

Mr Henry Charles Brumcombe Lorb 1 July 1796

Sir

I enclose you have a Return from
the Gloucester Custom House for the Tonnage Duty Cargo
of the 22nd April last, - fifty six Tons of Iron N^o 2189,
which I must request you will deliver into the Custom
House at your place

The Schooner Swansea I understand is gone
down to you again for Iron and expect she is now
with you I hope you will keep her employed most
of the Summer.

For Mess^{rs} J. & S. Perry & Co

I am Sir your obed^t hble Serv^t

Jam^s Smith

Mr Henry Charles

Cardiff

Glamorganshire

Dear Sir

Windsor Port 2nd July 1796

In reply to your Letter of the 13th Ult. I am now getting dressed Stone for the Tunnel bottom of 12 & 14 I am deep as the Stones will hold out for the ends and depth I am fully of opinion across bars of Stone of this depth across the Tunnel at the distance of 600 yds. forward a part and taking up the inverted Arch so far as ^{its} rose say 3 or 4 feet wide, and replace 'em with Stone dressed & 14 in deep well furnished to the cross bars will prevent it ever rising again, — done this way will save much trouble and expence, from taking up the whole

as I dare not go in to see the job executed I have spoke to W Hawkins who has promised to go in for a day or two just to set the work agoing but says he will not work and B Haines has promised to attend the whole of it, so that I hope all will be regularly fixed to get over in 10 or 14 days I cannot do better than these men I believe

This job must not be left till the Fall Haines come and I think a better time cannot be fixed on to begin it, than about the middle or 20th Septem^r if the Gent^l and you approve

I am D^r Sir

Wth Jas Black
N^o 38 Mining Lane
London

Your Obed^t Serv^t
Sam^l Smith

Bromcombe Port 1st July 1796

Dear Sir

Your favour of the 29th ult^o is duly recd & reply. Mr Black has wrote. to keep the barnab and carriage accounts, separate, which shall be attended to.

I am glad to find the Thames Commissioners have give up their charge for returned empty Boats it was an unreasonable charge. — with respect to Boats I do think as there are now 23 or 24 Boats now in the London Trade and one will ~~not~~ be ready to Launch here in a short time these are quite adequate to the Trade 4 or 5 Slets are sufficient for the present business there are enough for Slets having too many Boats more than can be used and lying Idle they are always taking more damage than in use by the Sur opening the joints other Boats running against them does them ^{more} hurt than common wear and I must again beg leave to say in my opinion there are plenty of Boats at present — we want one or two of the Boats brought from London or there lumbering about the River to be ready to put in the Dock and repaired to exchange when one is damaged as is the case by Lewis who is just arrived with one very much damaged by a Boat running against her in the River and is unfit to go from hence until repaired and we have not one here to send in her room — provided there were goods ready to load in which will not be the case till next week

continued

as the

120
as the Gen^l of the Comm^{rs} have made an order for the
immediate repairs of Watermore Mill I presume it
is meant for Mr Brewer the reason I ask is, to have
the Agreement executed by him before the work is begun

The repairs of this Mill will cost 100 to 120£ if done
effectually as one side of the roof must be taken off
I have spoke to Lord Bathurst Steward to get
the rental of a life in Watermore Mill he promised to
oriention it to his Lordship I have not seen him
since

~~The~~ Poor old Lep^r was last week shot he
was got very weak I think not strong enough to
break his chain and ~~set~~^{set} off but to prevent it being
concluded it w^d be best to dispatch him - a Mad Dog
passed by here which but R Millars he has been
deft in Severn and likely to do well and tho' I never
knew of the big Dog being bit yet he had every
appearance of it.

We get the boppers off as fast as possible
only a general refusal of that bairnage of all sorts has
taken place for many miles distance prevent to them
going off so fast as otherwise they w^d?

