

Marlow Gibbons Rope maker 110A
London Nov^r 4/93.

Please inform me by return of post - If there is any thing owing to you for Cord &c delivered to the Thames & Severn Boats & in future you'll be so good as not let any thing be had without being paid for - or the boat bearers bringing you an order for it
4th J.S.

Brimscomb Sam Smith -

I have just examined Mills out Sam very much dissatisfied with it - it cannot be completed till I see him - which I expect will be about Thursday next - I understand there is a bill owing for Rope &c had by Mills at Marlow & have wrote the man for it - desiring that in future he will never deliver them any thing without being paid or having an order for it - The Board of Customs have not as yet answered the petition respecting certificates - I hope it will be answered before Lawrence's arrival - a bill is just given me of £2.10.7 for damage done to the Rudder & Spunt of the Experiment by going to Mr Brawshaw what I shall shew Mr Chambers or Mr Black before it is paid -

If you are too busy to settle Lawrence's out on his arrival at Brimscomb you will please refer him to me - he has drawn for £50 from Abingdon & expects to be with you about the 9th - Mr Holleston has applied at the wharf for £124.15.3. owing him for Coal,

which will be paid him out of the first
share cash - Mr Guest of St John St has
promised to send a qty of Crates from his factory
in Staffordshire by the N. O. Canal by way
of Tril - he receives more Crates than any
house in Town -

what can I say about the boat Bearey
but that we must have a little more patience
Mr Black has not yet got the security from
Lawrence - the bond is to be here against his
return - I understand the water is greatly
improv'd in the River - & I do most sincerely
hope soon to see the Boats come down without
lighters or the unsufferable Expense of such
an additional number of Carters & men
here - I have desired an Act to be ~~sent~~ ^{made out}
for you of Wharfedale &c -

About 20 to 25 Tons of Goods have order'd for
the next Boats - I doubt not they'll have
sufficient back loading - but some staple
article must be got should any occasional
want of Goods happen -

The Tenby Coal were sold Mr J Fletcher
of Abingdon @ 5^s 6^d without any charge upon
them - he will remit the amt to the Hambro
wharf

Springdon - Child & Prince 4/1/98

You have occasionally accommodated the
Thames Steam Co's last Bearers with car-
at Springdon for their Drafts on Messrs
Sills & Sons London

For regularity's sake - I beg the favor to
know, if it will be agreeable to you to continue
so to do, in which case Messrs Sills will
always give the cost Bearers a written order
on your Bank for what money they will
have occasion for on their arrival there
& for the amount you will be pleased to
value on them - at whatever time is most
agreeable to yourselves, taking the disch. of
the last Bearers & advising of the Draft.

This by a comparison of the dates
at the time they present the order from the
time they left London - will be a satisfactory
check on their conduct

8

Gibbons - Marlow

For particulars of his acct -

12

Sam^l Smith

Comm^{rs} not ans^d petition - aiming at preventing
the Capt^{ns} of the Trows having occasion to go to Glouce^r
in future - Mr Mills down yesterday - Mr Fletcher
promised apples for down Freight to London and by
the conditions on which I sold the Tenby coal -
he has remitted the amt at 1/9th - all of which you'll
be advised by S & Sons - on Mr Mills departure -
I shall load him up to the wale as far as Newby
I'll have sufficient other goods for Bristol &c

Enquiries have been made respecting the goods
last sent by Mills we are anxious to know when we
may expect Lawrence

Marlow - In^o Ralls - for hire for In^o Mills
do not let the Cost Bearer have any without
No value on S^o Sons - when any amount of consequence

Abingdon Dec^r 15/93 Barnett - about the punt
that he pays R Mills for hire of his -

Tho^s Busby

I got your letter this Morning I have
to desire that you will speak to some good men
to have the Boats up -

I have some notion of buying a
west Country size Boat in town - if so I shall
write you to Statters to come to town immedi-
-ately - if not you'll come down with Mills
Lawrence is not yet come down we expect
him to morrow I shall then see about the
Success -

I am your Obedt Serv^t
Joseph Sills

London
2 Dec^r 93

Mr Burgess

London Dec^r 2/93

Sir Please to inform me when you
can put us a Boat in hand of 27 1/2 ft Long
by 12 ft 3 Inches wide at top & 12 at bottom
from outside to outside at same time say

6
what thickness of timbers you will put in her Shaw
Long she will be building & what Money you must
have for her - with a Clasp Rudder -

Can you tell me what burthen the Lechlade
Boats of 13 ft 6 Inches wide carry & how much
water the draw when empty & how much when 30
Tons of Goods are in them -

Waiting your answer

Wampre Wharf
Upper Thames Street

I am for
your Hum^{ble}
Joseph Sills

6

Slatters, Anchor Oxford Tho^s Beerler
desiring him to come to town of Gough
bring a security with him -
not to leave Mills at a nonplus -

6

Abingdon Harrington
That his Boat will not do
shall be at Abingdon in a few days &
will settle with him for the Tackle

Marlow 7 Rolls
ordering - a proper size horse line
1 ~~1~~ ^{3/4} - do
4 55 cord
& 3 or 4 poles if to be found

