

Mount Vernon 10th Dec^r 1773

Sir,

Your letter of the 30th ult^o dated at Colchester, was delivered to me at that place yesterday, as I pass'd through it on my way home. In answer to it Capt. Ashby says nothing more to me than that he can very easily Rent the Land ^{you write ab^t} as several persons have apply'd to him on that head, and that he thinks it would fetch more if laid off into lots, than Rented in a whole. — however if you Incline to take the whole Tract (containing exactly 600 Acres, in a very good form, upon Goose Creek) you may have it upon Lease for three lives, and two years Rent free (there being already a Plantation & tolerable good House upon the Land) at Twenty five pounds p^o ann. provided Capt. Ashby has not engaged any part of it; if he has, as I think I either desired him to engage Tenants, or enquire for them, I shall think myself bound to fulfill his promises. — He does not however in his Letter

Letter of the 6th of Nov^r say that he has
 engaged any, nor am I clear in my ha
 ving desiring ^{him} to do so. — but add, as I before
 observed that they are to be had, & desiring
 to know when I shal be up or lay the
 Land off into Lots, as he thinks it would
 be a better way than extire

I shal readily grant that part
 of the Land is broken, & it will be allow
 ed that this broken Land, is not only
 stony but wch Timber'd; — it must
 also be acknowledged that good part
 of it is rich & level enough for
 use, & I am told that one of the best
 streams in that part of the Country
 (for constancy) runs through it, ^{with} ~~for~~
 If you have any thoughts therefore
 of taking the Land upon the Terms
 I have here offered it would be wch
 to signify it, as I shal postpone wri
 ting to Capt^r Ashby till I hear from
 you provided this happens within a
 few days. — I am Sir

Y^r Very Obedt^h Serv^t

Lij^g Washington