Agreable to your directions I will pay the Tax
on the Watchmans Dogs such as are useful for
backing the rats

I am Dear Sir

Your obed^t h^l Serv^t

Red Doc^r Disney

Samuel Smith

Ston Street

Strightsbridge

London

Mr C Holmes

Brimcombe Port 2 July 1796

Sir

Herewith you have Invoice of Goods the
Chalie took from here yesterday morning owner Power
has promised me to Load his Frigate with 20 or 30 Tons
Goods this Spring for Bristol which will nearly clear
us of all the Goods for your place

I have your favour of the 20th ult. Mr
Grazbrook bro^r his Trow Bill unsigned by you I have
sent it by Captⁿ Yates for that purpose, which
you will please sign for & Rec^d & mention of State the
Goods were delivered to you - & claims made for Duplicates

The Bales of Chalie in Trow Bill N^o 160
for Mr J West appeared in Good order on their arrival
here & when forwarded therefore to be Broton & wet must
have been in some time & possibly before it come into
Mr's Possession on that Account I hope he will relinquish
his claim, if not be very moderate - Captⁿ Yates
went over to Gloucester before Mr Slates or Grindstone could
be Landed to attest to the Produce &c, when the Collector
made a charge of £ 1-15-6 Duty &c upon Mr Slates & told
him it must be paid & an Officer must attend
at discharging consequently Mr Coast Officer come on Board
when was paid him Value of Mr Slates on Board at

Brimcombe	{ 3m Ladys	£ 5.7.0	Sum Paid
	{ 2m ables	2.3.0	
Duty 20% is 1/5		4.10.0	1.10.0
Collectors & fees at Gloucester			0.5.6
Coast Officers attendance dischar			1.15.6
at Brimcombe 20 July June			0.12.0
			<u>2.7.6</u>

The Coast Officer informed me the Slates and Stone Act
does not exempt those articles from paying of Duty upon
of full Value in every port they may be discharged in

It is ever so often which is truly singular & surprising
Business - It will therefore be requisite to be very
cautious about taking those articles on Board except
the Collector in Bristol can free the Co from paying
a further Duty for articles that have already paid once
I mention this for our future government

I am Sir
your obed^t Serv^t
Thos Smith

Can you procure a small cork Quase & send
a return of Proof, if so I will thank you to do it as
I expect some will be wanted for paying of
Sargaulins before of following Spring

Wm Holmes
Bristol

Sir on the 2^d Inst. I rec^d advice from
Mr. Proctor Saddington, of the within
mentioned goods being put on Board for
Jackson Boats there,
I have only charged of Furniture
at the common rate - Should they prove they
prove particularly Bulky &c - you will please
make such additional Charge as you may think
they deserve

I am Sir your obed^t Serv^t
Thomas Smith

Mr Joseph Sills
Haywards W^g
London -

N.B. the goods herein before alluded
to are from Bill N. 179 Am^t L. 1. 11. 6

Mr Holmes

Brunswick Port 4 July 1761

Sir

The Purport of this is to inform you of my having recd a Letter yesterday from Captn Yates at Gloucester dated 2 Inst - saying it was with much Difficulty in clearing out at the Customs house on Saturday - in consequence of y^e Salt Petre, on referring to his Trow Bill I find only 5.1.6 assigned Place for Ricketts & Evans which he says cost him ^{1/2} Extra at the Custom House, this I think ought to be ch'd to the Owner otherwise it takes nearly all the Freight for London to Bristol to defray Custom Charges only - Captn Yates also says he ^{has} told him there must not more than One Ton be put on Board at one time -

We have just arriv'd 11 Tons Salt Petre from London for I have ^{the} Bristol I should suppose will be as much as 6 or 7 Tons at least - If no more than one Ton at a time cannot be sent - I hear Messrs Gave [&] will be impatient about it - on that acct I think it advisable you immediately acquaint those Gent^l for the Detention by Water for hence will be great in case permission cannot be got for y^e Custom house to send y^e whole together - after you have communicated this to ^{them} please write me I in the mean time

I am Sir
Mr John Holmes
Bristol

Wm Smith

4
Gentle

Drumcondra Pond
4 July 1796

The Nails you advised of the 21st Mo^o
were forwarded hence the 28th & agreeable to your
request the Bag ^{CL}_B was weighed, which proved
only 1.2.8 cwt 4^{lb} short of your tally

My Bro^r was out most of last week
along the Canal & is gone this morning to some
small repairs upon the Limerick Branch

