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RESEARCHES

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AND

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GOV. PORTER TO S. S. HAMILTON³⁶

Smithsonian—Schoolcraft Papers—File Case A. No. 333

Detroit. Oct. 18. 1831.

Samuel S. Hamilton. Esqr.
Office Ind. Affairs
Dept of War.

Sir.

I submit the enclosed copies of papers forwarded to me by Henry R. Schoolcraft Esqr. Indian Agent at Sault Ste. Marie—being a memorial from the Chippewa Chiefs of that place to the President of the U. S. requesting his sanction to a verbal arrangement which they have made for giving a small tract of land to their Chippewa brethren of Grape Island in Lake Ontario, and asking for certain aid to enable them, to become agricul[t]urists:—together with Mr. Schoolcraft's letter to me on the subject.

The several requests of these chiefs, it seems to me, are proper, and knowing that they will receive the prompt attention of the Department, I shall feel gratified should I be enabled to inform them that they have been sanctioned by Government.

Very respectfully.

Yr. Obt Servt.

G. B. P.

(Indorsement)

1831)

Oct 18)

Copy to Saml S. Hamilton

Off. Indn. Affrs. Washn.

Enclosing Memorial of Chippewa Chiefs of the S. Ste. Marie, relative to giving Land to their Chippewa brethren of Grape Island etc. etc. and Mr. Schoolcrafts Letter on subject

GOV. PORTER TO THOMAS OWEN³⁷

Smithsonian—Schoolcraft Papers—File Case A. No. 268

Superintendency of Indian Affairs

Detroit Oct 24. 1831.

Sir

Your accounts and vouchers for the quarter ending Sept 30. 1831. together with your abstract of licenses granted and your general abstract

³⁶Draft.³⁷Draft.

of expenditures, have been received, and being found correct, have been this day forwarded, to the War Department.

Very respectfully Sir

Thomas J. V. Owen Esq

Indian Agent

Chicago.

(Indorsement)

Oct. 24. 1831.

To T. J. V. Owen

Rect for his a/cs 30 Sep 1831.

JAMES JACKSON TO STEVENS T. MASON

Secretary State's Office, Lansing, Letters Received 1831-1837, Vol. II, p. 14

Maumee Wood C'y Ohio 1 Novr 1831

Dear Sir

After my most respectful Compt's to you and Fathers fam,y: I beg leave to inform you, that I arrived at Maumee this day after almost a fataguing journey through Watter and Mud—and am ready to embark in my business Agreeable to your instructions, which I request you will send Mr. W. *Hunt*³⁸ who is now at Detrouite. they Indian Instruction which The late Mr Lloyd had with all the Papers are at Charles C. Trowbridge Esq's if you will have The goodness get and forward them and any other necessary Instructions it will be conferring a favour on me—I also inclose you My Receipt for One Quarters Sallery ending 20th day of October last—as I want to forward \$100—South you wou'd Be Obliging me if you cou'd get that much in U. S. States Bills The rest as you please—

Believe me Dear Sir with Respect and
Esteem your Oblig'd friend

James Jackson

Stevens T. Mason Esq'r

P. S.

I am presuming on the politness
of Mr. *Hunt* in bringing the Mony and papers & for which I shall be
greatfull.

DAVID PAGE TO GOVERNOR OF TERRITORY

Secretary State's Office, Lansing, Letters Received 1831-1837, Vol. II, p. 23

White Pigeon Dec 15th 1831—

Dear Sir,

Great inconvenience is experienced here for the want of a County

³⁸A. L. S. Indian Sub Agent at Maumee, successor to Lemuel T. Lloyd. U. S.
Official Register, 1831.

orrect, have been
respectfully Sir

, Vol. II, p. 14
o 1 Novr 1831

am,y: I beg leave
almost a fatague
o embark in my
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s C. Trowbridge
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u'd Be Obliging
The rest as you

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riend

h I shall be

RY
Vol. II, p. 23
3 15th 1831—

t of a County
T. Lloyd. U. S.

