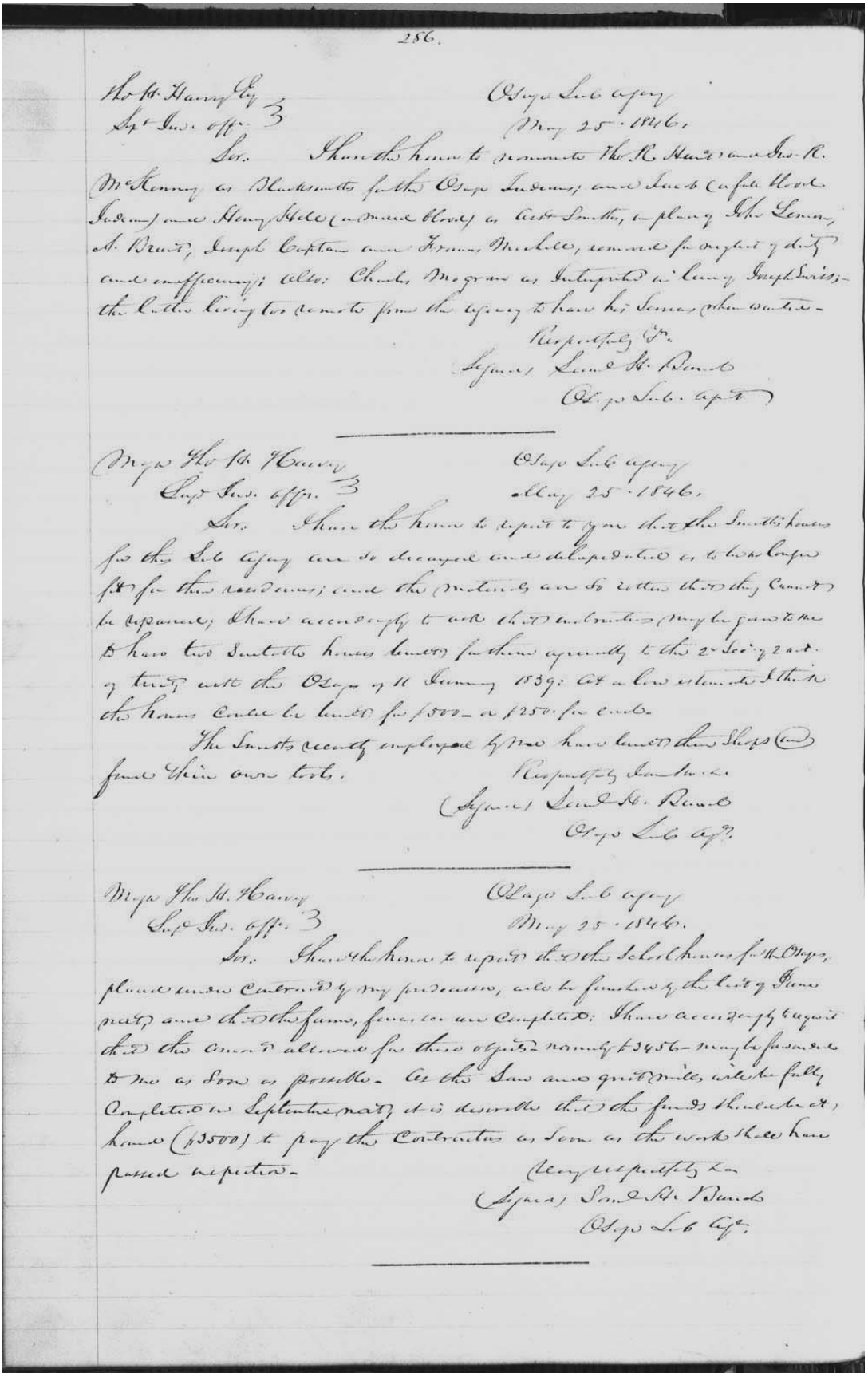
I am Sir very respectfully &c
(Signed) Daniel Miller

Major Thos H Harvey
Supt. Ind Affs.

Council Bluffs Agency
May 12. 1846

Sir. Permit me most respectfully to recommend Michael Sadlons as a proper person to fill the place of Blacksmith for the Omaha Nation of Indians, in place of Stephen A. Forgett who goes on the 1st of June to emigrate to Oregon - Personally I know very little of the qualifications or habits of Sadlons, but from the enclosed letter of recommendation Signed by eighteen persons who have been intimately with him for some years - I suppose he will answer for the place as well if not better than any one who can be induced to settle here at present -

Most respectfully &c
(Signed) Wm. G. Beans
Ind Agt.



