

in cutting a deep & well drain along the line
to carry off the water which you may remember
made the ground very swampy; he declined
doing so, saying that "Nancy" occupied the field
 adjoining, and paid him no rent, but added
she might help me if she pleased, but she also
declined, so that I had to make it all myself, and
it was your Father's wish that the contents of it might
be thrown out on both sides, which was done, and
"Nancy" can tell you if you ask her that what was
on her side she carried away to make top dressing
on her grass land, and that I prevented her from
telling what was on my side - The Nucleus of the
old bag fence was removed to make way for the
drain and there are some of the old bags yet lying
about - I had to erect a fence on the brink of the
drain at my own side as it could not be put in
the drain. There is another very extraordinary
but corroboratory circumstance of the eminence of this
line to which I claim your special attention -
You are aware that a line had been run and marked
from the Road Northward, about one degree E of the
true North true course - by some one, and at some time
since I came in possession of Patterson's land - I know
not who run this line for I was never consulted
but think it must have been done by some in-
competent person employed ^{by} your Father, to guide
him where to cut pine wood - I did not observe
this line till some years after it was made
when my attention was drawn to it by some
one I had cutting timber - I took little notice
of it at the time, as I knew it was in a straight
line from my observing that it left my lot

Referring to a Point in the Map, showing that
either it or my East Line must be wrong,
and it was only when I got my East Line Estab-
lished, that many years ago, that I was made
aware of the Great Error in my West Line.

This line, (as it is mentioned), run without my
Sanction, starts from the very identical spot where
stood the two Spruce Trees by the Road side
thus confirming them to be the original Boundary
as required by your father - Viewing all
these Facts as to the Validity of my Claims to the
original line, and which if I had then sus-
pected that Proachments might be made on
your part from the westward, I would
never have given up, - I for the sake of Peace,
proposed to give you a half Acre, not as a
matter of Right, but as a Gift, that you might
have your Compliment - but made a Misrover
of this through "Nancy's" Lat, to be paid her in
a Cash Equivalent, as I had no right to dis-
turb her Possession. This was agreed to by all
the Parties on the Spot, but afterwards annulled
by your Purchasers - when, as a matter of course
I withdrew my proposed Gift, and now
tell you distinctly that I hold to the original
Boundary, and shall ^{probably} treat you as a Trespasser
if you come beyond it. Still, if I thought
it would satisfy you and your Purchasers
I would make you welcome to it, but this
must in no way compromise me with
Nancy, you and her must fight out your
own Battles. Were I to give you up all my

Since it does not necessarily follow that she
must give you hers, which she has held undisturbed
possession of, more than 20 years.

It would be a profitable Exercise to think
about in Connection with these Land Stories -
our Lords saying as Recorded by Lute - ^{that} ~~that~~
take away thy Cloak, &c" you are aware that
Mather gives a different reading of this Passage &
it is just possible that you may think it might
bear some more - for Example - "He that giveth
away his Cloak will soon find himself without ~~so~~
a Coat also", in other words - when greedily taken
out hold of a Simplicton, they greedily apply
this, denuding ^{prophesies} ~~prophesies~~ to him till they leave
him naked.

Some time before you went to Scotland I
let you have a Paper, to serve a particular
Purpose in reference to the settlement of
this Land dispute - but Mr. Nisbet having
refused to comply with it I thought
you might have retrieved it before this,
it is like sleeping up a Pro - not after it
is paid - hence to request you to retrieve
it by post Post, paying which I shall in
justice to myself and Family have to take
legal measures to compel you to surrender
it - or what will be the same thing to me
unless it be left in your hands, but
I hope you will save me the trouble & Ex-
pense of this course by returning it.

I am yours truly
Jos. Davidson