Seal—To Affidavits Powers of Attorney &c a temporary Seal has to be affixed the papers have them to be sent five or six miles to a Justice of the County Court to certify that I am the Clerk—This is no small tax upon the person having business transacted—Last spring the County Court ordered that a seal be procured for this county with the following device and inscription, viz a sheaf of wheat, a merino sheep, and a pr of scales and that St Joseph County Seal be inscribed thereon. Which order was transmitted to the Treasurer of the Territory, but the seal has never been sent—If there is any appropriation or means by which a seal can be procured we shall be happy to receive one.³⁹—I have also to certify that there is a vacancy of one Justice in the County Court of this County. Judge Newton⁴⁰ having removed to Indiana—A few copies of the Laws for 1831 will be received with pleasure—

Very Respectfully
David Page Clerk
of St. Joseph County

E. HERRING TO GOV. PORTER
Smithsonian—Schoolcraft Papers—File Case A. No. 263

Department of War
Office Indian Affairs
Feb'y 13th. 1832

To His Excellcy
George B Porter

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 21st October last enclosing accounts of William Howser and Izadore Burdo⁴¹—

All the funds allotted for defraying the expenses of your superintendency appear to have been remitted. If the expenses have exceeded the estimate for your superintendency, you will be pleased to report to the Department the reasons for such excess, before further remittance can be made.—

(Indorsement)
Feb. 13. 1832.
From War Department.
Rect for a/c of Howser and Burdo.

I have the honor to be
With great respect
Your hubl servt.
Elbert Herring

³⁹In the Auditor's Report May 30, 1832, there is an item of \$24.00 paid out "for three seals furnished for the counties of Cass and St. Joseph's out of an unexpended balance of an appropriation of \$150 for procuring seals in 1827." *Journal of Legislative Council, 1832*, p. 144.
⁴⁰Luther Newton was commissioned Associate Justice for St. Joseph's, Mar. 5, 1829. *Jour. Leg. Council, 1832*, p. 62.
⁴¹A. L. S. Houser was public blacksmith at Maumee; Burdo, probably his helper. Cf. below William Houser to Gov. Porter. July 1, 1832.

Impressed with the belief that the establishment of this route with (will?) conduce to the prosperity of this valuable portion of our territory I cannot but highly approve of this memorial, and I trust it will enlist your approbation and aid—interested as you are for the advancement of every good thing connected with Michigan

With feelings of

much regard

Your friend &

obt Ser't

COMPLAINT OF GRAND RIVER INDIANS TO GOV. PORTER

[No. 115]

Grand Rapids Feb 1. 1833

Now my Father

I will tell you what happened 3 days ago—Just as I reached my house with a load of wood 2 men from over the River came to me and said Bush shee the common salutation of the Indians) I replied Bush shee afterwards they proceeded towards my door I asked them if they wished to enter they said yes afterwards turned suddenly about and proceeded to another door where resided my family I followed them—On their reaching the door burst it in and broke the harsp—Upon which I told them not to go in, they became very mad and threatened to strike me—I told them them [sic] they must not enter, Very soon Lewis Compow⁷⁰ and 2 of his men came to my House Now 5 Frenchmen were at my House being so many I was afraid—L. Compow asked what was the matter learning that I refused to let the men in, he became very mad and struck me with a club and throwed me down and exceedingly beat me and Blood flowed from the wounds they gave and also Compow bit me on my hand which gave me a painful wound—My wife screamed to see my situation—A great many Indians were present and saw them beat me but they refused to fight with the Frenchmen—By and by they let me get up—Now my father this is what they did to me It is your disposition to protect us—That is the reason I tell you—

Gosa his X mark

⁷⁰O. D. S. Louis Campau went north to the Saginaw region from Detroit about 1816, and is said to have established a trading post about 1825 where the Rabbit river empties into the Kalamazoo. Unlike many of the traders, he did not leave when the tide of settlers poured in a few years later, and remaining, he became one of the solid, influential men of Grand Rapids. *Mich. P. and His. Colls.*, Vol. III, pp. 279, 408; IV, 288-290.

The cause of this follows; the French Pack on his shoulder expected he would men were determined Gosa to prevent their rage was a passion commenced this Native who forced by them attracted any debt I have no knowledge him—The assault interference on this was made is a pe this time for red most wholesome such infraction of

His Excellency

G. B. Porter
of Indian Affairs
1833) F
Feb. 1.

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Hon. G

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⁷¹Leonard Slater v in 1827, and known Indians he naturally on his charges as w For life and work of

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I I trust it will
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PORTER

Feb 1. 1833

reached my house
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ed to strike me—
Lewis Compow⁷⁰
men were at my
ed what was the
became very mad
exceedingly beat
also Compow bit
wife screamed to
nt and saw them
—By and by they
to me It is your

from Detroit about
25 where the Rabbit
traders, he did not
, and remaining, he
Mich. P. and His.

