

William Clark, September 25, 1804

a fair Morning the wind from the S. E. raised a Flagg Staff and formed an [awning] & Shade on a Sand bar in the Mouth of Teton R [or Bad River] to Council under, the greater portion of the party to Continue on board — about 11 oClock the 1st & 2d Chief arrived, we gave them to eat; they gave us Some meat, (we discover our interpeter do not Speak the language well) at 12 oClock the Council Commenced & after Smokeing agreeable to the usial custom [Lewis] Delivered a written Speech to them . . . all party Paraded, gave a Medal to the grand Chief[s] . . . we invited those Chiefs & a Soldier on board our boat, and Showed them many Curiosities, which they were much Surprised, we gave they ½ a wine glass of whiskey [then] they took up an empty bottle, [smelled] it, and . . . Soon began to be troublesom[,] the 2d Chief [The Partisan] effecting Drunkness as a Cloak for his vilenous intintious (as I found after wards,)[.]

as Soon as I landed 3 of their young men [seized] the Cable of the Perogue, one Soldiar [hugged] the mast . . . and the 2d Chief was exceedingly insolent both in words and justures to me declareing I Should no go off, Saying he had not recived presents Suffient from us —

I attempted to passify <him> but it had a contrary effect for his insults became So personal and his intentions evident to do me injurey, I Drew my Sword and ordered all hands under arms [,] at this motion [Captain Lewis] ordered all in the boat under arms, the fiew men that was with me haveing previously taken up their guns with a full deturmination to defend me if possible — The grand Chief [Black Buffalo] then took hold of the Cable & Sent all the young men off, the Soldier got out of the perogue and the 2nd Chief walked off to the Party at about 20 yards back, all of which had their bows Strung & guns Cocked — . . . I again offered my hand to the 1st Chief who refused it — (all this time the Indians were pointing their arrows blank) — I proceeded to the perogue and pushed off and had not proceeded far before the 1st & 3r Chief & 2 principal men walked into the water and requested to go on board, I took them in and we proceeded on abot a Mile, and anchored near a Small Island, I call this Island Bad humered [humored] Island as we were in a bad [humor].

-Lewis, Meriwether & Clark, "Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition" (1804) excerpt.