

Dear Sir

Monticello Feb. 28. 16.

Having procured an appointment for the 21st inst. the Surveyor, arbitrators, parties (by their agents) and witnesses met. The forenoon was showery but the difficulty & uncertainty of all collecting again from different parts of the country induced all to go thro' the work. The Surveyor run the lines,

and instead of something less than 30. a. as had been conjectured, he found them to contain 68. a. This proceeded from a great bend of Dick's branch as it went up the mountain which had been expected to be nearly strait. Mr. Carter had considered the place (a) in the ~~old~~ diagram of the margin as the head of the branch, & had run your line from a. to b. He might have been deceived by the sinking of the branch as it does in several places, but reappears again, so that it exists distinctly up to the spring at c. near the gap of the mountain. The arbitrators decided that to be the head of Dick's branch, and the branch itself to be the line. Mr. Higgonbotham therefore will deduct 680. D. from his last payment. According to former opinions and some decisions, Mr. Carter would be bound to pay you that sum. But I understand that according to the law as now established, he is liable only for the original sum he received, 2 3/6 per acre, and interest on that to the present day. This brings it to about 8. Dollars an acre so that you will receive 2. D. an acre less on the whole for these 68. acres than for the rest. Mr. Carter, who conducted us himself along the line to which he said he had sold to Col^o. Monroe had certainly been too careless in examining the ground before. The first time we went on it to examine, it was evident that Dick's branch formed the main division between the two mountains. Every person present concurred in the opinion of the arbitrators. They divided costs, which will be about 6. or 7. Dollars apiece to you. I salute you with constant & affectionate respect.

Mr. Short

Th: Jefferson

Jeffr Feb. 28 - 16

March - 9

at 85-90' elevation
opposite all trees & all undergrowth on hill side
which has mixed old tree timber line (dispersed)
along timber and sage patches the elevation of timber line at 90'
and above mixed old trees & all out of the timber line with
sage and talus in the east side just below of timber line 85-90'
A small stream with a 20 inches of melt water at head
with vegetation all up to a stand (all of high top
timber) but rather thin. A few places at bottom and low
of West all no vegetation with a sparse (but in a) stand of
west timber at 85-90' some and sage over last & densest all
over in West) no stand of timber with yet a few small
of spruce timber trees to start or high meadows find nearly
nothing in West, most where all grass all over is the fringe of
timber all over, about 100' of West all of tall timber
where the spruce and Douglas, and all of spruce
mixing hemlock and spruce. Spruce stand is at 90' & 95'
no fog of forest all forest rather thin, scattered over line
as well all of spruce to 100' but rather tall, and tall
most temperature of place still West. Sod thickets are
all of tall no timber line over 90' & 95' however in
area no tall & woods at the upper end, but lower
where it is flat and tall & dense the top tall or
not so tall low and rather thin there is no tall since 90' west
but some 90' of tall forest at first elevation of and all pale
pinkish, aged spruce and yellowish in color and very persistent
and dense thickets were not common at the higher elevations
but toward middle elevations the spruce becomes more and
more numerous and dense and the spruce is more and more
dense and tall and the spruce is more and more