Dear Sir,

Monticello June 27, 1815.

We are unlucky in our endeavors to procure a settlement of your boundary, immediately on the arrival of Col. Monroe, I proposed to him a settlement. He was as anxious to have it as I was and we appointed the day after the morrow. Mr. Dawson one of the most prove and respectable men of our neighborhood, and Col. Isaac Coles, who happened to be at Monticello met us as arbitrators, and old Mr. Price as a witness. We depended on him to show us the Spanish oak & Dogwood line trees on Dick’s branch from which your line proceeds direct up the mountain, we all proceeded on and to conduct us up the Southern branch to which Col. M. claims, and the Northern branch which we allege as his limit. We all proceeded up the mountain and the precipices, the bushes & the rocks becoming tremendous, every one sought the best way for himself, and had got far up the mountain before we observed that Mr. Price was not with us. We walked some time, then hallowed, and hearing no answer, one of the company went back half a mile, it found him on the ground, fallen from his horse, his foot and back too much hurt to proceed. He sett him on his horse, led him back over the difficulties, left him to go on home and returned to us. But this misfortune made it impossible that anything final should be done, yet being so far we determined to examine the grounds as well as we could.

I proceeded up the South valley to the top of the mountain, and thence along the top of the mountain Northwardly to your corner on it which we found plainly marked, at 180 yds. distant from Col. M’s claim. We were then about 3/4 of a mile as we supposed from the Spanish oak & Dogwood, which would give for the subject of dispute an equilateral triangle of 3/4 of a mile on a base of 180 yds. consequently of about 24 acres. We then concluded to descend the mountain to the fork of the branch & recross along the Northern fork, and proceeded down to the fork. I was then so much exhausted, the heat
of the day being excessive. (the 21st of June) that I was unable to encounter the
the precipices, rocks and bushes of another ascent. I was obliged to lie
down in the woods and desire my companions to pursue their researches
alone, and call at the same place for me on their return. They accordingly,
proceeded, but at length found the difficulties of the ascent so great that
they did not reach the top of the mountain, but descended again to where I was;
and we returned without finding, however I have got it placed now within my
own power. I promised Col. Monroe to take the county surveyor, make
under Price's guidance
him trace both branches of your line; and to submit this to the same arbi-
trator. Who owing both neighbors will attend at any time, and on the view
of this plat with that they have had of the ground, will decide the question.
but this cannot be until the fall of the leaves, these being so thick at present
that it would be impossible to take a course of 10. 45 with a compass.
however as Col. Monroe's presence will be no longer requisite, the epoch depend
on a natural and fixed limit, at the distance of between 3. 6 to months.
on the view
2. as of the ground which I have had, I believe it will be
declared in favor of Col. Monroe. the valley to which he claims is evi-
dently the main one which divides his mountain from the Blenheim
mountain and leads directly up to the hollow between them, and in the
along which Mr. Carter ought to have conducted us. the other stop
considerably short of the top of the mountain, if your line is between
the two. hence a regular decision is necessary to subject Mr. Carter
reimbursement to you, and in the mean time I suppose Mr. Hay- 
ginsfurt must retain about 250. 2. of his last payment until decided.
however disappointed in this effort, it has so far availed us as to fix an epoch
of decision. — I am in the daily hope of seeing Mr. Conee & Mr. Dupon
here. I wish you could think it as good an asylum from the heats of the
season, as the shores of Jersey. your presence would aid our speculation
on the wonders of Europe, and add much to the happiness I now feel.

sincerely and respectfully,

Thomas Jefferson