Troops at the Council Bluffs

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cult to account for his frequent elevation to offices of high im-
port almost instantly after his appearance within the commu-
nity by associates and neighbors, in one case before he had
attained the necessary legal status prerequisite to election;
and each time the office to which he was elected was not a
petty nor a minor office but one of major public concern and
high in public esteem. We may concur with Aristotle that
"it is man's nature which makes him trustworthy, not wealth."

[To be continued]

TROOPS AT THE COUNCIL BLUFFS

(Extract from a letter from Council Bluffs, June 24, 1820.)

I am glad the fact authorizes me to state that the troops at
this post are restored to perfect health. There are not in both
corps thirty men on the sick report, nor is there a single case
of serious indisposition.

The diseases with which the men were afflicted last winter
may be attributed to several causes. My opinion is that the
most prominent ones were unavoidable fatigues and exposures
in ascending the river during summer and autumn, heave labor
in constructing barracks, and being quartered in green, damp
rooms, and the intense cold of last winter. No sooner did the
spring open and the earliest vegetables come, than the bowed
down patient shook off his loathsome visitor, stood erect and
was able to speed his course with the rapidity of the noble
stream that fertilizes this garden of the western world.

The great and universal rise of the Missouri has driven us
from our winter position. Almost the whole of the bottom
lands are inundated. The flood is greater than is recollected
by the oldest Indian. The Platte is also in flood, and we
tremble for Boon's Lick settlements and all the lower country.
Our earliest planted gardens and a field of 60 acres of corn
are deluged. Our prospects are not, however, much blighted
as our late planted gardens, 200 acres of corn, 100 in beans,
and 30 of potatoes exhibit the most promising appearance.—
the Newspaper Division of the Historical, Memorial and Art
Department of Iowa.)

1This is the original Council Bluffs, located on the west bank of the Missouri
River some ten miles north of the present city of Omaha. It was later called
Fort Calhoun.—Editor of Annals.