Extract

Centreville Feb. 18. 1857

I am satisfied a considerable difference of opinion would be found to exist on that point. You will find by looking at the clause of the Will relating to the timber, that while the Exr. is restricted to selling only ripe and mature timber, so also your Mother as tenant for life is confined to the use of ripe and mature timber for the necessary purposes of the Farm with the exception of fuel for the family. The design of this is to prevent either party from injuring the reversioners and obliges the Executor so to limit his sales as always to leave sufficient ripe and mature timber for the necessary purposes of the Farm, which I suppose means the necessary fencing as it could not be expected that the tenant for life would be at the expense of building or even extensive repairs. Now Albert says that John since he became the owner of the reversion and also of the life estate has discarded the Oak fences which he found upon the Farm, and has replaced them by Chesnut rails, and that he has cut many thousand such rails. If in so doing he cut unripe and