

Sir Birmyngham Post 17 June 1796

Here with you have Snow Bills N<sup>o</sup> 460 & 464 of Goods of Chalier & Mr Grozelnock Vessel which is of 15 Tons - It was attended with some trouble to engage the latter to take these Goods to do which I believe they leave timber they had before engaged to take this Spring - We have two sets of Boats come from London within this 2 or 3 days & the whole of the Bristol Goods we will send next Spring if possible - I hope you will have a Sufficiency of Goods to load the Chalier Back if not I have told Cap<sup>m</sup> Yates to bring Smiths Coal again & to get some fresh from the Pitts West of the Common Sand, which are nearly equal to the 10<sup>th</sup> Sand - Mr Baker has some which he says are very little inferior to y<sup>e</sup> Hall Lane - but if good cannot be got @ y<sup>e</sup> 13/6 I think it will be best to send the very best -

My Bro<sup>r</sup> sent an order by Cap<sup>m</sup> Yates for several articles which are much wanted & as you may probably give order for 'em before the Snow reaches you I here enter 'em at foot

Yours  
Sir your Obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>  
Thos Smith

1 Ashd Catamile Mine  
Carriage { 6 Thread Hook  
          { 10 — Do — Do  
          { 12 — Do — Do  
1 Cask Grease  
Empty Cask sent of Chalic

to send these of returns of vessel if possible  
being for the sailmaker who is at stand for  
the same

W<sup>r</sup> John Holmes  
Bristol

~~~~~

Sir Brimscombe Post 18 June 1796

Herewith you have Invoice of goods  
blead of Wm Quarrington who left here yesterday  
morning early — when he was offered £12 but we  
no receive it said it was of no service to him  
consequently nothing was paid him

You will observe the Debt here charged on the  
Coal to Abingdon is 2/9 per Ton less than of usual charge  
for Iron which may be added to the annexd amt  
to make the Calculation for the price to sell out at if  
the Gent<sup>l</sup> & you think the sales will bear it I  
think its a good Coal & hope will find a good

market — it was all weighed into the  
Boats & will it noble best to weigh <sup>'em</sup> & out again  
at Abingdon which may be done without any  
extra trouble by having a couple of Boxes made  
that will contain about 2 1/2 Cwt at a Dft  
by doing which probably will be more satisfactory  
to Mr Waks & will better enable the Centre &  
you to form a price before any is sold — Capt  
Lawrence left here to day whose Snow  
Bill goes by this post,

I am  
Yours Obedt  
Tho<sup>s</sup> Smith  
Mr D Sills  
Hambro's Wy  
London



Sir  
Bourincombe Pond  
18 June 1796  
Subjoined is Invoice of Cals & Goods  
taken from here this day by Capt Lawrence  
who is paid £12 & placed to your acct  
All the Goods are sent by these Boats  
& to prevent the Boats waiting we loaded up  
up Boats with Cals. The Tenby is of a good  
Quality & in case they will bear a better Price  
at Abingdon than is charged in this acct you  
can make the necessary addition previous to  
the disposal — I write you this day in

111  
Mr Quarringtons Iron Bill respecting of  
Lower Newn Coal -

You will please observe all the Copper  
Entd in this Invoice for Williams Esq<sup>r</sup>  
was weighed at this place as 2 Cakes E C C  
were lost from off the at hatcombe &  
advertised by a Mr B Thomas - & 2 Cakes  
B were sent from Newnham to Stourport  
by Mr Morgan thro' mistake who has  
informed us by Letter I mention this for  
your government in case any dispute sh<sup>d</sup>  
arise on receiving the goods

I am  
Sir

Mr Jos<sup>ph</sup> Liles  
Newnham  
Stourport  
London

Brimm's Post 18 June 1796

Gentle

By Quarrington who left here

By 16<sup>th</sup> was sent confidant by your directions  
37.0.0 of Lower Swern Coals but his men  
refused to Load & in which he appeared to encourage  
'em by saying in the Office he commended  
'em for it & my Broker was obliged to send  
<sup>two</sup> men to assist in Loading 'em - his Men are  
not content in their own refusal, but so  
soon as Nathl Lawrence came down  
they went to his men & persuaded 'em from  
Loading Coals in consequence a demurr arose  
with 'em, but Lawrence most prudently  
told his Men if they wd not load the Coals  
he wd hire Men & stop the Armt of of  
their wages - in consequence they took an  
Board 30 Tons Lower Swern Coals

38 Tons Only to make up their

Loading, I must beg leave to observe  
that the London Captains & Men are  
paid by the Trip & of course to Load &  
discharge their Cargoes - in common with  
others let the Cargo be what it may, & if a  
President is suffered to creep in, for 'em  
to have Men to Load here Coals here, & to  
discharge 'em at ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~place~~ <sup>place</sup> it will

be a heavy Tax on the Coal Trade if  
not entirely put a stop to it - Goods  
at present come in slow & I presume  
will not mend much for several months  
& that there will not be more than 5 Sets  
of Boats will carry - If you Gent<sup>r</sup>  
approve I think Luoversington will be  
a proper subject to dismiss as there will  
be time to get another in his room & may  
be a means of preventing future disputes  
in Loading & Discharging Coals & I know him  
to be a strange awkward Man. he was  
offered £12 in money the same as the  
others are paid - this he refused & so  
take none he stoped from the Carter of  
the last Trip for taking his own Horses  
over the Tunnel -

Will not the Copy of the Letter from  
the Collectors of the Customs of Gloucester  
(sent up some time back) require  
an answer?

