

and not of another respecting the Claims to Lands when no other or better proof can be obtained. I think Judge Powell either Says it does not or that If it does, he will not put it in practice. his opinion for many reasons must be the best of the two, yet I cannot divist myself of mine. as to his being thought a fit person to decide the different [differences] respecting lands in this Quarter was [blank] & I dare Say no other would have answered better nor perhaps so well, tho he requires proofs, the collection of which at this late period is attended with expense. however when he returns next we will be better prepared. for my part I Shall have all mine except one or two at most who are dead and their Certificates not transfere'd on their part & mine not thinking it necessary. If for want of this piece of formality I should loose them it's no great matter they can be replaced by a purchase from Government of others that will not cost half as much. the whole of mine on an average cost above £20 each & I have had & am likely to have trouble equal to as much more before they are all admitted & Deeds got for them. apropos on the Subject of Deeds, pray could I not get one Deed for Several farms or lots So as to save expense, it would be a great object for me who have no Spare money nor likely I ever will, as *madame bad luck* took a passage in all my small vessells this fall.

I have several lots that Join, these at all events I suppose may be included in one Deed. I do not for the present wish that Deeds should be immediately granted for all my Claims passed at the Board. by the Winter express I will write you those I am desirous Should have a preference. however perhaps there are regulations contrary to what I wish. If so, they will no doubt be complied with. I beg If possible that M^r Iredell may be directed to lay out the Lands about the Small Rivers where I wrote he had always promised me mine. I want to take up the family Lands there and some other orders of Council. I know not when it may please God to call me off, therefore wish to have as much Settled before as I can. You were so obliging in a Letter dated 12 November 1795 to say that it was likely there might be a Lot got in the 2^d Concession near Chatham, this I at that time mentioned to M^r Iredell & he located me