

HighFalls, October 21, 1804

Dear Sir (John Campbell)

I am in good spirits about the mills, as the water must have fell ever since I left you. Hope no time was lost in laying the lower works, as it will now certainly go. You had better be explicit in the terms of sawing for although we may oblige them by sawing Hemlock and basswood to the shares you will find some will think they ought to have all and more too.

Therefore I would state plainly over and over again that the logs must be handled up near the mill before you consider them under your care. In this you cannot be too explicit. As my mason has disappointed me you must old Mr. Barker to put up a back in the middle of my brothers house with games? To each fireplace and put them mantelpieces on the Inn in. God knows I have paid through the nose for all the labor done there. Of course it is mine and if any man attempts to take one of them Ham? Pieces away please to forbid him from me. As I will not in the future let my property be disturbed that I have their from time to time after the gurns is about 6 feet high have the rest of the chimney carried out with sticks and covered with mud as the store chimney is.

Mind you give full and fair notice that logs must be placed where you order them on the bank as disputes will arise if it is not obviously understood and inform all that this will be done for none but the actual settlers. Accept pine timber and no longer than one winter unless we find it will answer to some other timber and even this I shall have leave it to you to do as you think best under the present situation of the prop again do not suffer any man but those you order to take away the mantelpieces...

Now my dear sir keep yourself as steady as you can through the winter. So that we may be ready to go at the gristmill early in the spring which hope will not go on so tardy as the sawmill has.

You perceived I was dissatisfied with the slow manner in which it progressed. And when you consider that I shall actually pay for more than 18 months work at a common Mill besides an innumerable quantity of day laborers exclusive of the ditch you will see the reason I had to pause.

With great regards

I am your friend,

Wm. Cooper