I am Gent<sup>r</sup>  
of the Council  
N<sup>o</sup> 38 Mincing Lane  
London  
Your Obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>  
and Son<sup>r</sup>

Ent<sup>d</sup> Alphabet thus far -

Barnescombe Port 25 June 1796

Sir

In order to know of Supplies of Coals likely  
to be got from Burton if wanted (as required by your  
order of the 12<sup>th</sup> Inst<sup>s</sup>.) I went over there on Sunday last,  
when Mr Hewlett he - informed me they can provide  
of quantity promised to Mr Chambers, Mr Perry & you  
which I understand is 1000 Tons by Michaelmas  
next & more if possible should you particularly want  
em, I apprehend one Sloop will be able to make 3  
trips in two Springs when the Men are become acquainted  
with the Channel, if one Sloop will fetch full as  
many Coals from Burton as three Sloops bring from  
Newport in twelve Months upon an average

Should this Coal find a good Sale at Abingdon  
& a second Sloop is wanted to Burton, please inform me  
The Situation for a Sloop to lay to take these Coals  
on Board is very indifferent & being a free Port, no  
person I am told can keep no particular place in  
a easy Birth was to be made for a Vessel to lay on Ground  
Mr. Morse promised me to Shift a little of Mud to  
under a Spot more safe for a Sloop at times she  
can be got into it, The old Sloop Hayes & Capt<sup>s</sup> says  
has rec<sup>d</sup>. several Strains some Planks are soon to put in  
& Ironsides Vez<sup>s</sup> for Ceiling which is much longer Vessel  
for that Business

Agreeable to your request of the 15<sup>th</sup>  
Inst<sup>s</sup>, I have annex you Stock Acc<sup>t</sup>. of a Sloop & Boats - on  
examining & Entries for Timber & Sundry Articles find  
many Disturbments entered in Canal Journal which being  
to the Vessel Acc<sup>t</sup>. being paid & regularly placed in Canal  
Journal & previous to the Boating Acc<sup>t</sup>. being distinctly kept

from the Navigation Disturbments, in consequence  
 I have extracted such Sums as appear to belong to the  
 Vessels as near as I can, and the Timber & Bought  
 & part used for use of Boat Building & Repairs to be part  
 for the purposes of the Canal, an exact division cannot  
 be made to each acct. tho' the following statement, I believe  
 is as near as it can be done from the Commencement  
 to this present time

I have your favour of the 10<sup>th</sup> and  
 conformable to your directions the acct. shall be sent  
 in future

I have informed Mr Bird, to sell the Sawyer  
 to work to prepare Planking for Building of more Boats  
 they will <sup>begin</sup> the latter end of next week or beginning of following one  
 they would have begun ere this, and had taken a job at Broad St  
 just before the receipt of your letter

I am Sir your obed<sup>t</sup> & able Serv<sup>t</sup>  
 Tho Smith

| D <sup>r</sup> Boats & Scurr Vessels |         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                            | Contra  |                   |                                                                           |                         |
|--------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1796                                 | June 11 | To Cash p <sup>d</sup> for Timber<br>& Sparrow Sawing                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 32.0.0<br>0.15.0<br>2.14.0 | 1796    | June 7            | By Balance of Acc <sup>t</sup> sent<br>Mr Black 11 Jms                    | 30. 34 10 1/4           |
|                                      | 2       | To Dr p <sup>d</sup> Mr Bird & Sparrow &<br># Wilkins                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 13. 12 11                  |         | 15                | By repairing Mr Graybrooks<br>Vessel & Materials &c                       | 15. 6 3 1/2             |
|                                      | 25      | To Sundry articles ent <sup>d</sup> in Canal<br>Journal now brought to this<br>Acc <sup>t</sup> & Co <sup>s</sup> of Gen <sup>l</sup> & Surr <sup>l</sup> of Costs<br>of works, & Timber from<br>17 <sup>th</sup> March 1792 to 20 Oct <sup>r</sup> 1794 | 300. 7. 0                  |         | 17                | By Dr J Saunders ac <sup>t</sup>                                          | 6. 7. 0                 |