Mess^{rs} J & T Perry
I am
Gentle

Merchts

Your humble^t
The Smith

Walverhampton
Staffordshire



Bromcombe Port 1 July 1771

Sir

In reply to your Letter of the 2nd Inst^l the
Boat that took M^r Atkin's boats to Buscott has
since been at Newbridge with boats that were
ordered about the time M^r Atkin's were gone
Say 30 Tons for M^r Deltry & 10 Tons for M^r Walle
by order M^r Atkin's & being at a loss which boats
you mean should be sent & to whom to be charg-
ed - I will therefore thank you to inform me the
sorts of boats & if to be charged to M^r Atkin's or to
M^r Deltry & M^r Walle if to the latter please
acquaint me their place of residence I expect
the ^{Boat} will be at liberty in a few days to take
them which shall be done as soon as possible
without fail

Your Boat will be repaired the first
opportunity & the bedding shall be left as you
request

I am Sir your Obed^t S^t
Thomas Smith

M^r Thomas Gibbins
at L Loveden bog^r
Buscott Park
near Farringdon
Berks

Brennacombe Port 6 July 1796

Gent^l

In reply to your favour of yesterday
We have no Starch here consign'd to you. Some Boats
I expect are far on their way from London to this
place in which probably your Starch may be on
time shall be lost in giving it despatch after it
arrives — We have engag'd an Extra Train to Land
with Bristol Goods which leaves here this evening
or to morrow morning & I expect will be at your
City on Saturday or Sunday next

I am Gent^l your obed^t hble^t S^t

Thomas Smith

For Mess^{rs} James Perry & Co

Mess^{rs} J P & G Holland
Bristol

1
MR Murre of Darton Passage

MR Hewlett of Ludwell near D^o

Gent^l

Brimscombe Port 6 July 1796

Please send by the bearer Owner John Gower
a Lading of your best Coals & charge the same to

Mess^{rs} Jas Berry & Co
for whom I am

Gent^l

Your able Ser^{vt}

Thos Smith

As you may weigh them on Board or they shall be
weighed at this place, as you please, I would have
sent Beams & Weights had time permitted —

Sir

Brimscombe Port 7 July 1796

Herewith you have a new Bill of all
Bristol Goods (except 10 Hhd^s Salt Petre for I have H^d) & carried
from hence last night & Owner Gower who expects to
be with you on Saturday or Sunday Morning next — on
his reaching you, please inquire of him if he goes to
Cardiff or if he can bring ^{up} from Bristol what Goods may
offer the next Spring as the Chalie is going into the Dock
& in case owner Gower can engage certain to bring from
you of Goods it will save rigging out a Snow on purpose
for one Spring while the Chalie is Graved — (in case
owner goes to Cardiff & no prospect of many Goods ^{for} the
ensuing Spring, probably Mr Gratzbrook Vessel can bring
them) respecting which you will please write me so soon
as you have seen owner Gower for should it so happen
that of Goods cannot be got up without sending one of
the Snows one shall be equipped immediately, if one can
which can be done in time after hearing from you

I wish I hope to do on Monday or Tuesday
should fail

On the 10 March last in our Tow
Bill A 337 was sent from hence (addressed agreeable
to Invoice from London) to E Jones Westbury Somerset
1st & 1 Cash Drags, we were informed at beginning of
Month (when my Bro^r gave you an Acc^t of the same
then goods were for E Jones Westbury in Shropshire, may
have you obtained any knowledge of 'em & when do you
expect to receive them back, which you will be good
enough to do & forward them direct to care of Mr J^r Smith
at Mr Baileys Stourport as soon as possible with w^h
charges upon them, which I will place to your Credit
in your informing me, do not fail sending w^h charges
with ~~the~~ Goods to Stourport, or receive w^h Expenses of w^h
Owner that you deliver them to, & he will receive the
same at Stourport w^h latter mode will be most clear
in w^h Acc^t, we could have sent all w^h Salt Petre
respecting which I wrote you w^h I did not hearing fr^o you
or Mr Cave I did not like to risque more than a
Tow till I am better informed & It had would have run
too much of course I send only one