The cause of this daring outrage originated as near as I can learn as follows; the Frenchmen perceiving a Native enter Gosa's dwelling with a Pack on his shoulders supposed he had furs and entering Gosa's dwelling expected he would dispose of his furs to him consequently the Frenchmen were determined to seize the stranger and take over the River Gosa to prevent violent measures refused them admittance upon which their rage was excited The s'd Campow on arriving seeing his man in a passion commenced beating Gosa in an unmerciful manner—After which this Native who called into Gosa House as he says to warn himself was forced by them across the River—This Native asserts that he had not contracted any debt with Compow and this being the 2d time he ever saw him—I have no knowledge that the s'd Campow had any pretension of his owing him—The assaults of this kind being so repeated it requires immediate interference on the part of Government The Native on whom the assault was made is a peaceable quiet man—He looks to his Father the Gov. at this time for redress. As these unprincipled men bid defiance to our most wholesome Laws—it is to be hoped Your Excellency will not suffer such infraction of the Laws of this Country—

I am dear Sir

Your Obt. Servt.

L. Slater⁷¹

His Excellency

G. B. Porter Superintendant
of Indian Affairs at Detroit. M. T.

1833) From

Feb. 1. Gosa

an Indn on Grand River, complaining of abuse of Mr Campau
a Trader
(Address)

Hon. G. B. Porter

Gov. Michigan Territory

Detroit City

⁷¹Leonard Slater was head of the Baptist Mission established at Grand Rapids in 1827, and known as the Thomas Station. As missionary and friend of the Indians he naturally interested himself in securing redress of wrongs inflicted on his charges as well as in preventing them. *Mich. P. and His. Colls.*, IV, 288. For life and work of Rev. Leonard Slater, see *ibid.* Vol. XXXV, p. 142.

recd Apl 27)

by Mr Beeson

Concerning his pay for Vaccinating Indians—
(Address)

To

His Excellency Geo B. Porter
Detroit
M. T.

Pr

Maj J Beeson)

COMPLAINT OF INDIANS AT GRAND RAPIDS TO GOV. PORTER⁷⁵

Smithsonian—Schoolcraft Papers—File Case A. No. 115

Grand River Rapids

May 17th 1833

My Father

Now this day I was present at Lewis Compow's with others I stood near his dwelling. Soon he came to the door and bid me to enter and I went in and he soon closed the door, after which he told me to take off my coat. I supposed that the gun which he had previously taken from me for a debt had not satisfied him, that now he intended to take my coat also, therefore I took it off and layed it down before him. He immediately says to me what did you do at Detroit and commenced beating me with a stick and said dont you go again and talk bad about me, if you do I will tie you and cast you in prison—This is what he said to me—After he had struck me several times he seized me and kicked me and told me to go out and never come to his dwelling again I went to the village and told my people of this affair—This is what I have to say to you my father

Kunnoteenish kunk
Chief of the Prairie Village
his X mark

It is so we were at the door when our chief was whiped by Compow—We did not see him whiped for the door was closed—After the door was opened to throw our chief out we saw Compow kick him 3 times

Gudsh e queniaga his X mark
Moneow Unnin me " X "
Kewunnun present also

⁷⁵O. D. S. See Indians to Gov. Porter, Feb. 1, 1833.

Our Father

At your residence we were present—When we saw you and heard [sic] your talk we were very glad You expressed much interest for our welfare We listened to your words We brought them home with us We gathered our young men to listen to what you told us They were also glad also to hear your words It is so our father at Detroit will take care of us. That is what they thought The book you gave us for Compow we left with him When he saw your talk he became mad with us One who set with us in your presence and who is a Chief has now been whipped This circumstance makes us loansome Seven days only since we reached home and now so soon we are injured by this white man When we were with you we heard your words You told us if any injured us to tell you of it. This is now the reason we make this book and put our Names in it This is all we have to say This white man cannot perhaps be made afraid He will increase to do bad This is the reason we feel loansome

Noah qua ge shik	his X mark)	Wasobequome)	} Young Men
Make tou Iha	" X "	Wabuy tum)	
Gosa	" X ")	Wine emesohge)	
Cashewa	" X "		

To His Excellency George B. Porter
Attest L. Slater

(Indorsement)

1833 From
May 17) Konnote-e gish kunt
Chf of Prairie
Indians and others

That Campau has whipped their Chief
Mr Connor to take this and enquire into all the particulars from Indians and Campau and see who is in *fault* If Missionaries have interfered, ascertain the facts— and if Mr Campau is to blame let me know it, I shall take his License from him if this be true.

(Address)

Grand Rapids)
May 20th) 1834
His Excellency
G. B. Porter
Detroit City
M. T.

NOV. PORTER⁷⁵
No. 115
er Rapids
May 17th 1833

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d me to enter and
ie told me to take
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Prairie Village
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