

Sir

Monticello Aug. 30. 06.

I was so much engaged while at Poplar forest that it was not in my power to answer your letter of the 21st from that place. I advised your son to apply to the Postmaster General, with whom alone the power of appointing his deputies rests, & who being responsible for them, I never pretend to controul his choice. The competitors usually send on to him the best recommendations they can obtain, & on these he decides.

My father removed into this county I think in 1753. & was surveyor I should suppose about a year or two, when he was succeeded by John Dawson as principal & John Staples deputy; & after a short time Staples became principal. my father died in 1757. Staples having some time before recieved the books & papers of the Surveyor's office; so that they were not burnt in his house, that accident having happened 10. years after his death; nor as far as I know or believe have they ever been destroyed. They were safe I know in Bryan's time in those hands I have seen the plat books & entry books of Col^o. Fry & Doct^r. Cabell who I believe were among the first surveyors after the county was taken from Goochland; and I have no reason to doubt they are all now safe. Accept my friendly salutations & good wishes.

Mr. John Lynch.

Th: Jefferson

Lynch Wm. Aug. 30. 06

I have so much enjoyed this of Poplar first that I have
in my mind to write you a letter of the 27th of August. I have
been so busy to apply to the Postmaster General with the same
view of opposing the department and I do not know whether
them, I have not had a chance to write you in detail. The
unusually long or to him the best recommendation that can be
given, for there is nothing

My father removed into the county I think in 1780. I
was brought to the county about a year or two after he
was succeeded by John Jones. As I remember the date of my
after that time I have become private. My father died in
1797. I have had some time before received the books of papers
of the Surveyor's Office, so that they were not burnt in his house.
That accident having happened is years after his death; and
as far as I know or believe have they ever been returned. They
are safe I know in Poplar; and in those hands I have seen
the flat books of the books of the Poplar & West. I have seen
them more among the first surveyors after the county was
first divided, and I have no reason to doubt they are all
now safe. I have not my own copy of the books of the

[Faint signature]

Mr. John Lynch