286.

Maj. Th. H. Harvey Sup't Ind. Affs. 3

Osage Sub Agency May 25. 1846.

Sir. I have the honor to recommend Thos. R. Hunt and Jno. R. McKenney as Blacksmiths for the Osage Indians, and Jacob Corfull Wood Indian and Henry Hale (a mulatto) Wood & Axe Smith, in place of Jno. Lemon, A. Bruce, Interpt Captain and Francis Michelle, removed for neglect of duty and inefficiency; also Chas. Mograw as Interpreter in lieu of Interpt Barsis- the latter being too remote from the Agency to have his services when wanted-

Respectfully &c.
Signed Saml. H. Bunch
Osage Sub. Agt.

Majr Thos St. Harvey Sup't Ind. affrs. 3

Osage Sub Agency May 25. 1846.

Sir. I have the honor to report to you that the Smith's houses for the Sub Agency are so decayed and dilapidated as to be unfit for their residence; and the materials are so rotten that they cannot be repaired, I have accordingly to ask that authority may be given to me to have two Smith's houses built for them agreeably to the 2nd Sec. 2nd art. of treaty with the Osages of 11 January 1839: Or a law allowing that the houses could be built for $500- or $250 for each.

The Smiths recently employed by me have built their Shops and found their own tools.

Respectfully your Ob. Sv.
Signed Saml. H. Bunch
Osage Sub Agt.

Majr Thos St. Harvey Sup't Ind. Affs. 3

Osage Sub Agency May 25. 1846.

Sir. I have the honor to report that the School Houses for the Osages, planned under Contract by my predecessor, will be finished by the last of June next; and that the same, four in no. are Completed. I have accordingly to request that the amount allowed for these objects namely $3456- may be forwarded to me as soon as possible- As the Saw and grist Mills will be fully Completed in September next, it is desirable that the funds should be at hand ($3500) to pay the Contractors as soon as the work shall have passed inspection-

Very respectfully &c.
Signed Saml. H. Bunch
Osage Sub Agt.

Kansas Memory
KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Sir

Weld Pot. May 31. 1846

From information recd by you a reference to a decision of the Depart. in the case of W. Blacksmiths & sons other halfbreeds to receive pay, it may be inferred that I present the determination in the case of the mechanics of the Sacs and Foxes - Were they not entitled to their pay during the period that they have remained at the late Agency, since the departure therefrom of the mass of the Indians? I have not before supposed under the circumstances that there could be a question about it.

They did not remain behind at their own choice, but would gladly have removed at the time - The Indians have even, since the treaty, not have they until recently determined when they would be located - Such being the case, I could not direct the smiths to what point to go; and they therefore, thus remained behind, not of their own desire, but from causes beyond their control, without means or opportunity of making any thing at their trade or other employment for the support of themselves and families; a decision which would suppose their pay would appear a peculiar hardship - Moreover the Sacs & Fox Gunsmith performed much work during the interval for a band of the Indians which still remained.

Upon receiving a letter from me to the effect that of the time of their arrival at this place the Indians would have probably determined when to remove, they would enter into the annual expenditures - As different circumstances may have been incident to the decision of which you speak, I would be glad to be informed against the time for their proposed return how I am to govern in their retained.

Majr. Thos H. Harvey
Supt Ind Affs
St Louis Mo.

(Very respectfully &c
(Signed) John Beach
Act. Sub Ind Agt

Note - I enclose herewith the resignation of James Drake late as Gunsmith for the Sacs & Foxes. (Signed) John Beach

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Keyaunee Sub Agency
June 2. 1846.

Sir.

I have the honor to present you with the following requisitions for funds also of which are much needed here -

1st. For rent of Blacksmiths dwelling houses for One year, Commencing 15th June last, @ $4.00 per mo $48.00

2nd. For rent of Smith for One year Comg. May 1. 1846 . . . . 48.00

3. For Sub Agts. house at $70. per year . . . . . 70.00.

4. For iron & steel (we have a small balance on hand say $20. and about one of materials for shops) Say . . . . 200.00.

5th for additional forage, which is much needed . . . . . Say $35.00
6th for fuel for Sely for part year - 25 cords @ $1.00 . . . . . 25.00
7th Hay furnished my own office, Same exhibited & charged for
the Same @ $4.00 pr mo. Comp Gen't Cost . . . . . 1/3 48.00.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.

