

De Kalb, December 10, 1810

Dear Sir (Richard Cooper),

It is with no small degree of deference that I address you on a subject that there may be the least color of blame laid to me, but knowing whom I address I proceed with full assurance that what I have done will not be thought a crime when you are informed of the cause that proceeded it tis but a few days since that I got my mill ready to run. I had sent to Montreal for a saw and paid for the same but was disappointed. And could get none I then borrowed a saw of Mr. Ralph Thrall. But before I got ready to use it he had broke the one in his mill and sent for the one I had. Disappointed, I knew not what to do, my mill ready to run no saw. The whole settlement in want of stuff. I advised with my neighbors who all thought it best to get the saw at the mill on Beaver Creek and use it till I could get one elsewhere as that mill was out of repair and lying still which I did. And am ready to return the saw when tis wanted for the use of the mill or a new one in its stead if its damaged and pay for the use of it. Which I hope you will consider as done through necessity and not with a wish to keep your or any man's property without paying amply and satisfactorily for the same.

Your Obedient Humble Servant,
Russell Goff