I am
Y^r Obed^t Serv^t
Tho^s Smith

13. Mr & Holmes
Letter of the 9 July
says the goods were returⁿ
forwarded for E Jones
Westbury Salt

Mr John Holmes
Bristol

As can you conveniently make us a small
advancement as money was scarce

Burnscombe Port 2 July 1796

Sr

In reply to your Letter of the 4th Inst. your 2 Casks being
I can find no Entry of in our Book makes me conclude
they did not come from London by the Post Boats
take in their Loading at the Hambro Wharf Upper
Street only in London any Goods you may
order there will come regular, our highest charge from
London to Worcester 30th 1/2 Ton, except household furniture
or such casual Goods - Vinegar is only 33rd. Goods that
are conveyed by any other Boats we have nothing to do
with the charges

for Messrs Berry & Co
I am Sir
your obed^t S^t

M^r Tho^s Greening
Bromsgrove
Worcestershire

Tho^s Smith

Burnscombe Port 2 July 1796

Sir

Yesterdays post brought me your
favour of the 5th, in reply the 262 Cheeses came here
4th June & forwarded by first Boats being Tho^s Peesley
from hence the 10th ultimo in our Trow Bill N^o 457
for Mess^{rs}. Sheffield & Bosling, 2 were broke & 2 had a
little by rats &c where ord^r for Tewkesbury, as noted
in said Trow Bill also 2 broke coming from there
to this place N^o 208 kept back what time & Cheese
was at Tewkesbury I do not know it was lodged while
here in one of the middle floors of course perfectly dry

I have no knowledge of any Bear tree Plant
more than by enquiry this morning it is supposed to
have pass'd by Mr Garzbrooks Vessel consigned to Mr

Mr. Yeaming, Leachlade some time back by a
messenger writing the latter probably he may obtain
a knowledge of its situation

I believe there is lately an order from
the Board of Customs prohibiting more than one Ton
of Salt Petre being put on Board a Vessel at a time
that has occasion to clear out at a Customhouse, The Board
now took from here 30 Tons 5.1.16 which of Capt.
I wrote back from Leicester East him of Petre & that a
Collector told him there must not be more than 20 at
a time in consequence of having 11 who's Petre
Boats? Lewis now here for I have the Bristol Company
wrote Mr Holmes to acquaint them Gent^l who I understand
applied to Bristol Customs for leave but could not
succeed without an order of Council, to obtain which
would be expensive & that I presume only for one quantity
yesterday a Letter was rec^d. for leave to order this
from here by Land at the same time say they have a
considerable quantity coming from London which
I presume will also go from this place by Land
Should any application be made to you for the delivery of
any Salt Petre in Bristol at affixed Terms I presume
it will ~~not~~ be best ^{not} to close wharf & water conveyance
for that article from hence is prohibited at the same
time what may offer, to go up Severn to Gloucester,
Worcester, Stourport, Broadway &c I expect will go as usual
without interruption

on referring to our now Bill N. 10/10
for hence of Mr Lawrence 10 June, I believe you will
find Mr Williams Copper charged 10 Tons too much
viz. 36.15.0.19 & valued for 46.15.0.19 this I will put right
in our next Invoice, I expect Goods here to day to Load
Capt Lewis's Boats

I am Sir
your obed^t. hble^t Serv^t
Thos. Smith

See also see above

As many enquiries are daily made after
Goods coming from London I will therefore thank you
forward the Invoices for such Cargoes that may have
left your place

Mr Jonathan Sells
Hambro Wharf
London

Burnscombe Port 8 July 1796

Gent^r

Yesterday's post brought your letter
of the 6th respecting your Salt Petre to be sent by
Land — Thomas Gardner of Stroud came aboard
it last night, said he had read your letter & would
send his Team for a load to day — This morning
he wrote up saying if we ~~would~~ ^{could} send it to Stroud

by Water he would carry it to Bristol of 6^d per
Hundred less than from this place. I therefore
had it weighed in my & sent from hence at noon
viz 10 Hhd sent to Stroud to care Thomas Gardner

this day	9 62	16	Freight from	}	9.. 13.. 2
London to Stroud with weighing	27/6				

paid boopevorage of 2 bales going away	1.. 10
and to Thomas Gardner	£9.. 15.. 0

1 Hhd sent 6th Instant for former Governor's use

2
 17th 6th 2^d 4th
 who expected to be in Bristol to morrow
 or Sunday morning. The barks were much to piece
 the up pole cost 4.2 on landing from y London
 Boats the latter is charged for ward with the barks
 sent by Water to be recd with the Freight &c by M
 Holmes - I understand any quantity under a Ton
 by Water tho' I believe cost 2/6 extra at the
 may go together by Customhouse You will please
 to inform ^{me} if your future quantities must go from
 hence by land in case permission cannot be obtain
 from the Customhouses for its going by Water,
 which I wish could be done

