

LETTER BOOK by John Buddle, Volume 5
from 26 Aug. 1840 to 11 Sep. 1841

Bud-60-5

Folio	Date	Bud 60 5 Name and Address	Folio	Date	[0a] Name and Address
1	1840 Aug ^t 28	M ^r . M ^c .Donnell Esq ^r .	29	1841 May 30	M ^r . M ^c .Donnell
2	Aug ^t 29	M ^r . M ^c .Culloch	30	June 1	Ditto
3	"	M ^r . Sopwith	31	6	Ditto
4	30	Jn ^o . Atkinson	32	11	Ditto
5	31	Geo. Elliot	33	Aug 1	Jn ^o . Gregson Esq ^r .
6	1	Th. Forster	34	11	E. M ^c .Donnell Esq ^r .
7	"	M ^r . Russell Esq ^r .	35[-1]	[22]	[Rob ^t .Stephenson Esq ^r .]
8	Sep 4	E. M ^c .Donnell Esq ^r .	35[-2]	27	Jn ^o . Gregson E. Esq ^r .
9	6	M ^r . M ^c .Donnell	36	Sep. 2	M ^r . M ^c .Donnell
10	10	Ditto	37	5	Ditto
11	11	Jn ^o . Shelly & Co.	38	8	Ditto
12	12	Jn ^o . Gregson	39	11	Ditto
13	13	M ^r . M ^c .Donnell			
14	"	W ^m . Russell Esq ^r .			
15	19	M ^r . J. Gregson			
16	20	M ^r . M ^c .Donnell			
17	"	P. Forster Ships			
18	22	E. M ^c .Donnell Esq ^r .			
19	26	Jn ^o . Maund Esq ^r .			
20	Oct 11	Jn ^o . Gregson Esq ^r .			
21	"	E. M ^c .Donnell Esq ^r .			
22	13,14	Ditto [22,22a]			

1.

Newcastle 28th. Aug^t. 1840

My Dear Sir

I came here from Pensher this Mornng.
to attend a meetg. of the Comm^{ee}. appointed to carry into effect the resolutions of the Gen^l. Meeting of the 16th. Ulto. – to Collect Fines, and call for an abatement of overs &c. We rec^d. very few satisfactory Communications – but a great many Shufflers, and one impertinent Letter from Tom Wood of Thornley refusing to return his Vend ‘till the end of the year, or to attend any meetings – in short hurling defiance in the teeth of the Comm^{ee}. The matters to be bro^t. before the monthly meetg. at Chester next Thursday, with other acts of irregularity & insubordination which have been committed by others. What may be the result I don’t know, but it is my serious opinion that it will be impossible to carry on the general regulation beyond the end of the year.

The Hartlepool & Stockton Coal-owners including S. Hetton, are now bribing the Capt^s. to such an extent that they have within the last Week – taken away

[22bA]	[17]	[Ditto on Loose Sheet]			
23	25	Duke & Hill	[23a]		
24	30	M ^r . Russell Esq ^r .			
25	Nov. 8	M ^r . M ^c .Donnell			
26	18	Ditto			
1841	Feb. 7	Jn ^o . C. Douglas			
27		" Mess. Duke & Hill			
28		" M ^r . M ^c .Donnell			
		[Bud-60-5]			

[2a]

our Eden-main Trade almost entirely from Seaham
I mean to bring this affair before the united Comm^{ee}.
next Thursday & must either have a stop put to this
Roguary, or be allowed to reduce the price of the Eden-
main. They are even given the [Capte] Gratuitus to load
their Walls-ends. In the mean-time I have set my
wits to work to raise as much W.E. and as little E.
M. as possible.

I have a Meeting with Morton on
the alteration of our Railways & the renewal of our
mutual Leading & Shipping Agree^t. – we have talked over
preliminaries, but the matter is not yet in a state
to be submitted to you. The worst part of the affair
is, that the alteration of our Waggs^s. & Ways, will cost
nearly £3000 – we must therefore, will consider the
qui bone before we commit ourselves in such an ex-

2.

Walls-end 29th. Aug^t. 1840

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of
your Letter of the 24th. Ins^t. – and also the panel
alluded to therein Containing the Pleadings, in the
Mitchell Cause. As soon as I have perused those
Documents, I will return them to you I have
likewise rece^d. the two Reports mentioned, from M^r.
F[ea]ther, who is now at Harrogate.

As soon as I can form an opinion as to
the time I may be able to enter upon this busi-
ness, and can form an opinion as to whether it
may be necessary for me to make a personal
examination of the property, I will write you
again, and Remain

Sir your Most Obed. S^t.

Jn^o. Buddle

penditure. Our Valuers are working hard & will finish within the prescribed period – but the Umpire seems to quail at the great responsibility of his Office.

I have [erammed] N. Wood for his Report to M^r. Wright and expect all will go well in that quarter

I am my D^r. Sir Y^{rs}. faithfully

Ed. M^cDonnell Esq^r. Jn^o. Buddle

[Bud-60-5]

Walter M^cCulloch Esq^r.