|                                      |         | pay up to this Day<br>p <sup>d</sup> J Bird for 13 Sept 1791                                                                                                                                                                                             | 441. 10. 4                 |         | 22                | By rec <sup>d</sup> for hire of a Boat<br>to take salt to Cuckfield       | 10 0                    |
|                                      |         | to the 14 <sup>th</sup> Sept 1793                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 2093. 10. 4                |         | 25                | By New acc <sup>t</sup> for Stock of<br>Vessels & amored acc <sup>t</sup> |                         |
|                                      |         | p <sup>d</sup> B. Sparrow Sawing for<br>13 Sept 1791 to 26 Oct <sup>r</sup> 1793                                                                                                                                                                         | 154. 13. 0                 |         |                   | Trows Scurr Vessels 1659. 0. 0                                            |                         |
|                                      |         | for Mart's Cordage, bought<br>at Bristol for                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1200. 0. 0                 |         |                   | Canal & Thames Boats 000                                                  | 2459 0 0                |
|                                      |         | 7 Dec <sup>r</sup> 1796 to 27 May 1793<br>1793 quints                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                            |         |                   |                                                                           |                         |
|                                      |         | To Balance carried to New Acc <sup>t</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 366. 1. 11 1/4             |         |                   |                                                                           |                         |
|                                      |         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <u>£ 2516 19 10 1/4</u>    |         |                   |                                                                           | <u>£ 2516 19 10 1/4</u> |
|                                      |         | To Stock of Irons & Bricks as<br>acc <sup>t</sup> & amored & bro <sup>d</sup> for<br>old acc <sup>t</sup> To 106                                                                                                                                         |                            | June 25 | By Balance Quints | 366. 1. 11 1/4                                                            |                         |
|                                      |         | Trows & Scurr Vessels — 1659. 0. 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                            |         |                   |                                                                           |                         |
|                                      |         | Canal & Thames Boats 000. 0. 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 2459. 0. 0                 |         |                   |                                                                           |                         |
|                                      |         | To Cordage &c for Bristol<br>since 7 mas last to ac <sup>t</sup> when<br>Mr Holmes renders his Accounts                                                                                                                                                  |                            |         |                   |                                                                           |                         |



Trows & Severn Vessels

| Names                   | Amount as valued by Board |   |   |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|---|---|
|                         | £                         | s | d |
| ... (including rigging) | 50                        | 0 | 0 |
| ... do                  | 40                        | 0 | 0 |
| Chambers do             | 00                        | 0 | 0 |
| Nancy (Hugate) do       | 40                        | 0 | 0 |
| Forceful do. 33 do.     | 40                        | 0 | 0 |
| Holliston do            | 75                        | 0 | 0 |
| Milleton do             | 00                        | 0 | 0 |
| ... do                  | 50                        | 0 | 0 |