I am Gent^l Your Obed^t Serv^t
 Thomas Saviter

Mess^{rs} John Cave & Company
 Bristol

Burrowcombe Port 8 July 1796

M^r W^m Drake

Sir

Enclosed I send you an acc^t of 3 Parcels of
 Goods delivered to you

by M ^r Mills 1 July 1795	3 Parcels	} from London
Lawrence 16. March 1796	2 do	
D ^o 3. May	1 do	

the latter Ind^l on which for M^r Tolers 11/3 I told the
 Sup^{mt} to leave it for you to receive leaving no

particulars of the Goods rendered in your account
 business I am at a loss to know if you have received
 fact on the whole as I should suppose they were deliver'd to
 your care the Fact to charge should be 25 of Port & the
 weighing & Hoilage w^{ch} of Port at your convenience
 please inform me the Sum rece^d in ret^{nt} of
 acc^t to bur^t you contred it in for my Govern^{ment}
 adjuncting the same in these Books I have just
 rec^d your Letter of the 5th this Mo^o and am yet at a
 loss for the particulars of the Coals sold at Inglesham
 wharf since you ~~sent~~^{closed} your acc^t about the 23rd March
 last off if you begin fr^m July 1795 up to the present
 time probably the difference will the more ~~be~~^{early} be
 discovered when opportunity offers I will thank
 you to send me an acc^t agreeable to the following form
 I am Sir your obed^t hble^t St
 Thomas Smith

Dr Inglesham Wharf - Contra - Cr

1795
 July To stock of Coals upon the Wharf 282 12 0

Small quantities
 sent me by
 sent to you
 to what you
 all
 in to
 acc^t

Now this side you will enter
 all you have rec^d since

on this side enter all you
 have sold since of acc^t was closed
 in July 1795 & stock remaining.

Wm Drake
 Hempford Wharf
 near Fairford
 Gloucestershire
 Robt Sanders

Brimacombe Post 11 July 96

Mr Eusebius Holmes

7 o'clock Monday morning

Sir

I have your favour of the 9th Inst
 containing two Drafts £111. 17. 8 say one hundred &
 seven Pounds Seventeen shillings & 8 which is duly
 paid to the credit of Mr John Holmes - I am glad you
 have returned the Goods for Mr Jones Westbury salop &
 please Owner Gower has promised you to bring
 up the ensuing Spring Goods which is very suitable while
 ye shall be granted for having no Goods here for Bristol
 respect of ye Co will have never a Trow sent next Spring
 except any of the London Boats should arrive in time,
 in that case probably ye Crossides will go & bring
 back a Ladiny of Smiths Coals which we are in want
 of -

If you can get ye Goods early in ye Spring for owner
 Gower to come off the first of the tides, I will thank you
 to inform him that in case he can be up in time to
 make a trip to Purston for a Ladiny of Coals after
 he has discharged his Goods at this Place, he may which
 are apprehensive he may accomplish before ye tides fall
 off this will be much of most at this time -

I am this moment informed your Bro Mr J^r Holmes
 got to Hampton late last night & is going by
 the Coach this morning - therefore its uncertain if I
 shall see him if I should I will acquaint him of
 arrival of ye Venitia -

I am
 very respectfully
 Mr J^r Holmes

Sir yours most sincerely

Bristol

Thos Smith

Brimms le Port 11 July 1796

Mr John

Your Letter of 6 Inst is duly
recd & am glad to hear you have settled with
Cartwright for y^e bill - you say you have (now)
Midsummer acc^{ts} which no doubt ^{you} will forward
here at first opportunity -

Enclosed you have Deane, Whitehead, Harford,
Harford, Davis & Wimpenny, Bristol Bank
D^{ts} N^o 102 in favour of Mr Eusebius Holmes dated
y^e 1st of this month @ 6 N^o one Mess^{rs} Whitehead & Howard
London Value £ 61.. 17. 8 say Sixty One Pounds
17/8 which please acknowledge wth Rec^d of P^{er} Return