3.

Walls-end 29th. Aug^t. 1840

My Dear Sopwith

You may inform your Ponty-pool Friend, that I have found a suitable Man for his Underground Agent – but he won't engage under £80 P. Ann. clear Salary, with House and Firing found him, gratis. And also his travelling expences paid. Let me Know as soon as possible if this will do, as the person alluded to wishes to have an answer with a little delay as may be. Our friend David is as persevering as Death. I think we may keep the Union & Caunop Engine Allot^t. out of the First Award without inconvenience 'till our next meeting, and then if we think it Politic to give David a slice of it, to Stop his Gab, we can do so

Marcus will write you & Graham on this to-

4.

Walls-end 30th. Aug^t. 1840

Dear Sir

I have rec^d. your Letter of the of 24th. and think you may as well Keep the Park Field & Short Wood Plans 'till our meeting towards the latter end of Sept^r. I have to go both to Scotland and Ireland in the mean time, and shall not therefore have any opportunity of doing anything with them.

With respect to M^r. Musher's dissatisfaction, with his Old Furnace Level Award. I am by no means convinced of the validity of his objections, and the Award must stand. But the Union & Caunop En: Award need not be made, and if on a Re-hearing of M^r. Musher's Case, at our ensuing meeting – it can be made to appear that he is justly entitled to any addition we can resurve a Slice for him, out of the above allot^t.

night your's faithfully
T. Sopwith Esq^r. Jn^o. Buddle

[Bud-60-5]

you may communicate this to him which will render
it unnecessary for me to answer his Letter of the
26th. Ins^t. Your's truly
M^r. Jn^o. Atkinson Jn^o. Buddle

5.

Walls-end 31st. Augt. 1840

Dear Sir

I beg to thank you for your Letter
of the 26th. Ins^t. containing an Offer of the
Coal in M^r. Shaw's Usworth. House Estate
– to the Owners of Washington Colliery. I
beg however, to decline the offer, on behalf
of those Gentlemen, and remain

Dear Sir

Your's truly

Jn^o. Buddle

M^r. Geo: Elliot
Belmont Colliery

[Bud-60-5]

6

Walls-end 31st. Augt. 1840

Dear Sir

I have rec^d. yours of the 26th.
Ins^t. with the two Mithell Colly. Reports. I
have also rec^d. a Bundle of Pleadings, on
the same Concern from M^r. M^cCulloch,
and when you return from Harrogate, we
will talk over the Affair of this Scotch –
Haggis – to enable me to judge whether
it may require my going to the “E. Nook
“of Fife” – or not.

I hope M^r. Jobling will be able
to make up his mind, on the Seaham R.W.
Affair, by the time you Return, as we are
very anxious to have it Finished

I am D^r. Sir Y^{rs}. truly

M^r. Tho^s. Forster Jn^o. Buddle

7.

Walls-end 31st. Augt.
1840

My Dear Sir

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 24th. Ins^t. Croudace S^r. Ja^s. Musgrave's Agent, called upon me last Sa. and offered to renew the Lease for an advance of 1/ 6 P. Ten, or 1^d. P. Ch. being an advance from 11/- to 12/ 6, and as an inducement offers an additional tract of about 70 Acres of whole Coal, in all the Seams. This could not however, be wro^t. beneficially from the present Pits & is therefore of no value to us – further than it might be a sort of a make Weight in case we should Sell the Colly. I have little doubt but I could beat Croudace down to the Old Price as he seems anxious to renew the Lease. But under the present aspect of the Trade, and the little prospect of making any Profit, even if the Regⁿ.

[Bud-60-5]

[7a]

Should continue beyond the end of the present year which I by no means think Probable. I hesitate as to the prudence of advising you to renew the Lease on any terms. The most prudent plan would probably be not to think of carrying on the Colly. after April next – but to Sell off the Stock of Materials & be done with the Concern altogether as there does not appear to be any feasible prospect of it's ever making profit again worth your Notice & it might eventually involve you in loss and trouble. If the Lessors had notice of this they w^d. advertise the Colly. & probably some Ceugh, or other with more Money than wit might take it, in which case we should get the value of the Materials as working Stock which would be the best winding up of the Concern we could have. I shall be glad to receive your instructions on this matter to enable me to give Croudace, an Answer. With

[7b]

respect to Walls-end, I apprehend, we shall have to pursue the like Cause if the Regulation breaks-down

The Machinery of the Regulation has now become so unwieldy & complex from the

8.