Thos H Harvey Esq
Sup Ind affrs
St Louis Mo.

Sam'l Dr of Sub Ag
(Signed Richard Hewett)
Sub Ind Ag.

Head Quarters 1st Regiment
Dragoons
St Louis
May 6th. 1846.

Sir

McColemoke, a brother of Poncheeks, and next to him, is Henry, the principal chief of the Iowa nation, called upon me yesterday with a deputation of his people, to make complaints against their agent (Mr Beard) and to ask that I would appoint them Schuckers Agent.

As I know nothing of the merits or both of these complaints against their agent, I suppose from Statements in this communication, that I should state that I think from what I have seen and heard, that a large portion of the Sacs & Foxes are very much dissatisfied, and that they require your personal attendance as early as possible, to order that these complaints (for they are numerous) may be examined into - their wrongs, if any, adjusted, and that they may be collected together & settled down as the whole of as they are at this time much scattered. Poncheeks with the main body of the Foxes being in the Pottawatomie Country, and McKenzie with the Sacs & Foxes of the Mississippi & Missouri in the neighborhood of the Keokuck, each intending to make a crop there this season.

Very respectfully &c
(Signed) S W Kearny
Col. 1 Dragoons

Maj. T. H. Harvey
Sup Ind. Affrs
St Louis Mo.

Council Bluffs Sub Agency
April 27. 1846

Sir

I recommend Wm. McWilliams Stafford as Miller for the Chippewa, Ottawa & Pottawatomies, in place of Wallace Russell resigned.

Very respectfully &c.
(Signed) R. B. Mitchell
Sub Ind Ag.

Maj. T. H. Harvey
Sup. Ind. Affrs.
St Louis

Kansas Memory
KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

United States Office of Indian Affairs, Central Superintendency, St. Louis, Missouri.
Volume 8, Correspondence

Council Bluffs Sub Agency.
June 6. 1846

Sir

Permit me to call your attention to the 3rd art. of the treaty of Chicago, and refer you to page 588 & 89, in relation of those Chiefs many persons granted to place of funds in many of those cases the Trustee was appointed by the Commissioners the Trustee in the matter of Sally, Nancy & Betsey Countrymen, the Trustee J.B. Campbell is reported insolvent, and as I am informed was appointed by the Commissioners without the consent of the parties employing. I think it is necessary for me to bring this matter before the Dept - there are many others in the same situation, I am not able to determine from the facts before me whether the Government is legally & morally bound. I would also call your attention to the grant of $500 to Gen. Tuskey's Children at page 589 - the children this grant was made to are dead - The Trustee Th. I.V. Owen refuses to pay over the amount to Gen. Tuskey as his heirs that have been born since the date of the grant - There can be no reason for withholding the amount from Tuskey as the heirs that have been born since the date of the donation - to clear the money should descend to him as the nearest kindred.

Resp. Yr. Ob. Svt.
Thos. H. Harvey
Supt. Ind. Affs.
St. Louis

Very respectfully &c
Signed R.B. Mitchell
Sub Agt.

Westport Mo.
July 6th 1846.

Sir

In reply to the letter from Mr. Harvey of the 25th ult. I have to state that soon after commencing upon the duties of my office, I was instructed to receive from the Administrator of the estate of my predecessor the sum of $2.200. for which the agent of the treaty of 1836 is made Trustee. Near two years elapsed before an administrator was appointed at that time $1000 was paid over to me as belonging to the half breed child "Mitchell". A few months after I received the further sum of $500. on account of the half breed M. Farrar, and a promise that the remainder should be paid over as soon as certain property of the estate could be sold - After counting two years during which interval I was offered by the administrator to advance from my own means a part of the amount still unpaid, if by so doing a final payment could be secured in a specific time (the result Success) I obtained $500 more on account of said Farrar and a letter informing me that a portion of the estate sold not having been paid for, a resale had been made the proceeds of which would yield means sufficient to pay the balance yet due - Some after being addressed by the 2nd Asst. of the Treasury as the subject, I reported to him all the information I possessed, and finding from subsequent correspondence with the Administrator, (from letters sent to my care) I presumed that final measures would be adopted

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from his office. The amount belonging to the Connolly children of $200. principal with interest from Sept. 1837, none of which has been paid - And to the half breed M. Farnum there is yet due interest I believe from Sept. 1839 to June 1842, upon $1100. the principal or $500 to June 1845. There appears to have been throughout nothing but a most inexcusable want of energy on the part of the Administrator, and I should advise that a Suit be instituted, as merely to address him a letter seems to fail of effect. The Administrator J. H. C. Shrid, resides in Chapelle County, Iowa Ter. - The property of the estate of the late Agent is Selected at Prairie du Chien.

