Dear Sir,

I did not receive your letter of the 8th inst. in time to answer it by the last post, and I had a difficulty in deciding what to do in the proposition you make with respect to Billy. It appears to me vain to hope and with any prospect of success to keep him in a state of independence, he will only do any thing that is within my power to do for him, and perhaps it might be better to leave him to his fate at once. If he should and the demand will come in, I will pay it and if I can, I suppose will be little hurt of 1790, after which I am pretty certain to go on at the rate I can have but little hope of. It is true I have only just got present to provide for that I am doing with or without him as I have long had the other. All for some Valvice will be equally fatal to better. There is no pleasure left equal to that which I should feel in seeing my children prosper. I have not had much of this to comfort me.

Regardless however you must let the Bills fall to their own due in the way you mention. It will not be long before he will be left to his own means.

I had rather you would not have delivered me in my tenants, they have reason to believe that I would not do this until the first of April. I would do nothing that would give them the least cause to grumble, nor would I accept with thanks what was meant with the utmost regard for payment.

To Burr Powell  Jan 1801

From Leven Powell
Would also recommend to your consideration whether instead of bringing suit in vindication in the Court of Probate it would not be better to wait as many of the papers should be well considered and you may give the same to Jacob—if suit be to be brought. I think it will be more prudent for him to wait, otherwise it will very likely be said that you have taken that step in order to save Mr. Chadlon. You will not be able to keep such a suit very long, the Act does not allow an action for one year; and often some time will be allowed to bring such a suit, it will at least show your anxiety to have the matter settled.

With respect to the two men who stood before the Minute Board, I think they were all able to get assistance. Character and moral character are pretty scarce, in front of talent with a mixture of the highest qualities. There has been very little progress in the employments here, and very little success. As a whole, the rising business is not doing so well as it used to be, and in my opinion the men who are in the office are working from 8 to 9 o'clock in the morning. The other letter from one of the men who came into my room last Sunday, shows the state of their present state, speaking negatively. These men have no prospect of going on, as a good many have been to the Minute Board more than once, and they do not seem to be there to do anything either way. I have been unable to give any assurance to the Board, but not being able to make any promise on the point, I would write to my friends, the Governor by New York,

The letter, which I have just received, from Mr. Williams, a Member of Congress, from Mr. Lovett, a Member of Congress from Mr. Lovett, shows that the Board of the Life of Mrs. Lovett, a Member of Congress, is still abiding by his house, for election, behind, you are reported to continue.
Jan 12, 1805

FREE

Moses Barr 
Monticello

Montgomery County

Virginia

True eleven years old

J[...]

IAN 12