The 2 Casks for E Jones Westbury Salop you wrote
about 2 June - came in Invoice from London
for E Jones Westbury Somersetshire consequently
were sent from hence to Bristol 18. March last
Yesterday I rec^d a Letter from Mr Holmes Bristol
saying these Goods were got back & returned last spring
from Bristol by owner Smith Trow of Gloucester consigned
to E Jones Westbury Salop should they by chance fall
into your care before receive all charges on delivery,
there may be upon 'em to Stourport, as no doubt the
charges will be considerable more than if y^e Goods
had went direct from here, & as y^e mistake was
made in London by inserting y^e wrong county of course
y^e C^o are not accountable for y^e additional Exp^{ts}
Capt Hawkins has left y^e C^o Employ. & in case

It now is put to fetch coal again from Parton
I expect Jno Withers or John Danke will go
in that line - of which I am not yet certain -
Saml Blew is over here during y^e Midsummer
holidays he has fluency of speech at pleasure, his
temper rather uneven, but will wear off by degrees

I remain

Mr Jm Smith

Yours affly

At Mrs Baileys

Thos Smith

Stourport

Worcestershire

Gentoo

Brimscombe Pond

11 July 1796

The Casks you wrote about 6 last
month came consigned from London to E Jones
Westbury Somersetshire consequently were forwarded
to Bristol from whence (I am informed by yesterday's
post) they were sent back last Spring (say
about a fortnight ago) by owner Smiths Drugg of
Gloucester directed to E Jones Westbury Salop where
I expect they will soon arrive

To prevent similar Errors it will be necessary to mention your Cell
of County, as there are many places of y^e same Name & in diff^t Counties.

Messrs Pooking & Gale

N^o 3 Newgate Street

Sir

Brimscombe Post

13 July 1796

Herewith you have Invoice of Goods of Captn Lewis who left here the 1st Inst. when he was paid £15.15.0 & paid my account — since N. Lawrence left my Draw Bill of 470 I found M^r Williams was sent ch 10 Tons Copper, which is put right in this Invoice mentioned to M^r Jonas Sills the 8th Inst —

The 400 Boxes Tin ^{Inst D} came from Bristol consigned to London — which I have put in this Invoice for Joseph Dawson, being a mark ^{what} ~~what~~ has generally accompanied this Tin — no doubt you will know if he is the proper person before delivery —

I wrote M^r Jonas Sills 8th this month, respecting Prohibition at the Customhouses to ^{of} consignment of Salt Petre from home to Bristol by Water in quantities more than a Ton — of yesterdays post M^r J. have 8th Bristol informing they have 12 Tons in 23 or 24 Hhdts — & ^{M^r} Morgan deadlike quantity now coming from London — where they have wrote for an order of Council for its ^{all} passing from home by Water together. therefore if not already on its way here it will be necessary you send it all in one set of Boats otherwise if it comes at twice of first will have to wait the arrival of 2^d letter, before any can be forwarded —

In your Invoice of Bessley who came here of 8th Inst, is 20 Casks Burnett's consigned to M^r Hooper Bristol, which Casks were deliver'd at Abingdon or Oxford, in consequence of a Letter from ^{of} Shipper to M^r Burdons. I mention this that you may cause application to be made for ^{your} Invoice, you ~~had~~ not been previously informed —
M^r Joseph Sills I am Sir your obed^t Serv^t
Hambro's Wharf, London Thos. Smith

Mr Grenfell
Sir

Brunswick Place
12 July 1796

By the Barge Hunted on & Express
John Lewis Master which left this place on yesterday
for London, the undermentioned Goods received at
Newham have been forwarded to the address of Mr
Esq

I am
Sir
Your Obedt Servant
Thos Smith Clerk

318 Cakes Copper F _____ 15. 14. 3. 22
192 — — — — — 5. 9. 3. 6

83.641 Cakes Copper Stamp ^{of 62 #} E.S. 27. 0. 3. 2 and this

day boat from Newham without any consignment
more than to this place - can you inform me the
proper address?