| Black do                | 50                        | 0 | 0 |
| Black do                | 140                       | 0 | 0 |
| Sweden do               | 140                       | 0 | 0 |
| Bate do                 | 120                       | 0 | 0 |
| Chalie do               | 100                       | 0 | 0 |
| Swansea do              | 100                       | 0 | 0 |
| Disney do               | 200                       | 0 | 0 |
| Pleasure Boat           | 90                        | 0 | 0 |
| Swansea's Tow Boat      | 5                         | 0 | 0 |
| Disney do               | 15                        | 0 | 0 |
| Chalie do               | 4                         | 0 | 0 |
|                         | 1659                      | 0 | 0 |

Old & good of repair - will it not be best to dispose of her if an opportunity should offer  
 Do Do Do Do

Lighner at Newport  
 do do

Canal & Thames Boats, Built by S & Co at Bourne

|                     |     |   |   |
|---------------------|-----|---|---|
| Workshop (30 Tons)  | 20  | 0 | 0 |
| Endeavour (30 Tons) | 20  | 0 | 0 |
| Thames (full size)  | 50  | 0 | 0 |
| Severn do           | 50  | 0 | 0 |
| Hempford do         |     |   |   |
| Union do            |     |   |   |
| Experiment do       |     |   |   |
| Triumph do          |     |   |   |
| Success do          |     |   |   |
| Saffronston do      |     |   |   |
| Burnscombe do       |     |   |   |
| Bourne do           | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| Chalford do         | 110 | 0 | 0 |
| Corinchester do     | 140 | 0 | 0 |
| Cricklade do        | 150 | 0 | 0 |
| Batteram do         | 160 | 0 | 0 |

Was Boats Built by S & Co at Bourne  
 Bourne  
 Corinchester  
 & Cricklade  
 are employed in the London Trade, should they not be charged to Thames Boats in care of the London & Chalford

£120 } £1050 Am<sup>t</sup> of Boats due to  
 130 } Thames Boats in use  
 160 } of London Wh<sup>y</sup> & Credit  
 160 } of Boats & Severn Vessels  
 160 }  
 160 } 10 April 1794

Employed on Thames in London Trade  
 Do Do Do  
 Do Do Do

83 none of the Boats built upon the Thames, or purchased by the Com<sup>r</sup> London are not now in the acc<sup>t</sup>

Brimms <sup>the Pond</sup> 26 June 1796

Sir In reply to your favour of the 24<sup>th</sup>  
Curr<sup>d</sup>

There now remains to be paid which should have  
been paid long ago To Messrs Mr Reynolds £131.8.0  
To Boutton & Watts £120 about 100 for Strider  
& the Coals now coming up for Parton which will  
be called for in a few days. for what are already  
due about £100 some provision should be made  
for these payments I shall be glad to have your  
Directions on this head

The £150. you lent the £. when down here  
last shall be repaid soon

As Cash runs so scarce at present  
it will be impossible for some time to pay the  
London Papers more than the sum went at  
the meeting £12 each & as money must be  
raised for the Comm<sup>ee</sup> to pay em I presume  
it had better be done in London than here  
a full Lading of goods for Jackson are  
expected up to morrow & he will leave this place  
on Wednesday or Thursday next

I am Sir  
Chambers Esq<sup>r</sup> your Obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>  
N<sup>o</sup> 38 Mincing Lane  
London  
I am Smith  
Under Cover to J Sargent

Borings in Port 26 June 1796

gent<sup>l</sup> In reply to your Letter of the 24<sup>th</sup> — 1 Butt Currants & Bag Ginger came here on Friday last —

△ { 1/2 Butt Currants } left London the 27<sup>th</sup>  
{ 1 Chest Soap }

Curd — the former will be sent next week & the latter as soon as possible after they arrive as will all future quantities

Messrs Jewell, Crane & Co. Warcester  
Messrs Smith & Co. York

Mr Rufinus Holmes  
Sir

Borings in Port 27 June 1796

I have your Letter of the 24<sup>th</sup> inst<sup>l</sup> with Copy of Mr Harmer's <sup>on 27<sup>th</sup> of the 26<sup>th</sup> of June</sup> to you respecting of States & Grindstones, which will be up here to Day. having heard nothing from Mr Harmer since you say you wrote to him the 24<sup>th</sup> I will thank you to write me in return of post of particulars. viz<sup>t</sup> where of States & Grindstones were traiged, Value in Bristol & Duty paid there, I presume it will be necessary you apply to the Shippers for these particulars & probably it will be requisite for y<sup>e</sup> Shippers to obtain a Certificate from the Officers the Duty was paid to in Bristol for the Officers Satisfaction at Gloucester. I pray was it expressed in the Packet that Duty was paid on y<sup>e</sup> States in Bristol. if so a surcharge only will be to be

