

to settle his accounts with the Department, where he continued till the ensuing April, leaving the entire duties of the agency in the hands of Mr. Burnett. In consequence of the amount of service required, Mr. Burnett applied to the Department through Col. R. M. Johnson, to be allowed pay for an interpreter \$400, through which means he would receive a compensation more commensurate with the amount of services rendered, and the responsibility resting upon him. But Mr. Herring, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Dec. 18th, 1833, replied: "It is conceded, that Mr. Burnett is a valuable officer, and that his salary is an inadequate recompense for his services. But the standard has been determined by an authority to which the Department must bow, and the Secretary of War is precluded from the exercise of discretionary powers in the case." This terminated his attempts to obtain office, or an adequate compensation for the services he rendered in the one he had in the Indian Department.

On the 30th of June, 1834, the act for re-organizing the Indian Department was passed in Congress, by which Mr. Burnett and all other Sub-Agents were legislated out of office; but few of whom were re-appointed. And on the 2nd of July, Mr. Herring, by direction of the Secretary of War, wrote to Mr. Burnett, giving an extract of the law, and directing him to render his account for salary, as his services in that Department were no longer required; and concluded by saying: "I am directed by the Secretary of War, to tender his acknowledgments to you for the zealous and faithful performance of the duties of your office, and I will thank you also to accept the assurance of my high respect." He received this note on the 6th of August, when he wrote to Mr. Herring to know to whom he should render his accounts, as no directions were given on that point; Gen. Street ceased to be an Agent at the same time at Prairie du Chien, by being removed to Rock Island, and no one had yet been appointed to fill the Prairie du Chien vacancy.

Before sufficient time had elapsed to receive an answer, he wrote August 30th: "Sir:—In your letter of the 2nd July last,