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Surgeon General's Office
20th Jan'y 1838

Sir,

I have consulted with the Acting Quarter Master General relative to building the Hospital at Fort M Henry; who informed me, that he had no Officer of his Department to whom he could assign this duty, and as it is very desirable a Hospital should be built before the Post is again occupied by Troops, I must respectfully recommend that Capt. Thompson late of the Army, who is now charged with the repairs of the Fort, and in whom I have the greatest confidence, (both as respects his integrity and qualifications,) be employed to superintend the erection of the building. Should there be any objection to placing the necessary funds in the hands of an Agent, this office would undertake the disbursement rather than the work should be longer delayed; at the same time, I must express the decided opinion that I consider any amount perfectly secured in the hands of such an agent as Capt. Thompson.

Very Respectfully

Your obed^t Serv^t

Benjamin King
Acting Surgeon General

Hon: J. R. Poinsett
Secretary of War
Washington

2
Doctor King is designated
as the disbursing officer for
the erection of the Hospital
at Fort McHenry and in
that capacity will proceed
to that place as often as
his presence there may be
necessary. ✓

J. P. P.

February 16. 1838.

31132 - Jan'y 30 1838

Dear Mr Genl

Let the work be
conducted under the
superintendance of
Capt. Thompson &
the Surgeon Genl's
dept. be charged
with the disbursements

J. P. P. au

Under the Secretary of
War's decision the subject
of comes under the exclu-
sive jurisdiction of the
Medical Dept. but if the
papers are not

250.

Surgeon General,
Jan'y 30. 1838.

Book 18. p. 249.

Rec Feb: 15. 1838.