Newcastle 4th. Sep. 1840

My Dear Sir

I am glad to learn by your Letter of the 27th. Ult. that you found every thing so much

great increase of new Collieries, and the deviations from the Rules, occasioned by the necessities of Some, and the [Ragency] of others that I scarcely think it possible to carry it on much longer It may hobble on, to the end of the Year, but not longer, I think, unless some extraordinary charge for the better should in the mean time take place – but which is more than we can anticipate The Washington away-going Crop is to be Sold by Auction to day. We have had some droppy Weather lately – yet on the Whole it is Fine Harvest Weather & the Cutting of the Wheat has begun. I am my Sir your's faithfully
Wm. Russell Esq^r. Jn^o. Buddle

[Bud-60-5]

to your satisfaction, on your arrival at Glenarm – after all the worry, you have endured since you last left home I think you will now have double enjoyment of it. I shall have much pleasure in visiting you at the time you mention – Say about the 20th. Oct^r. which time will suit me quite as well, or better, than an earlier periods.

I regret to say that the Vend of Eden-main and Lyon's Main at Seaham, is entirely Stopped by Brad-dyll's giving 6^d. P. Ch. to the Cap^{ts}. and in addition they are Shipping their Walls-end Coastwise, as Richmond main, at 26/- P. Ch. – which has given the Coup-de – Grace, to the Vend of Eden-m. & Lyon's. I brought the Subject before the United Comm^{ee}. yesterday, but as Percl. Forster was not present – a Special Comm^{ee}. was appointed to meet at Newcastle to take those and other Similar transgressions into Consⁿ. and P. Forster is especially summoned to attend. The S^o. Hetton Co. are not the only people who are

bribing the Coast Capt^s. – it has become the universal practice, at Hartlepool a the Tees. It must therefore be put a Stop to, or we must either loose the Vend of Eden-main & Lyons, or reduce the Prices.
I have put the Trade completely upon the qui vive

[8a]

9

Walls-end 6th. Feby. 1840

My Dear Sir

I have to acknowlege the receipt of your Notes of the 2^d. & 3^d. – one this Mg. – the other in the Afternoon – as we now have 2 or 3 Posts in the

about it – but there are really so many breakings out and irregularities committing in all quarters – that a much longer continuance of the Regulation appears to me to be morally & Physically impossible. And it behoves us to be thinking about putting our House in Order, for the event against the end of the Year. This will be a serious affair for us, as well as others – for altho' I think it practicable to form a partial Regulation amongst a Certain Number of Coll^s. so as to avail absolute ruin yet I cannot calculate the difference of profit in out Concerns at less than £15000 to £16000 a year. When I wrote L^d. L. I will prepare him to look forward to this event – as under such a change I cannot contemplate the possibility of his receiving his original allowance – much less the additional £3000. I will write again after our meetg. on Sa. & remain My Dear Sir Y^{rs}. faithfully
E. M^cDonnell Esq^r. Jn^o. Buddle

[Bud-60-5]

day. The Anticiptee alluded to, is the fine distilled Pyroligneous Acid. – diluted with 3 Water & one part Acid – this liquid [thrown] into the inside of the B[rieds] after being drawn & pearsed out again, after having washed the inside will prevent their Spoiling for a long time. The outside of any sort of Meat, or Fish washed slightly over with a Sponge will also preserve them. But the acid must not be too Strong or it hardens the game, or meat to much.

On the present unsatisfactory State of the Coal-trade, I can only say, that I am fully awake to all the mischief which may ensue from a break up & will do my best to Pilot our Barque in

[9a]

Tempest whenever it may burst upon us. I am a Member of the Sectional (hard working) Comm^{ee}. who are to meet twice a Week to enforce the Rules of the Regⁿ. this Comm^{ee}. consists of 5 – 3 to be a Quarum.

10.

Pensher 10th. Sep. 1840

My Dear Sir

I have to rec^d. your Note of the 5th. Inclosing a News-paper – puff Scrap from J.

This appointment became indispensable – owing to the great increase of business & having the misfortune of a talking Chairman inflicted upon Gen^l. Comm^{ee}.

No business could really be got done at the gen^l. Meetings of the Comm^{ee}. for the endless gabble of the Chairman. This Comm^{ee}. commenced it's labours on Sa. with Vigour & if the Regⁿ. is to be saved it will be from it's exertions. The labour of it is great – but it's object is important. I go to Pensher to-morrow & will write again towards the latter end of the Week. The Sect^l. Comm^{ee}. meets again next

Friday Mornng. I am my Dear Sir

Your's truly

E. M^cDonnell Esq^r. Jn^o. Buddle

[Bud-60-5]

Gregson of the Sale of some building Ground of Lord Southampton's. But as the Place where this valuable Ground is situated, is not mentioned I cannot form any opinion, as to it's Similarity to Seaham. And not Similar to any other place It can only be considered as a Coal-loading port and all the Buildings required will necessarily or collateraly engaged in that Traffic. It therefore does not seem probable that any Persons not immediately connected with the Trade of the Place would use it as a place of residence especially if they had to pay 25 to 30 P. Cent more

[10a]

for building Sites than the current rate, at either N. Castle, Shields, Sunderland, or Stockton. Nothing but a cheaper Scale, could induce such people or even Tradesmen to build at the Harbour My conviction is that demanding even 20 years Purchase for the Sites much less 25 or 30 would be completely prohibitory From 15 or 17 is in my humble opinion enough & if we attempt to get more we shall Fail. I have not yet []heard any thing more of the Release of the

[10b]

upon us – I annex a list of the present Stud.