Very respectfully &c
(Signed) John Beach
Asst. Sup Agent

Maj. Gen. Thos. H. Harvey
Sup. &c. St Louis

Fort Leavenworth Agency.
August 4. 1846.

Sir.

In Compliance with your letter of instructions of the 9th ult. I employed three wagons to transport the property of the Revd. Mr. Cusick a party of the Six nations of Indians of New York, from the Kaws returning to their own homes near Fort Scott - It was a very difficult matter to get wagons to undertake the trip, the flies were so exceedingly bad, the weather as you know very hot, that they had to make nearly the whole trip in the night - Joseph Parks furnished the waggons, one at $3.00, the other two at $2.50 each per day, and were ten days in service, which amounted to $80.00. I would thank you to make an arrangement to have Parks paid at your earliest convenience - Doctor Hogeboom left no funds, nor did he make any arrangement whatever in regard to these people, he only spoke of doing so, and so I informed Mr Cusick by a note in your absence of letter.

The Revd. Mr. Cusick wanted provisions, and money to pay them across while at Kanzas, and seemed to think hard that I could not furnish them.

Maj. Gen. Thos. H. Harvey
Sup. Ind. Aff. St Louis Mo.

Respectfully &c
Signed Richd. W. Cummins U.S.A.

Osage River Sub Agency
August 1. 1846.

Sir

Enclosed please to receive a Communication from Baptiste Peoria on the subject of bringing back from the Creek Country 37 Weas & Piankeshaws, who have been residing South for the space of 9 years - The letter from Baptiste to me, of which I return a Copy, is so explicit that I do not think that I could add any thing to strengthen it - Baptiste certainly deserves much credit for rescuing these people from the wild life they must hitherto have led - He has been unfortunate in his trip homeward having lost 3 mules & 3 horses by lightning after crossing the Arkansas river - I am genuinely sorry

acquainted with Baptiste, and know his willingness to aid and assist the agent in their intercourse with the Indians. I have always found him ready to assist me, whenever I had to call upon him, and it would give me much pleasure to learn that the Dept. would allow him some thing handsome, not only for the trouble and expense he has been subjected to in his late expedition, but likewise to grant an allowance for his services as Interpreter for the season.

Hon. Thos H. Harvey
Supt Ind Affs

I am &c &c
(Signed) Alfred J. Vaughn
Ind. Agt.

Osage River Sub Agency.
31st. July. 1846.

Sir

I take the liberty of laying before you the memorial of M. H. Scott or Neumskis, John F. Sprague or Tapark, Paw Hole or Cha Ko. and L. See (or) L. D. Bertrand, the representatives of 11 Talmantanie boys who were sent to the Choctaw Academy in Kentucky in the year 1837. To the memorial is appended the Certificate of Mr. Scott asst. agent of emigration under Col. Sands, at the time spoken of, and of Jos. Bertrand Jr asst. Interpreter. The memorial will speak for itself. I have been strongly urged by the claimants - they form who act as representatives, to make enquiry into the matter now before you. From all the information I have been able to gather I am inclined to believe that the cash portion of the annuities pertaining to said boys at the payment of 1837 was never sent to them during their stay in Kentucky, altho the goods portion thereof as allotted to them was received. It is probable that Col. Sands returned the whole amount of the cash annuity in question to the Dept at Wash, in the case I presume there will be no difficulty in settling this matter right, and I should be glad in due time to receive information on this head from yourself or the Department so that I can satisfy the claimants accordingly. I have the honor &c

Hon Thos H. Harvey
Sup Ind Affs.

(Signed) Alfred J. Vaughn
Ind Agt

Fathers, Osage River Sub Agency 23 July 1846.

