

Detroit July 30th 1816

Sir,

The consolidation of the agencies of Mr. Johnston and Mr. Stickney as announced in your letter of the 6th ulto. is equally warranted by policy and economy. From all the information which I have been able to collect there is no doubt but the consolidated Agency should be established at Fort Wayne. This point is central to a vast body of Indians. It has been, the mart of resort for more than a Century. For many years under the French, during the whole period of the British government and ever since we have acquired possession, of the Country it has been the seat of an Indian Agency. An Agent at that post can manage the concerns of the Delawares upon White River of the Shawnee at Mqupaukewetta, and of the whole, Miami Tribe. Such was the arrangement prior to the war. It is the natural and proper one pointed out by the nature of the Country and by the habits of the Indians. It was deranged during war, but I am confident that a better plan cannot be devised.

In the event of Mr. Johnston's acceptance of the Agency, there can be no doubt of the propriety of continuing him, should he decline, permit me to call the Situation of Mr. Stickney to your attention, I am aware that complaints have been preferred against him, but I am strongly inclined to think, they originated in private and personal quarrels, and not in cases relating to the affairs of the Agency. I form no opinion, whether Mr. Stickney was or was not the aggressor believing the publick, interest is not involved in the merits of the inquiry. I have reason to think, Mr. Stockney is a zealous and faithful agent with some notions perhaps more speculative than practical, and with manners not the most conciliatory. The whole powers of his mind