I have been to the Harbour this Mg. – plenty of Ships for W.E. but very few for E.main, and N. Hetton at an entire Stand-Still – only one Ship this this Mo. yet – to be loaden, tomorrow!!!

Lee has got me abundant proof of the Six-Pence P. Ch. being given the Capt^s. at Hartlepool Stockton & on the Tyne. I am now fully prepared to bring the Subject before the Sectional Comm^{ee}. to-morrow. But the

Ground. The building for this Season will therefore be lost. Lord L. pushing on to have a Cascade made at Wyn^d. Thorman has submitted a Plan to me which will only cost about £30 being a third only of what Bulman's will cost. It will probably be best to let Thorman do it. His Lordship has quartered a pretty little Troop of Cavalry

[Bud-60-5]

practice is so general that I apprehend it cannot be put down, and that we shall be obliged to adopt it also. Morton is finding very great difficulty in getting Ships for Lambtons' W.End, they are standing so much below ours' at Market

I my Dear Sir

Your's faithfully

Edw^d. McDonnell Esq^r. Jn^o. Buddle

11

Walls-end 11th. Sep. 1840

Gentlemen

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 8th. Ins^t. on returning home after an absence of some days.

Your former Letter was forwarded to Mess^{rs}. Plummer & Greenwell – my Brokers, who I expect would answer it.

I beg to thank you for your humane attention to poor Knowles, & will feel obliged by your providing for him such necessaries as his case m[a]y require – which I will willingly repay you. The best plan will be I should think – if he can be removed, for Cap: Heppell to call, and bring him home, on his return Voyage

12.

Newcastle 12th. Sep. 1840

My Dear Sir

I have deferred writing you from day to day for the last Fort^t. in the constant expectation of being able to inform you of the completion of the Seaham R.W. Valuation. The Valuation of the R.W. and Machinery is completed & will I expect be Signed, on Mond^y. next – the Amo^t. is under £15000 including Wag-gons – which is very moderate include – owing to the late fall in the price of Iron & superior tact of our Valur – “little Davy Burn”

But the grand question of the Cuts & Embankments Still remains undecided. I have seen the Umpire to day, and had much con-

from London – to which effect I will request
Mess^{rs}. Plummer & Greenwell to write him & remain

Mess^{rs}. John Shelly & Co. } Gentⁿ. y^r. Most obed S^t.
Yarmouth } Jn^o. Buddle

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versation with him on the point. He is in
a miserable State of doubt & bewilderment
respecting it from the variety & contractory
law opinions which have been laid before

[12a]

him. In short he seems to be completely bam-
boozled & bewildered & I am not without appre-
hension, that he will give it up in despair and
not make any award at all. This I apprehend
w^d. place us in a very Awkward position.

Phillipson sent the Agree^t. for extending the
time to me yesterday to Sign, under the im-
pression that I had a power of Attorney from
L^d. L. he at the same time sent me word
that he had rec^d. or Letter from you, in which
you said that you had written to me on the
Affair. Now I have not rec^d. any Letter from
you & not having any Power of Attorney I am
at a loss how to act – prey therefore let me hear
from you by Return. Phillipson has this
instant called – the Letter attended to was from
Pringle, not from you. seeing E. M^cDonnell's
Sign. to the Agree^t. I have Signed it – “For L^d.,
Londonderry” – in which I expect I have not acted

[12b]

sure it will not be satisfactory to Perkins & Co.
I would not therefore, leave any loop-holes
open if possible

I am my Dear Sir

Your's faithfully

Jn^o. Buddle

Jn^o. Gregson Esq^r.

wrongly. Whatever the award may be I am

[Bud-60-5]

13.

Walls-end 13th. Sep. 1840

My Dear Sir

Perc^l. Forster attended the meeting of the Sectional Comm^{ee}. last Friday to answer my charge of the irregularities committed in vending the S^o. Hetton Coals – which he did by flatly denying them, and as it was impossible to produce any viva voca Evidence to prove the Charges – he could not be convicted

We had however, numerous written admissions from the Tyne, Hartlepool & Stockton of the practice of bribing the Coasting Capt^s. with at least 6^d. P. Ch. which prove the practice to be general at these Ports – and operating evidently to the prejudice of Seaham. It was therefore admitted, that this practice must either be abolished, or made general – which will be tantamount to reducing the price 6^d. P. Ch. The

[Bud-60-5]

[13a]

matter was, however, thought of too great importance to be decided by the Sectional Committee and it is to Stand over for the decision of the united Comm^{ee}. next Satd^y. – in the mean time I apprehend we shall Stand-still at Seaham with the Vend of Eden & Lyon's-main. I don't think I should have done this but, our P^{rs}. in N. Hettⁿ. thought it most prudent to wait the event of the Meetg. next Sa. My opinion is that this practice of bribing the Cap^s. has become so general, and taken such deep Root that it cannot be put a Stop to & that it will therefore have to be adopted by all. The Valuation of the Seaham R.Way & Machinery is finished & will I expect be Signed tomorrow, but the grand question of the Cuttings and Embank^{ts}. is not yet decided by the Umpire. I saw him yesterday & found him in a State of the greatest mental anxiety & bewilderment about it. He has got Such Contradictory Law opinions as to the meaning of the Agree^t. with

[13b]

respect to this question that his mind is completely paralysed, & I am not without apprehension that he may give the think up in dispair & not make any award at all – which will place us in a very awkward predicament indeed. He is almost ill upon it, and regrets bitterly that he undertook it.