About the time of the emigration west of the Osage nation (Talmantanie) in 1837, as we are informed from Col. Richd M. Johnson, eleven boys were selected and sent to Choctaw academy, Kentucky - This was immediately before the payment of the annuities of that year, which was paid cash & goods - In order to induce the boys to go to the academy, an arrangement was made between our tribe and Col. Lewis H. Sands, then acting Superintendent of emigration - that the cash paid to our individual annuity should be received of Col. Sands, and by him remitted to us at the Choctaw

academy Kentucky. One Annuities, viz: the Cash portion thereof, was already paid over to Col. Sands by the declining Ottawas, with the full Consent of our Chiefs & Head men, but we never permitted the same during our stay at the academy in Kentucky, nor have we, to this day been benefited of any part thereof.

Father, you state Consideration ourselves entitled to the amount due us, pursuant to the arrangement as set forth above; and we respectfully call upon you now, to make enquiries respecting the Same.

Father, these are the names of the boys selected and who actually went to the academy in Kentucky belonging to Col. Johnson.

(Signed) La Lime
" Andrew Rankin or Paul Hill
" Ke Kee to mo — a P. L. Berry
" Joseph Gladeau
" To pash . . a Jas T. Sprague
" Nam Kee a M. H. Scott
" Che'gwen mo — a Co. Weston
" Ke Ket o sh . a R. A. McCabe
" Francis Page
" Laurence B. Batrome
" See naus mo — a Jos Hook

Father, we now close, and recommend our interest to your kind attention and assistance.

(Signed) Tom Chabbow

(Signed) M. H. Scott + his mark
" Jno T. Sprague + do } In behalf of
" Paul Hill do. } the claimants.
" Laurence B. Batrome

(Signed) J. W. Barrow Interpr.

To Col. Alfred J. Vaughan
Ind Sub Agent 3

We the undersigned as Assistant Interpreters of the Potawatomie emigration from Chicago in 1837 — and the assisted Interpreters of Same emigration — Certify, that we were present at the arrangement made between Col. Leon M. Sands, and the Potawatomies, viz: that the Cash part of the Annuities belonging to eleven boys sent to Choctaw academy Kentucky by consent of Col. Sands for the purpose mentioned in the foregoing memorandum — that Col. Sands accepted the Annuities specified — that the names quoted in the above memorandum are those of the eleven boys in question — that we were present when Col. Sands delivered the amount due said boys to Kentucky, and that to the best of our recollection the Cash distributive share of the Potawatomie Annuity of 1837 was about $40. Say forty dollars per head.

Given under our hands at Osage River Sub Agency 23rd July 1846

Signed, M. H. Scott
do. Joseph Bertrand Jr.

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KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

United States Office of Indian Affairs, Central Superintendency, St. Louis, Missouri. Volume 8, Correspondence

Osage River Sub Agency
Nov 12, 1846.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Mr Harvey's favor of the 23rd Ulto in relation to the Miamie Indians, inclosing me Copy of letter to you from the Comr of Ind. affairs, dated the 16th October, accompanying the Copy of the contract for removing and subsisting the Miamie Indians, also of which have been notified by you and of which I shall be strictly governed.

On the 9th Inst. (at the time the muster roll is dated the 5th Inst.) Myer Sneliner Supt of emigration, delivered the Miamie Indians into my charge. There are 42 heads of families and numbers 91 males over 18 years, 51 males under 18 years - total 142 Males - 148 females over 18 years, 83 females under 18 years - total 181 females - grand total 323.

They are at present (their temporary) location about One mile west of the mission, on the head waters of Sugar Creek, some about 13 miles, north of the Osages Fair Company purchase and the Osage River; and so far they are very well pleased with the general aspect of their new Homes. Most of the men intend shortly making a tour of inspection of the Lands allotted to them. From my own knowledge of the Country generally I do not think that they could be better suited, than to locate themselves permanently in the vicinity where they are at present encamped; they have plenty of timber and most excellent water, and far enough from the main Osage River to escape the miasmatic influence of that stream. Their nearest neighbours are the Shawnees and if any objection can be urged against the location, it is its proximity to the State of Missouri.

