Washington January 6. 1859

My dear John,

I rec^d your letter this morning. To understand the case it is necessary to go back a little. You had rec^d from me full one half the proceeds of the Com: to act as my att: in settling the Poplar Grove Estate, which I considered bound you, in the absence of all other ties, to act in my defence when any case came up. You were on the ground and supposed to know every circumstance, I was absent at a great distance, and my mind almost wholly engrossed with other subjects. In the mean time a charge is made agt me substantially that, I have sold timber from the Poplar Grove Estate which has not been accounted for and which has not been distributed to the heirs. You were furnished by me with a copy of this charge, and the complaining party went so far as to appoint an Attorney to look after their interests.

I am informed that money has been collected, and after a great to do on the subject, I learn for the first time from this very Atty: Mr Brown that the whole difficulty grows out of a misapprehension of the case and an oversight of the fact that, in my last & 4th account, that the Estate