The ensuing week must determine this affair and I wait the issue with great anxiety – it has

caused me to give up all thoughts of going to the Glasgow Meeting.

We have glorious Harvest Weather new Wheat was Sold in N. Castle Market at 9/- P. Bushel yesterday

I am my Dear Sir
Your's faithfully
Jn^o. Buddle

[Bud-60-5]

14.

Walls-end 13th. Sep. 1840

My Dear Sir

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 10th. Ins^t. and entirely approve of your decision – not to renew the Washington Colly. Lease. I have written the Lessors Viewers, agreeably to your instructions, accordingly.

In those days of senseless & insane Speculatⁿ. in the Coal-trade, I should not be surprised if some hair-brained [party were to come forward & take this broken-winded concern. And if they only have the Money in their Pockets, to pay us for the Stock of materials, it will be the best and the poor old beast can make – as it will clear us of the expence of restoring the damaged Ground – and enable you to obtain a Rental for the Pitmens Houses – built on the Blue-house

[14a]

Estate, as well as for the Colly. Stables, Granaries &c. The prospects of the Trade are getting the longer the blacker, but I hope we may be able to

15.

Newcastle 19th. Sep. 1840

My Dear Sir

I rec^d. your Letter of the 15th.

hobble thro' the year, at Washington, with whale Bones – and that the old Horse will: still turn the Post unscathed. In the end however, when all the young Colts, now breaking in, in your Bran-cepeth Country a bro^t. to draw fairly in harness I fear he will not be able to keep pace with them. In this case he should not be suffered to linger-out a miserable existence & sent to the Days but ought to be Shot & put out of Pain at once

I beg to thank you Kindly for your present of the Haunch of Venison, which I shall ask some of my friends, who don't often see such meat to partake of. We have most glorious Harvest Weather – new Wheat was sold in N. Castle Mark^t.

at 18/- a Boll yesterday

I am my Dear Sir

W^m. Russell Esq^r. }
Brighton }

Your's very Sincerely

Jn^o. Buddle

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in Course, on the Subject of M^r. Woods' Report to M^r. Wright. I had conversation with M^r. Wood before he made his Report, but was not aware of the ground he had taken. I should not hesitate should it be necessary, to recommend the extension of the Agree^t. with the N. Hetton Co. to ten years on the present terms – for altho' it is rather a base price, Yet taking the quantity in conjunction with our own (as we pay no way-leave for it) it will Pay us fairly enough.

I deferred writing you on this affair until I could see Mess^{rs}. Wood & Morton, to Know of they would Renew the Agree^t. on the same erms for ten years from this time. The are willing to do so if required – so if you think the Term (3 years) cannot be made to satisfy. M^r. Wright, you may have the Agree^t. extended to ten

[15a]

years whenever you please. It is certainly too true, that our debts & entanglements are such that we never can get straight forward thro' any important transaction, and the wonder is that we have not long stuck hard fast – nothing but good pilotage, & good luck could have saved us.

[15b]

Valuation of all the Waggon, Engines & Machinery of every description – the Amo^t. is £13,950..7..1 This is very much below my expectation, and I give our valuer great Credit for his manag^t. of our Case. I am certain Perkins & Co. will be greatly disappointed in their expectations of the value of this branch of the Concern. If even the

I was exceedingly annoyed on coming here last Friday – to learn the Jobling could not make up his mind – to make his Award, and that he had got Phillipson, on the preceeding day to write Pringle – to see you & get a Further extension of time for another Mo. This is most absurdly trifling – he has had 2 Mo. to consider the matter & as he has not been able to make up his mind in that time – it is questionable whether he will be any nearer, at the end of another Month – but he is all our [masters] in this Case, & we cannot help ourselves. Perkins & Co. are as much annoyed as I am at this trifling Conduct, as they want the Money.

The Engineers have finished & Signed their
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Cuts, Embankt^s. & Maisonry are awarded to them the whole Amo^t. will not reach what we expected. The late reduction in the price of Iron has been the chief cause of this low Value of the Stock of machinery & Waggon.

I hope you will get a binding Agree^t. for the extentⁿ. of time – so that no revision of this part of the Concern may have to take place

I start for Dean Forest on Tuesdy. night so please address me at the Bear Inn Newnham and write Geo. Hunter. I shall expect to hear from you to-morrow Evg. or Mondy. Mornng.

and remain
Your's truly
Jn^o. Gregson Esq^r. Jn^o. Buddle

16.