(to take up the Alfred & Union) answer of Return

Dec. 7/93

Putney	—	Hill
Sheperton	—	winch
Windsor	—	Sutton
Hamerton Bank	—	Neighbour
Cookham	—	Shepherd
Edsor	—	Turner
Shade oak	—	Rose
Marlow	—	Rose
Tomning	—	Bullack
Pangbourn	—	Cottrell
Geddington	—	Peaman
Wallingford	—	Cresswell
Burnoak	—	Hobby
Oxford	—	Downing

Desiring if any thing is due to them
 or for the ^{of} boats to send me
 an account of it immediately &
 in future to do the work regularly &
 send me the acct every quarter to the
 Hambro W^{ch} where they will be paid

Dec. 9/93

Brimscombe Saml. Smith
 acknowledging receipt of his paying attention to Coakley's
 Lawrence leaving here yesterday with 81 Tons Goods
 wrote for John Beesley to haul up Union & Alfred
 the Union being detained at Crawshays & Wiggins
 the arrears due on the Thames by the Coast Bearers 100⁰
 particulars of four Disturbments sundry 685
 Hills

Abingdon

Barnett,

Dec 9th

Telling him I should be at Abingdon in
a few days I meant to give him an
order to build a Boat
not to engage himself in the interim

10

Brunswick

J Smith

Mr Chambers being now in the Bath
observing a number of boats coming down
by the great Boat, for which Mills just
arrives he is obliged to lighten with
2 lighters / desires to know if you have
not determined to raise the price of that
article as from their obliquity ^{to make} ^{independent of the trouble} ^{travelling}
good any loss from Breachage, it is
absolutely necessary should be done &
you have not determined what advance of
price to make he is so good as make up
your mind & inform the Committee
who will give you an order to that effect
he observes your difficulty in buying of
Mr Crawshaw's Iron & other goods for France
which must increase every day & thinks
your brother or Mr Perry might purchase an
old boat at their port cheap that might
for some time answer that purpose
I have determined to purchase another Boat
on Thames if I can meet with one to my mind
to complete the fourth set & shall then
go every week — wiggins & Co have ordered £5.12.0
what the say was before being freight & 2 18th of the above

Reading Symonds Brewer
informing him I shall call in a few days -

Dum^o 14

order 4 Tarpaulins of Mr Fairbrother
for the Union Company

inform Mr Smith that ^{when} if owner Williams
comes to Brimscomb he does propose to him
that if they will establish a boat on the
Wye we can find much back carriage
from London to Monmouth Hereford &c
to be
23

Abingdon Child & Prince
Desiring they would pay P. Beesley £20 or £30

~~Brimscomb I Smith
I had your two last favors in course I shall
endeavour to settle with Messrs. H. when the next
freight is received -
No ^{particular} general order has been yet made
respecting Iron pots - The wh. will judge of
the expediency of advancing them by the next
settlement with Mr. Crawshaw as in case they
again charge breakage we must add universally
W. P. P.
P. Beesley found me a security for £100
he pass'd Windsor yesterday upwards -
The ~~rest~~ Messrs. Smith & Lawrence have
left so much money unpaid to the people who those
the boats that I have found it necessary to write
them all for their debt & inform them in future
they will be settled with quarterly~~

Brimscomb. J. Smith Dec^r 23.

Do

Do

26

Wishing Comp^s of the Season — enquiring
when Mr. Mills wages commenced
what Tackle each Boat or set of Boats
have on board — Take both the
Lumber & best of harness bills unpaid by
Lawrence & Mills on the river —

Cottrell — L 14 —

Bulloch — 8.9.6

Creswell — 6.18 —

Pearman — 12.2.6

Webb — 28.10.8

Lambert Meat — 15 —

Gibbons — 23.9.6

108.10.2

will be paid in future by J.S.
Mr. Chambers does not wish any more of
the Boats to be covered — take a new plan is sent
thinking it will be best to have the acct
sent me to prevent other trouble
Mr. Lanneis Tin wanted by Lawrence

26.

Lecklade at Hooper's

Joseph Lawrence

Desiring he'll measure the Locks
from Lecklade to Oxford & downwards
to London

Dec^r 30/93 - Agreed with Sutton & Bizaro
to house the Compt^y Boats from Richmond
to Windsor all the year round at L^d 6. 6.
not to ~~cost~~ ^{charge them} as is at present practiced by Winch -

1794

~~Primscomb~~ January 1. 1794 -

Windsor Child & Prime

Requesting they would let Beesley have
£20 more - Ino Mills £30 or £40

Oxford - at Hatters Tho^s Beesley
Surprised how his money is gone desiring
him to go over to Windsor for £20 more
to take what Tackle he may want of Court
that I shall be there to settle with him in
a few days -

Primscomb, J. Smith

I have your letter of the 26th & 31st - The latter
came duly to hand but the former was 3 or 4 days
out of course ~~which I have remarked before~~
~~which I have remarked before~~ - I agree with you that Tenby Coal
ought to fetch 55^{/-} at Windsor & at that price I don't
see how you can deliver it there without being
assured of a down or about loading loading to London
where as we have already an odd boat she would
come well in - otherwise the expense of
taking her back empty ~~must be more than profit~~
~~in the end~~ ^{must} ~~would~~ infringe on the Tonnage
you have no doubt sent Mr Fletcher to rights about
the deficiency he complains of in weight
I certainly can take an Inventory of the Tackle
belonging to the boats here - but how shall I have
any check without you inform me what has been