

of a letter from Gen. Clark, dated September 13th, saying, "I have received to-day your letter of August 30th, and of the 2nd inst., on the subject of your pay, and of your fees, as counsel in the case of *Burnett vs. Street and Kearney*, the defendants being sued as the Agents of the Government, and of course, the Government should pay the expenses, &c. On the 30th ult. Gen. Street was informed of the amount allowed the *Prairie du Chien Agency*, for the first and second quarters of the present year. Your pay up to the 31st of July is embraced in it, amounting to \$291.67. This as well as the other sums specified in the allotment, will be, as usual, paid over to Gen. Street, whenever called for, to be by him applied to the payment of the objects for which they are intended. No communication has been made to me from Washington, on the subject of fees for counsel in the cases you have mentioned. It were, perhaps, advisable that you write direct to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, requesting him to pay you whatever has been allowed for your services in those cases."

Gen. Street at this time, was Agent at Rock Island, two hundred miles below *Prairie du Chien*, nor was it certain when Gen. Street would receive the money, nor whether it would be sent to Mr. Burnett, or whether he must go for it. The sum allowed was more than his half year's salary, but some nine dollars less than was due him. This jewing a public servant out of such a pitiful sum, was a small business for a great nation; but such seems to be the way of the world. As to his fees, he had written to the Department again and again, and was informed that the matter had been *referred to Gen. Clark*; but the General says, "he had received no communication" on the subject, and when great men and rulers of the nation make such contradictory statements, whom are we to believe in such matters!

This terminated Mr. Burnett's connection with the Indian Department, and his connection with any office in the gift of the Government; nor was his experience calculated to inspire him with any great degree of confidence in the "spoils" theory of the party in power, as his share of them was but small, and doubly