Newcastle 19th. Sep. 1840

My Dear Sir

I have got Morton & N. Woods consent to extend the Agree^t. for Shipping the N. Hetton Coals at Seaham to ten years if required. I have, therefore, written J. Gregson, that if he cannot satisfy M^r. Wright, with the 3 years yet remaining in the N. Hetton Shipping Agree^t. he may call for it. So this Stumbling Block

[16a]

satisfied with the Valuation of the Machinery &c. The Amo^t. is only £13950..7..1 and if even Jobling Sh^d. Award the whole of the Earth-work & Masonry against us – the whole Amo^t. will fall within our own Calculations I am therefore Tremblingly anxious, to get the business made safe.

Perkins & Co. will be woefully disappointed at the Amo^t. of the Valuatⁿ. of the Machinery and will if possible I have no doubt, seek

is removed. God knows if there are any more for we are never safe, nor Certain of any thing

The Comm^{ee}. have allowed us to give the Six-pences, to the Coasting Capt^s. at Seaham, so I hope we shall now get out trade back again.

I have seen our Arbetrators & Umpire to day but nothing further done. I hope to hear from J. Gregson, on Monday that he has got the Agree^t. for the extentⁿ. of time arranged & preferred, and before the Mo. expires I hope Jobling will get his Courage screwed up to the sticking point.

I am the more anxious for this, as I am quite

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for some loop-hole, or flaw in the Award – to get a revision of the Value of the Machinery – which it will be our business to guard against by every means in our Power.

The Issue for the Remainder of the Mo. is 30 P. m.

Your's my Dear Sir

Faithfully

Jn^o. Buddle

E. M^cDonnell Esq^r.

17

Walls-end 19th. Sep. 1840

Dear Sir

I rec^d. your Letter of the 16th. in Course, but thinking it likely that I might have the pleasure of seeing you yesterday at the Comm^{ee}. Meet^g. I did not reply to it.

I accept your offer of 9/ 6 for 2 of my Ships to load Braddyll's W.E. for London for 2 Voyages at Seaham & you will please to fill up Charters accordingly – free of Brokerage. The Ships are the Jn^o. Buddle & the Lord Seaham – the former is on it's passage & may be expected down daily. I have

[17a is Blank]

[17b]

Hartlepool. By the enclosed you will see that our friend M^r. Plummer says I sh^d. have 10/- for the 2^d. Voyage – this I leave in your good will.

The Committee consented yesterday to our giving the Sixpences to the Coasting Captains at Seaham you will therefore apprize your Fitter at Seaham of this.

The Haswell Co. have never taken the least notice to me of the matter in dispute, between you. I return your Statement If you should happen to want anything with me, between this and the 12th. of Oct^r. Letters ad-

written M^r. Lee, to have the pilots on the look out so you may expect the Vessel very shortly.

I am going into Gloucester on Tuesday first & will not be at home again 'till the 15 or 18th. of Oct^r. to Sign the Charters – but I think you & I may trust each other, in the mean time. If any thing sh^d. occur to prevent the Ships getting laden at Seaham, you will of course load them at

[Bud-60-5]

dressed to the Dear Inn, Newnham Gloucestershire, will find me.

I am my Dear Sir

Your's truly

Jn^o. Buddle

Percl. Forster Esq^r.

18.

Pensher 22^d. Sep. 1840

My Dear Sir

I regret to learn by your Letter of the 17th. that so melancholy a Course, is likely to take you from the Comfortable domicile, at the time you were Calculating upon its' quiet enjoyment but them kind of ups & downs are constantly recurring in this world, and there is nothing for us but to bear them with resignation.

I have just returned from the Harbour, where the Sixpenny Bribe to the Capt^s. has produced the desired effect. On receiving my Letter of permission, on Sunday Eveng. Lee dispatched a party of his Pilots to the mouth of the Tees – where meeting with a Squadron of Coastees just about to go into the Tees & Hartlepool – they threw

[18a]

at Hartlepool & Stockton remains to be seen – the Harbour cuts a fair appearance with so large a Fleet in it.

The last Course of Blocks to finish the Pier-head was begun to be laid this Morn^g. Usher has great Credit for his attention to this job.

I have written L^d. L. very fully to day on the State & prospects of the trade & forwarded him of the consequences of a break-up of the regulation. Ryle shewed me a Letter from Simpson this Morn^g. from which I see reason to suppose that Hildyard will consent to the release of the quantity of Land we require.

There are reports of our great-Man Granger being in pecuniary difficulties – and of our Bank also not

out the bait, and Caught the whole Shoal. I have seen them crowding into the Harbour & left it cram-full. What effect this may produce

[Bud-60-5]

being quite at ease. Some of the directors have been accommodated to an imprudent extent & have got into difficulties. I have no Letter from John Gregson & therefore Concluded that all is going

on Right with respect to the extension of time for Jobling to make his Award.

