

WILLIAM HENRY SMITH MEMORIAL LIBRARY OF THE
INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Valuable material was again secured by the library at the sale of the second half of the James McHenry Papers the last of October. An account of the acquisition of the first half of the documents appeared in the September issue of the *Indiana Magazine of History*.

An Indian attack and threat of others near Vincennes are reported in a transcript of an extract from a letter of Dr. John F. Carmichael, U. S. surgeon's mate, June 22, 1789.

A number of interesting transcripts deal with War Department matters in the spring of 1791. Most of these reports were sent to President George Washington and included is a transcript of his letter approving them to Secretary of War Henry Knox. Knox reported to the President in March, 1791, upon "operations to be adopted for the ensuing year upon the frontier," and discussed in detail the protection of frontier settlements, expeditions against Indian towns on the Wabash, relations with the Indians, and problems of the region now Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana.

Instructions were sent Governor William Blount of the Territory Southwest of the River Ohio, August 27, 1790, on treating with the Cherokee Indians. The lieutenants of the frontier counties of Virginia and Pennsylvania were authorized to call militia into defense service as needed. Orders were given Brigadier General Charles Scott on March 9, 1791, for an expedition against the Kickapoo and other Wabash Indians and to Colonel John Proctor on March 11, 1791, for a mission of peace to the Miami and Wabash Indians. Apparently, the policy was to effect peace with the Indians of the upper Wabash region and make war upon those of the middle Wabash. These instructions and four letters to Indian chiefs from General Arthur St. Clair or Secretary Knox and lengthy instructions sent St. Clair by Knox on March 21, 1791, which give the policies and plans of the federal government for dealing with the Indians of the Northwest and the contemplated campaign St. Clair was to command against them, are printed in the *American State Papers: Indian Affairs*.

A letterpress copy of "Instructions to Major General Wayne for holding a treaty with the North Western Indians—and form of the treaty" goes into great detail in setting forth what should be included in the treaty made with the Indians at Greenville in 1795.

A number of the documents deal with troubled conditions in the Mississippi Valley in 1796, where intrigue with Spanish and French agents worried the officials of the young republic. General James Wilkinson of the United States Army; Victor Collot, a French officer; Count Volney, a French traveller; Thomas Powers, agent of the Spanish governor, Gayoso; and Judge Benjamin Sebastian are among those mentioned in reports sent in by Captain Zebulon Pike (father of Pike's Peak Zebulon), who was in command at Fort Massac; Captain Thomas Pasteur, commandant at Fort Knox (Vincennes); Elisha Winters of Kentucky; Caleb Swan of the United States Army; Anthony Wayne, commander of the western army; and Captain Thomas Lewis, his aide.

A letter of Colonel John F. Hamtramck sent from Fort Wayne in 1798 accompanies his lengthy notes on regulations for the conduct of the army proposed by the War Department and sent him for his consideration. A second letter from Hamtramck, written the following year, speaks of his difficulties in planning the fortifications at Fort Wayne in accordance with regulations, as the place was too small for the scales used.

The library also acquired some drawings at this sale. A pencil sketch map of the country in western Ohio from Fort Jefferson to the site of Fort Wayne and to the mouth of the Glauze River has this note: "This sketch differs from those of the C. in C., it is nevertheless very near the truth. T. W." (This may be J. W., but it is not in Wilkinson's writing.) It is a map made in approximately 1792 and shows Fort Jefferson, Greenville, Fort Recovery, streams, roads cut by the army, Indian paths and villages, and Har-mar's route.

A pen and ink plan for a battle which shows deployed formation of various battalions has been identified as an arrangement of troops by General St. Clair when he was attacked and defeated by the Indians November 4, 1791, near the present site of Fort Recovery, Ohio.

A notation on two sketches states they were enclosed in a letter of General Wilkinson, November 6, 1792. Wilkinson was then in charge of the army in the Northwest and reported an attack of Indians earlier in the day on a group of militia camped outside Fort St. Clair near the present Eaton, Ohio. One sketch shows Fort St. Clair and its surroundings at the time of this attack. An outline of the fort, the course of a neighboring creek, the militia camp, pack horses and attacking savages are indicated.

The other sketch is labeled "South perspective of Fort Jefferson" and, although marked on the back "Fort St. Clair," is more likely a drawing of the former. It shows an arrangement of blockhouses and stockades quite unlike the usual rectangular form. Two blockhouses, a bullock pen, two gardens, a forage magazine, and a larger unidentified building with cupola are strung out along what appears to be the edge of a bluff with stockades of varying heights to protect the south approach. Fort Jefferson is about six miles south of Greenville; it was built in the fall of 1791 by St. Clair and was used in succeeding years as one of the protecting chain of forts and as a supply depot.