Raid on the <sup>east</sup> end of Street from Bristol to  
this place — also if Duty is not chargeable on the  
Grindstones, of produce for what purpose to be applied  
I expect must be attested to at Gloucester before unloaded

I also duly need your favour of the 22<sup>nd</sup>  
with Invoice of Goods Bot 4<sup>th</sup> I am sorry of Linen  
sent in our Snow Bill N<sup>o</sup> 464 by Mr. Graybrook  
Vessel run wet on its passage hence — being in  
that state so little a time. I hope no real loss will  
be sustained only will require attendance in getting  
it Droyed again I think it will be best you get  
the Fine for all the Linen without delay I should  
any small allowance be required for trouble in getting  
it Droyed please inform me of particulars as soon  
as possible for my government in ~~the~~ adjusting  
the same with Mr. Graybrook

The 10 Casks Tallow T<sup>o</sup> P<sup>h</sup>allic  
in Snow Bill N<sup>o</sup> 460 is right that mistake  
in Snow Bill N<sup>o</sup> 460 is right that mistake  
Mr. Cap<sup>n</sup> Yates taking 8 on Board at his beginning  
to Load the 2 the very last

*As you will please*  
*Mr. John Holmes* *Dir*  
*Bristol* *Yours Obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>*  
*Thos Smith*

110  
Brimscombe Post  
Sir 27 June 1796  
This post brought me your  
favours of the 24 Inst In reply  
I have sent you a bill for  
freight, Tonnage & edging for  
Tullis bark from the Hammer's  
Wharf London to this place is 35/-  
I am by the Co's Order -  
I am dear Sir J. James Perry Esq  
Sir your obed. Servt. J. Thomas Smith  
W<sup>o</sup> G<sup>o</sup> Tovey  
Gloucester

Capt<sup>r</sup> Tho Gates

Brimscombe Post 28 June 1796

You will please call on Mr Hammer  
Gloucester first who will be good enough to inform you  
what he knows respecting the Slates & Grindstones Viz. of  
particulars Mr Cassebus Holmes sent to him of a value  
& what duty was paid in Bristol, then call on the  
Collector to know if it is necessary for an officer to come  
to see them Landed or if he will permit <sup>you</sup> to do it & to have  
them weighed which weights shall be delivered to him when  
you go to clear out and at the same time pay the duty  
chargeable upon them also inform Mr Jenkins I have  
wrote to Bristol for particulars of the Value there he &  
so soon as I receive a reply he shall be made acquainted  
if required where you go <sup>next</sup> to Gloucester to pay the remainder of  
the Duty The difference of the Value between Bristol  
& Brimscombe is 1/4 Don -  
I presume no duty is chargeable on  
Grindstones more than you will have to enter a

-declaration - but in all be directed by the  
Collector

Thos Gates

Brimscombe

I am your hble serv<sup>t</sup>  
Thos Smith

Sir

Brimscombe Post 29 June  
1796

Your favour of yesterday of Thos Gates is duly  
ackd with Bills & Cash £91.17.0 which with your  
Commission & Charges on Goods £2.2.4 is Ninety three  
Pounds Nineteen Shillings & 4 of. Am<sup>t</sup> of your acc<sup>t</sup>  
transmitted of 2<sup>th</sup> Inst. & is pass'd to your Credit  
agreeably

The States & Prindstones were discharged yesterday  
in the presence of Mr Bowyer & Duty paid upon  
the Value of the former

In haste I am Sir

Mr Geo. Harmer  
Gloucester

Your Obedt hble Serv<sup>t</sup>  
Thos Smith

Mr Wm Key  
Sir

Brimscombe Port  
near Minchinhampton  
Gloucestershire - 29 June 1796

When you called here 26 May respecting  
the Sandiff Coals, I understood you were not certain  
if it would be subject to Duty, for such as may be  
brought to this place, probably by this time you may  
have obtained a knowledge of that, as well as of  
probable rate of Freight, & what you will engage  
to deliver a Siding for at Framilode including all  
Expences deliver upon the Wharf <sup>there</sup> or into another <sup>place</sup> if  
in case one should be provided for that purpose - as  
the Gent<sup>rs</sup> are inclined to give every encourage-  
ment to Trade this way - I will thank you to  
inform me at your Convenience the lowest  
price of Ton deliver at Framilode or at this  
place for the best ~~sort~~ <sup>sort</sup> which you were of opinion  
are equal, if not ~~superior~~ <sup>superior</sup> in quality to the Sodbury  
Should they take with the Public on trial  
I am persuaded many may be sold thro the line of  
this Canal your reply will oblige