I start for Newsham via Leeds to Night and shall be there to-morrow Afternoon – Such is the facilities afforded by Railway-travelling. I now can accomplish in 18 or 20 hours what a year ago

required 2½ days. I shall be glad to receive a Letter from you at the “Bear Inn Newnham”. & remain

My D^r. Sir

Your's faithfully

Jn^o. Buddle

Ed^d. M^cDonnell Esq^r.

[Bud-60-5]

[18b]

19

Newnham 26th. Sep. 1840

Sir

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 19th. which has followed me, to this place.

I should be glad to recommend a Colly. Manager to you – but have not at present any likely person in view. Indeed persons possessing the qualifications you require are difficult to be met with – especially at the Rate of Salary you Mention. The description of person you require is what we call an “under Viewer” – a thorough-bred Collier, who Can Survey & Plan – their Salaries are £100 to £150 with House & Candles – all found gratis. If any person of this description, want a situation should fall in my way – I will lose no time in informg. you & remain Sir y^r. Most Obd. S^r.
Jn^o. Maund Esq^r. Jn^o. Buddle

20

Walls-end 11th. Oct^r. 1840

My Dear Sir

I arrived at Newcastle yesterday Morn^g. and in the course of the day saw Th. Forster – he came to Town to meet Johnson and Jobling. The latter declines writing his decision as to the valuation of the Cuttings, Masonry & and orders the Cottages also to be valued!!! – Johnson has appointed Blackmore is in London, and will not return before next Tuesday – So that the findg. of the Valuation by the 20th. Ins^t. is I conceive phisically impracticable. This is all very embarrassing and I scarcely see how we are to get thro' it I only wish it were done on almost any terms as I feel confident that Valuation even almost giving them their own way, in every thing will

[Bud-60-5]

[20a]

not excised our original notion of the Amo^t. and it is very desirable that we should get possession

Perkins is now down, I saw him & Hunt at a C. trade Meeting yesterday, but they left before the Meeting yesterday, but they left before the Meetg. & I had no opportunity of Speaking to them on the affair of the valuation. Forster seems to apprehend that they wish to keep possession, and by some sort of manoeuvring to drive us to continue the Agree^t. on the former, or some modified terms This however, I cannot think is their intention & if it were, I don't see how it is to be accomplished

I may through the course of this week – probably. be able to discover their intentions – but I consider a further extensions of time for completing the Valuation – indispensable, and you may therefore prepare yourself accordingly. The affairs of the Coal-trade are I think fast approaching a Crisis I am my Dear Sir Y^{rs}. truly
Jn^o. Gregson Esq^r. Jn^o. Buddle

21.

Walls-end 11th. Oct^r. 1840

My Dear Sir

I had the pleasure to receive your

[21a]

part with, without an effort to retain it. I cannot however, think it possible for them to accomplish such a design Jobling seems to be entirely with them, but still

Letter of the 6th. Returning Forster's, on arriving at New-castle yesterday Mornng. I saw Forster yesterday who had come to see Johnson & Jobling as well as myself on the affair of the Valuation. Johnson named Blackmore to Value the Cuttings &c. and Forster, with my [Conscience] named Burn. But Blackmore is now in London, and won't Return 'till next Tuesday, at soonest – the finishing of the valuation, against the 20th. Ins^t. is therefore phisically impracticable & a further extension of time is indis-pensable – Jobling declines giving his Award in Writing ! – I have written J. Gregson on all this. Perkins is now in the Country – he was the C. Trade meeting yesterday with Hunt – but left before the meeting broke up, and I had no opportunity of speaking to him. Forster suspects some manicule on their part to bother us into a Continuance of the Agree^t. either on the old, or some modified terms – it is too good a thing to

[Bud-60-5]

his power or influence cannot extend beyond the object of the Valuation. I am most anxious to have the Valⁿ. completed almost on any terms, & to get possession of the way, as the delay is paralysing all our plans for altering the way &c. Happen what may the Amo^t. of the Valuⁿ. including Cuts & all, cannot exceed our original notion of the grass Amo^t. and I will do everything in my power to get it bro^t. to a speedy conclusion. I found the general State of the Trade, on my Return, in the most unsatisfactory situation possible. The Rules of the Regulation, and orders of the Comm^{ee}. set completely at naught by many individuals – a Special Meetg. of the Sectional Comm^{ee}. was held yesterday when it was resolved that a Special Gen^l. Meetg. should be convened on an early day – to be named, next Tuesday when every Representative must either pledge himself in-dividually to abide by the Rules of the Regulation and to obey the orders of the Comm^{ee}. impeccably – or the Comm^{ee}. will resign & in all probability there will be an imme-diate end to the Regulation The next ten days will

therefore produce some important Change either for better, or for worse.