Cascoe Grenfell Esq
Copper Office
London

Under Cover to Thos Williams Esq

N.B. Letter cont. to Mr Silly from provid. Side
Tho Mr Crawshays Agent order'd w
Schooner down Cardiff he sent Iron Cast
ways & could only send 40.5 L. W. by her last
Trip Spring it 30 Tons less than her usual
Cargo to Newham. & is £700.0 lost to y. C. at least.
in consequence of her not leave B. for the
use of w. Schooner for w. two last Voyages -
To Mr Jos. Silly
Hambro' w. London -

Brimm to Pont 14 July 1796

Gentl^r

On Saturday sevennight the water was drawn
off from Worcester Wharf to the first Stop Gate upon the
canal (but in this distance were found three large
ones & several small ones - at every place, & as
the bottom of the dry wall was left in, these walls
must be all taken out before the canal will hold water
between Siddington & Worcester is the most faulty part
of the Summit's Level - the water was out all the
Week during that time the Engine worked night &
day which kept the water up from Monday
to Saturday to the same level tho' 4 Boats passed
the Summit in the course of the week which drew a
considerable quantity of water to supply the small
Pools at both ends of the Summit - the Engine
keeping the water up far exceeded my expectations
of which I am happy to inform you

I am,
Gentl^r, of the Council Gentl^r
of the S & W Canal Your Obedt^l Serv^t
N^o 38 Mincing Lane Saml Smith
London

Warden (over to) J. Argent Esq^r.

Brimscombe Post #14 Jan 196

Dear Sir

The whole of last week I was up at Stidney attending the repairs from Cirencester to the first Stop Gate where we found 3 large holes & several small ones. At place tried, the dry wall was found at the bottom & acts as a Drain to communicate with the faulty part in the Clay Lining from this cause the length from Cirencester to Stidneyton is the most faulty distance of the Summit Level. During the week 4 Boats passed the Summit which of course drew off a deal of water to supply the small Ponds at both ends of the summit which are faulty, the water from the engine only kept up the Summit from Monday to Saturday which far exceeded my expectations -

In the course of the week I twice examined the Mill at Watermore & found it more out of repair than I expected the Timber of the Roof the in general sound is so constructed that it has forced out the Walls which are built in a very irregular manner the rafters of the roof are all sunth & the Slates must be all taken off & new laid & most of the Flooring must be new - The running gear of the mill are part of em faulty, the water wheel & shaft old & of a very bad construction, & tho' it may be set a going for about the sum I mentioned to you, - yet I think it wd not last many years, & as there is 9 feet head & fall, I think it capable of being made a very good Mill, by taking up the Thorough & widening it, a new wheel & shaft the Walls taken down & rebuilt in a regular manner, the same stone would be nearly

or quite sufficient, as w^d the large Timber of
the roof of the Stables if done in this way ^{will} I think cost
from 3 to 4 hundred Pounds & of course the Mill
w^d bear advance of Rent in proportion to the
w^d be laid out; but this agreement with the
gent^l should be first made & as the whole
will require ~~mature~~ mature consideration. I presume
it will be best let alone untill you & some
of the gent^l come down & take a view of the
Premises

Dear Sir
Rev^d Mr Disney
Noane Street
Knightsbridge
London
Your Obedt^l Serv^t
Sam^l Smith

Brimscombe Port 15 July
Gent^l

I have your favour of the 11th Inst^l 1796

When your & Mr Morgan's Pet^l is forwarded
whence presume it will be necessary you send wth
original copy or extracts of the order of Council
to accompany it by water as the time of its reaching
this place from London is yet uncertain, & the
sending wth order to Gloucester some time previous to
the Snow going to clean out at the Custom house
probably may give rise to doubt wth respect to
quantity more than if the order is presented at

The time of entries are required to be made
I only mention this for conjecture not doubt
but you are much better acquainted with the
best mode requisite in this business - It is
go for here agreeable to your directions which
you will please furnish me with at your con-
-venience

For Messrs Jas Perry & Co

San Gento

Your Obedt Servt

Messrs John Lane & Co

Thos Smith

Bristol

St John Barmingham the Port
14 July 1796

The Frigate is just gone from
here with the within 4 days
Denz. Pawkley who becomes
down next will begin to work down
I am therefore please send every
spare belonging to Frigate Down by
him next time for the Frigate
Oldark & advantage requires two.
& D. Pawkley is willing to join Mr.
Withers or James Darke which may
be made equal to of the two he prefers
Withers - do I spoke to Withers & see if he will
join, if not to Darke - as the crew separate,
& let me know as soon as you have
spoke to one or both, this will be a means
of keeping all of many boats employed
downward & light ones upwards thro' d.
Summer I remain yours affly,
W. John Smith
at Mr Bailey's Staunport
Worcestershire

J. Smith