

Fort Wayne Ind Nov 19 1849

Dear Mr Mitchell

Your favor of the 7<sup>th</sup> inst is at hand covering copies of letters from my two brothers at Allegan. I am really surprised at this state of things. It is the first intimation I have had that Leonard was the purchaser under the Jay sale of the Mill property. When Jacob wrote me stating the condition of the property and inquiring why you did not pay the taxes I concluded that you had perhaps abandoned the whole concern, dismissing it not worth the continued drain of exp<sup>s</sup> to save it, and therefore did not write you, but assumed how that I would call your attention to it when I went to New York but not going to the City this fall the matter was prevented to pass by without any further consideration. I knew you had tried in vain to sell it, and if <sup>you thought</sup> it was worth anything at all you certainly would have redeemed it, after his frequent calling <sup>upon</sup> you to pay the taxes. Now I am at a great loss to know what aid I can render you towards effecting a redemption. My brother Leonard is a good deal estranged from the other members of our family. Indeed he is wholly unlike any of us his life and occupations has been so widely different that he seems to have no feelings in common with any of us, and he is particularly estranged from me since the closing up of the Mill affairs in 1840. He no doubt thinks that my feelings and interests have been strayed for you than for himself, and I would some how have secured his claim at ~~them~~ I was

engaged in settling up the debts of Allegan in 1840, and  
for this reason I doubt my having any influence over him  
I am sorry you look to me to do so much towards bringing  
about a settlement, for I very much fear my ability for  
causing above related. I am ready and willing to do any  
thing, and every thing that it is possible for me to do, but I  
beg that you will not look to me to do too much, or hold  
me responsible for what I cannot do. He is account-  
against Gen Mitchell's was sworn to by himself and I got  
and thus assigned to me for collection some time in 1847  
I think amounting to \$97 43, the Antwerp firm that time  
with the taxes he has paid will quite likely make the sum  
he now claims. A letter accompanying the assignment  
to me he offers to pay me some money he then owed to  
for assistance rendered him in 1836. Of course I cannot  
the claim until that is paid, but he owed me for his share  
of the Mill property amounting to some \$500 which I  
intended to deduct also from this assignment, if  
collectible. Now this demand I still hold and Genard  
cannot plead it as an offset against that property unless  
he pays me my claim against it, which will about 1848  
at all. Still he may hold the property under his tax title  
independant of this. So what can we do? as to the value  
of these tax titles you are better informed than I am. If  
they are not good, and the property is worth something for  
I would wish a suit against him at once for its recovery  
and I will aid you all I can, but in the first place I  
would advise that you write to both of them representing the  
loss your sisters have already sustained, & that they cannot

I offer the additional top, that it was an receipt of yours  
as you expected to return it all the while, and that his  
claim is out of his hands and therefore good for nothing  
for that purpose. If worst comes to worst, I will have  
him sue on my claim and get judgement against the  
property and recover it in that way.

I cannot believe that there has been any collusion  
between my two brothers to get the property in Leonard's  
claim, this is denied by his frequent and urgent  
solicitations to you to pay the taxes & after it was sold  
to return it, and his writing to me inquiring the  
inquiry why you did not attend to it, and that you  
intended to do so regard to it. I am extremely  
sorry that you have suffered this thing to occur,  
and more sorry that one of my brothers has been the  
purchaser. you might say to <sup>Leonard</sup> ~~him~~ than unless he  
settles this you will spare neither pains or expense  
to recover it by process of law, write to Jacob and have  
him see his influence with Leonard if he has any  
to duct it back to you. In the mean time I will  
write nothing to them until I can hear from  
you again

Yours Respectfully  
Peter P. Thibault  
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W. P. Barry

Nov 19 - Dec 4 1898

quite important see

Will & Cain of  
Leviad #13.



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