

taws &c I cannot even make an estimate, as I have never been in that section of country, nor can I find any person in this place who can give me the necessary information on that head, but should I at any time procure any information that I should think worthy of your notice, I will transmit to you by mail.

Wishing you a pleasant and agreeable journey to the seat of Government, &c &c.

FORSYTH TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR.¹

St LOUIS, April 13, 1815.

I have the honor to acquaint you that I arrived yesterday from Fort Clark to which place I have been to settle the affair that took place in the month of November last near that Fort, between the Rangers and the Pottawattamie Indians residing on the Illinois river, and I am happy to state that I have succeeded beyond my most sanguine expectations. I herewith enclose a copy of my speech to the Indians for your information, and hope it will meet with your approbation. The Indians received the goods with many thanks, and requested me to return their thanks to all the American chiefs I might see.

From the information that I received from the officer commanding Fort Clark, it appears that those Indians had many opportunities to retaliate, saying at the same time that they were not for War, but for Peace, this you will please observe happened prior to any assurance being made to them that the dead would be covered, as they term it.

I am truly sorry to acquaint you that Gomo, alias Nasima the head chief of the Pottawattomies in the Illinois river is dead. He was a true friend to our country, and was well acquainted with the population and power of the United States, having some twenty years ago visited many of our cities and towns, particularly Philadelphia, New York, Boston &c, and I have heard him speak with delight, of the treatment he received from the late General Washington, then

¹ James Monroe.— Ed.