

Proprietary

Dear Sir.

Poplar Forest near Lynchburg Aug. 2. 19.

Your favor of the 13rd. inst is received at an occa-
sional residence very distant from Monkville, and in
answer to it's importation on the subject of Mr Tone's pamphlet
I must say that I am exceedingly averse to have letters written in
the carelessness and confidence of private correspondence, handed
to the public. This comprehends men of all opinions and of all
dispositions, and the sentiment must be very insignif. indeed
which should find no contradiction in such a mass. Tran-
quility is the summum bonum of life at my age. To preserve it
is better to offend no man's opinion, and from politico partion-
ally I am entirely divorced. I leave to the existing generation
to conduct it's affairs as it chooses. The daily advances in science
will make them wiser than we have been, as I believe we were
than our fathers, and as the next will be than the present race.
I am happy in this comfortable view of things, and have taken
with content^{drop} the early and humble place in the procession
which the master of the ceremony assigned to me if I have
walked straight, I have done my part; if awry, the train which
follows will correct the line of march. To them I leave it with
assurances to yourself of my highest respect and esteem.

William Sampson esq.

W. H. S.

Sampson 11^m. Aug 2. 19.

M. S. 1. and deeply overtopped
- 2000 ft. by the Cimarron River. At 1000 ft. road ends
in snow, timber cut off and trunks left standing. Sawmills -
Lumbermen's houses and sheds all standing up to the ground.
In addition cut off much of snow, pine trees, and tall grasses.
Edward Prather, owner of sawmill, says his trees measured 10
ft. in diameter. He has no lumber now. Cut timber all
when timber was at 2000 ft. or less. Sawmills
cut 2 pine trees 10 inches in diameter. Cut down trees
in snowdrifts, 2000 ft. above timber line. Cut timber
widely and deeply and trees, covering them are broken. Cut down
timber in snowdrifts all at once. Large pieces are 1 ft. in
diameter. Pine trees, 10 ft. in diameter. The timber is
now cut and the trees are cut and taken away. The
trees have been cut down and the timber is scattered
about and the open drifts of snow will be packed and
refrozen. It is now about 1000 ft. above timber line.
Road 1 1/2 miles long. Lumbermen all gone. All
dead timber gone. They are gone. A great number
of trees 10 ft. in diameter and all broken. This is what
they have done. They have cut down trees
and piled them up and then cut them down again.