Mr Wm Key

Jos Mess Esq<sup>r</sup> at Brimscombe

at Mr Thos Keys

Sir your Obedt Serv<sup>t</sup>

J<sup>r</sup> Facens  
near Sandiff

Thos Smith

Gloucestershire

Sir

Brimm's Point 30 June 1796

Herewith you have Invoice of Goods of  
Cap<sup>n</sup> Jackson who left here Tuesday afternoon the 28<sup>th</sup>  
Carr<sup>t</sup> whom he was paid £12..2..0 V placed to your  
acct

We have now about 50 Tons Goods towards  
Lewis Cargo who I hear will be here to day, a sufficient  
of Goods I expect will come in to load him about  
this day Week

I am Sir

W<sup>o</sup> Josh Sells

Your obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

Thos Smith

London

Brimm's Point 30 June 1796

W<sup>o</sup> Craves Lay W<sup>o</sup>

Sirs

By the Barges Bristol &  
Heddesley John Jackson Master which left this place  
on 28<sup>th</sup> Inst for London, the undermentioned Goods  
first for Cardiff have been forwarded to your address

I am

Sir  
your obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

Thos Smith

3063 Bars Iron R C Swansea No 72..2..1.13

Bill of Lading from Cardiff by Schooner  
Swansea is 3060 Bars - L<sup>o</sup> No 67. 7. 3. 13 is short  
No 72..4..0..15 & the the of Bars are more here of No  
is left by - 1. 3. 2

contd



Your favour of the 24<sup>th</sup> June is duly recd many of  
your former parcels of Iron have varied much in  
No. & Weight of acc<sup>ts</sup> for Cardiff, some more, some  
less - no Iron remains here - The <sup>for</sup> Schooner is going  
by not another way for another cargo - It has so happened  
that we could not avoid dividing some of the cargoes  
I believe you have been advised of the whole way  
together I hope will all prove right - In future  
you shall be advised as you request

Messrs Crawshaw and Thompson  
Merchts  
London

Brinscombe Port 30 June 96

Sir  
I have your favour of the 23<sup>rd</sup> this Mo-  
yesterday was forwarded from hence by Mr Lewis Post  
John Withers Master to care of Mr Thos Evans  
Worcester  
5 Bds Rice F Worcester &c  
8 Chests Soap adress J Taylor &c

These are all the goods yet come here from  
<sup>London</sup> When the other arrive they shall be forwarded as soon  
as possible

Mr Jas Taylor  
Worcester

I am Sir your Obedt<sup>l</sup>  
Thos Smith

Dear John

Brimscombe Post 30 June 1796

Annexed you have a Crow Bill of Goods of  
Witnes for hence yesterday - you will please to notice  
of State of y<sup>e</sup> Water on his arrival if he lightens up  
to mention it on their Crow Bill, I mean by  
Noticing of State of y<sup>e</sup> Water for probably that may  
be sufficient to take all y<sup>e</sup> Goods on Board in one  
Bottom, but meeting an opportunity of putting a few  
into another Vessel that may by chance be going  
up, on purpose to get the lightning Price when it's  
not necessary, as <sup>you</sup> well know they have all those  
Manoeuvres to get y<sup>e</sup> Cash -

Your favour of y<sup>e</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> is rec<sup>d</sup> my Bro<sup>r</sup>  
has been for home since Monday Morning -

Thos Rowley will be kept going in one of  
the Crows which I see is your wish as well as ours.

B Bawley I think goes on & gives as little  
trouble as any who I think should be kept - if old  
hands if good should have of preference - Witnes  
as James Danks I expect will be turned to Lower  
Severn Coal Trade - we will write you again  
in a few days I wish I could see you here

Mr John Smith  
at Mrs Baileys  
Stourport  
Warcestershire

I remain  
Yours affec<sup>t</sup>  
Thos Smith

Brimscombe Post 30 June 1796

Messrs Boulton & Watt

Gentn

Enclosed you have Messrs  
Pitt Croomes No<sup>d</sup> Draft at 1 Mo. £120 say one hundred  
Twenty Pounds being for 1 Year Premium of Engine  
Due the 25 Jan'y last which please acknowledge the  
Receipt of agreeably

For the Prop<sup>rs</sup> of the T & S Canal

Messrs Boulton & Watt

I am

Yours near Birmingham

Gentn

Your Obedt Serv<sup>t</sup>

Jam<sup>s</sup> Smith

Warwickshire

Messrs Wm Reynolds & Co Brimscombe Post 30  
June 1796 -

Gentn

Enclosed you have Messrs Pitt

Croomes No<sup>d</sup> Draft on Sir Jas Esdaile No<sup>d</sup> 46 83  
at 1 Month £131.. 8.0 say one hundred & thirty  
one Pounds eight Shillings being the full amt of your  
Bill for faalts which please acknowledge the  
receipt of agreeably - For Messrs Jas Perry & Co

Messrs Wm Reynolds & Co I am

Gentn

Hedley Iron Works

Your Obedt Serv<sup>t</sup>

Gloucestershire

Jam<sup>s</sup> Smith