On the 10th Instant, and after Myer Sneliner had left for home the Indians in Council assembled and addressed me to the following effect by their principal Chief Lafontaine - interpreted by George Hunter United States Interpreter. "They feel sorry that the Government should adopt such measures for their removal from Indiana. They apologize to the Government for being refractory, and that caused the Government to order troops to assist in their speedy removal; that the Country they were to leave for their new homes was, that their new Country had been represented to them as a miserable barren Section without wood, water, or food as the open prairie where no One could exist, and where those who did emigrate would find a speedy grave; that such representations seemed them and made them reluctant to remove, but that now they were most agreeably disappointed and surprised to find the Country so different to the representations made to them while in Indiana, that they are well pleased with their new Home a Country, and had they known the truth before, they would not have given the Government any trouble - they would have moved with Cheerfulness and without

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the presence of troops. That they are very much displeased with the Conduct of Major Sanderson Superintendent of emigration - and who previous to their journey westward made them many fair promises none of which he kept; that they requested Major Sanderson to be present now, and listen to the Complaints and charges they have against him; but that the Major refused; that they charge Major Sanderson with neglegence of duty and inattention to their Comfort while on their journey - and the voyage; that some of their people died during the voyage brought on by exposure whilst sick, and the inattention and neglegence of their Physicians who was in part unable to attend to his professional duties and Consequence of his Continued intoxication. That they requested Major Sanderson to provide better accommodations for the sick than the deck of the Steam Boat; that they wanted their sick people to be placed in the warm Cabin's but that to their urgent petitions he have paid no attention: that at the same time by way of Contempt they Commit repeated deeds of violence to their emigrating agent Allen's Gentlemen, who did every thing in his power to render them Comfortable and who treated them with kindness and humanity - That they know it is Major Sanderson's intention to prevent the Washington to make application for, and to be appointed their agent which they protest against, for they are sure the consequence of Sanderson appointment would be disasterous to them as a people."

The foregoing is an abridgment of the talk the Miamie Indians had with me, Subsequent to their being placed under my charge - Of course I could not wish to be considered as endorsing their Complaints - I formed Major Sanderson to be a man of business and gentlemanly in every sense of the word; but the Miamie proving to good into Council requested, and I Council requested me to make known their wishes I have given their own version thereof, without any Comments of my own - My acquaintance with Major Sanderson was short for he left early next morning after the arrival of my express - Major Sanderson left no other papers with me, but the Muster Roll of the Indians.

I send a Copy for the stipulations of the last Miamie treaty, and should you have a printed Copy thereof in your office I would be glad to receive it for my future government.

In Conclusion, I have the honor to announce that I have as the Q. Inds. appointed Leonidas A. Vaughan issuing Commissary of Subsistence to the Miami Indians, and request your Confirmation of said Appointment.

Ans. The Hon Thos H. Harvey
Sup Ind. Affs
St Louis

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Obt Servt
Alpheus D. Vaughn
Ass Ind Agt.

Kansas Memory
KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Sauk Peteas Agency. Iowa Ter.
November 14. 1846.

Sir.

Your letter of the 9th October which was handed me by Mr Hawley when in St Louis, together with a copy of a letter from the Comr of Ind. Affairs dated the 2d October - requiring a certificate of the Cashier of the Bank of the amount of deposits, and also the cause of the large balances of funds in my hands on the 30 June last. In reply to the last I have to report that the amounts accrued under the following heads of appropriation of late Treaty Appropriations, to wit - First Clause 2d Art. Treaty of Washington of the 29th September 1837 - The One third of the interest on three hundred thousand dollars to be applied in such manner as the President may direct annually to the sum of $ 29.500, has regularly been deposited in the Bank of Missouri, as no instructions have been received from the Department what way it was to be expended, except five hundred dollars which was paid to Missionary Mr Kavanaugh, by direction of the former Comr of Ind. Affrs. Mr T. Hartley Crawford.

The balance of appropriation is follows - First Clause 2d Article - To purchase Medicines, agricultural implements & Stock, & for the Support of a Physician, Farmer & Blacksmith, & for other beneficial objects $ 11.156.88

Pay of Interpreter 675.00

The reason of the above funds having accrued in the last two years the Contracts for Farming Cattle have failed - Mechanics the Supt Farmer, and the annuity otherwise expended I have deemed sufficient, as the Sioux destroy the most of the horses and Cattle belonging Farmers, and I have thought that by withholding a portion of the funds that could be expended more beneficially in future years.

Formerly there was funds sent to the Agency for the pay of Ind Interpreter when only One was employed, which accounts for the funds under this head having accrued in my hands.

Respectfully Your Obt Servt
Agent Amos L. Brice
Ind. Affrs

Majr Thos H. Harvey
Supt Ind Affrs
St Louis

United States Office of Indian Affairs, Central Superintendency, St. Louis, Missouri. Volume 8, Correspondence

