

Cool Spring, 9th Feb^y 1805.

Sir,

I received your letter of the 16th ult. but not until it had lain (without my knowledge) several days, at Mr. Stern's tavern, about a mile and a half from my house. This circumstance and the want of health, have prevented me from returning an answer so soon as I could have wished. —

You tell me that you have learned, by a letter from George Warner, that I have taken possession of eleven acres, in one field, three acres of his best meadow-ground and two acres of timber-land, besides about three acres of "your" "land". —

Upon what documents Warner founded this incorrect and ridiculous detail of my depredations on his and your property, I leave to himself to explain. I think when the dispute comes to be rightly understood, and determined, it will appear that I have not included within ^{my} late resurvey, any body's land but my own. —

Here it may be proper to make a few remarks on what you say, towards the close of your letter, where you, indirectly, charge me with the removal of Mr. Warner's fence, and "taking forcible possession, illegally of land" which, you say you are "informed hath been inclosed and cultivated by people holding under" you, "more than twenty years".

To this accusation, ^{I reply} that I neither did the one, nor the other. The fence was made publicly, under the superintendance of my overseer, Mr. Galt. It was begun in Mr. Warner's view, and at a short distance from the place where he was then at work. He came to Mr. Galt, drank grog, staid and conversed with him, amicably, a long time; but made not the least objection to