

and ferocious on the northern frontier, have become the most gentle and harmless. Since you arrived at the agency, I feel a high gratification in saying, that every official duty has been discharged by you with a faithful and untiring vigilance, that demands my most unqualified approbation. No duty has been neglected, or attempted to be evaded from personal indulgence, or professional pursuits; but a peculiar devotion to the best interests of the Government, has stamped a character on your official course, that needs only to be examined, to be appreciated in its proper light. Nor have your labors been in vain, but success has crowned them in several instances, bearing strong testimony to the faithful exercise of official duty. Residing with me as a member of my family, I am enabled to speak of you more fully as a private friend and public officer. As a man, I have found you amiable, friendly and decisive; as a member of the bar, open, candid, liberal, independent and manly.

"In regard to the particular matter of complaint, as made through Col. Morgan, if I rightly comprehend it, Capt. Mason complains of your successful defense of citizens charged with having sold spirituous liquors contrary to the laws of Michigan Territory, not for any exceptionable management or sinister intrigue—this, Capt. Mason or any other person, I presume, would not venture to attribute to you; but for *defending them as a lawyer*. He conceives, I understand, that in accepting the office of Sub-Indian Agent, you had deprived yourself of the privilege of pursuing your profession as a lawyer, or at least of defending any citizen *charged* with a breach of the laws. In this I can only remark, we differ widely in opinion. You early applied for obtaining my consent to practice law, unless it should interfere with your official duties. As yet no such interference has occurred.

"In relation to the particular complaint, feeling no particular interest in attending the session of a county court held by two unlearned men, I was in the house only a few minutes during the term. From what I saw, and the subsequent representations of the most reputable individuals, I feel no reluctance in declaring