

who unjustly took possession of them prevented from benefiting by their fraudulent intentions. I see by the Law of the United States, great stress is laid on cultivation & improvement. that perhaps may be very right when a man goes on a tract of land on which nothing has been done, but to go into houses made, & paid for by others or even when there has been but a cultivated field & on which erect a small hut of no value (which is the common improvement as you know of those who take up other people's property for which they paid an equitable value) most surely by such means they acquire no right to the soil, when compared to the purchaser for I can let out a waste piece of land on which there's been no improvement whatever to a man, who will engage to make a house, out house barn &c & clear 4 acres of land each year & return the whole in 7 years without any charge. this clearly proves how little improvement is worth when compared to *the property of the soil*. It's not in my power to direct you to what authority to apply for redress of what I think my grievances. you know best yourself. nor can I say by what mode redress will be granted (if it should,) however I suppose by making a more favorable Law for honest fair purchasers who could not get people to keep & cultivate all the lands they were obliged to take in payment of those who could not get any thing else & requested as a favour that such payment might be recieved, which was my case & out of compassion I complied with, not one of the Lots I got, one excepted being obtained by *course of Law*

I have now to repeat what I already mentioned when I had the pleasure of seeing you last, which is that you should be amply rewarded in Land for any tract you may get confirmed of those mentioned in my memorandum to you whether such tract may belong to myself or those who's claims I have given in as being their agent & if any further security than what I give by this Letter is necessary you shall have it. I beg you will take this matter in its true light. Im not offering you a bribe or requiring you to betray a trust or injure any man who has right on his side, but I offer you a reward for the trouble & expence you may be at to obtain for me & others what Im sure is our right, & what you must in conscience feel to be such, therefore