I did not feel the gloomings if this pros-pect, at all relieved by the Situation into which our Bank has got. They were not able to make their ex-

[21b]

and my visit to you must remain in abeyance – 'till we see our way thro' the thick Clouds which obscure our view, at Present. I have no call from home during the remainder of the year. I have applied to the Office of woods to allow the next Dean Forest Meetg. to be held at N. Castle – which will be

[21c]

changes last Thursday with the other banks – ‘till late in the day, and it is currently reported, that they must wind up. The reason assigned is the too great accommodation they have afforded to their Customers in lending Money i.e. allowing their Accot^s. to be over-drawn, which has abstracted the Capital from it’s legitimate object. The Fawdon Colly. is over-drawn £26000, or £27000 – Sev^l. of the Directors have also overdrawn their Acco^{ts}. – one individual to the extent of £13000.

In this aspect of the Affairs it is necessary for you to be turning your attention towards a Change of the Bank. It may not possibly happen ‘till the end of the year, & I should expect that ample notice will be given

The Bank will be solvent, but the p^d. up Capital and Interest will be lost

I am very glad to learn that you will not have to go to London this Autumn

[Bud-60-5]

granted I am D^r. Sir your’s Sincerely
E. M^cDonnell Esq^r. Jn^o. Buddle

22.

Pensher 13th. Oct^r. 1840

My Dear Sir

The provisional Comm^{ee}. met this Morn^g. to fix the time for the next general meeting of the Trade & to prepare their Report to lay before it. but it was thought prudent to[a]llow the recusants

[22a]

must either be broken up, or one & all must be compelled to adhere to it in good faith, by abiding by it’s Rules & rigidly obeying the orders of the Comm^{ee}.

I have no doubt but at the ensuing general Meetg. we shall again have plenty of fair promises of better behaviour. But this won’t do – the State of affairs

another & a last opportunity of turning from their evil ways before they are Shewn-up at the General Meetg. They were therefore summoned to attend an adjourned meetg. next Monday – to give them an opportunity of Repentance. The following is the list of transgressions of which the Comm^{ee}. have to complain.

24 Coll ^s . have not paid their deposits of £2 P. m.	£	
on their Basis – as Guarentee against		} 1058
Delinquencies [Ans ^r .]		
17 D ^o . not paid their Fines incurred – – – – –		2583
11 D ^o . – – Contributions in Arrear – – – – –		234
12 D ^o . penalties for deviations from the		} – – 123
Factors' Regulation		

This will give you an idea of the State of affairs notwithstanding the Resolutions passed at the last gen^l. Meetg. & Signed by all the parties present, – besides 5 Collieries have shuffled off signing the Agree^t. & are Keeping aloof from the trade. This State of things cannot possibly go on, and the Regulation

[Bud-60-5]

requires some effective & energetic step to be taken but the question is – what is the step, and who is the Man to take it? No doubt some good resolutions will be passes – but they will [proventirely] abortive, unless they are enforced – and in my opinion they can only be inferred, through the fear of immediate Consequences – the breaking up of the Regulation. My plan would therefore be – to give the meeting Notice, after the passing of the Resolutions – that unless they were fourth with acted upon – to the very Letter – that in 14 days from that time we would with-draw from the Regulation, altogether, and take our own Course. I am persuaded that if the Regulatⁿ. is to be saved, on the present occasion, this is the only way to do it. And I beg the favour of your opinion upon it. Morton has gone to London

[22b]

and will hardly return in time for the gen^l. Meeting, or I believe he w^d. Concur in this plan & acted upon it himself. The Hetton Co. wont do – they are always for trimming & temporizing This bold stroke w^d. I think operate like an electric Shock & bring the pa-

[Loose Sheet, Not in Index]

[22bA]

Newcastle 17th. Oct^r. 1840

E. M^cDonnell Esq^r.

Dear Sir

Your Letter of the 12th. only reached Pensher last Night, and I deferred writing

tient to his senses – if it did not he could only die – and die he will without it – it will either Kill or Cure. him

I saw Geo. Johnson at the meeting – he had rec^d. a Letter from Blackmore, at Southampton – to say that he e^d. not possibly return to Newcastle before next Saturday. The Valuation of the Cuttings &c. cannot, therefore, commence, at Soonest before the 19th. so that we shall have another month at least trifled away.

Oct^r. 14th. Wed. I have just returned from Seaham – the last Course of Blocks, on the pier-head, is finished to about a Doz. Stones. Plenty of Ships have arrived but we shall not be able to make up the Fort^s. Vend – the Month I hope we shall but Ships are very Scarce I am my D^r. Sir y^{rs}. faithfully
E. M^cDonnell Esq^r. Jn^o. Buddle

[Bud-60-5]

in reply, until I came here, to endeavour to obtain further information relative to our Bank. Nothing fresh has occurred this Week, and it w^d. seem that they have been able to effect their exchanges with the other Banks without any apparent difficulty. As to their Winding up the Concern, it is much easier Said, than done. It is understood that they could not wind up, without calling upon the Share-holders for an Advance. & it is also understood, that great Numbers of the Share-holders could not, and that others would not pay-up, if called upon: So that the burden would fall upon the more stable, and respectable Share-holders, in the first instance – leaving them to seek their remedy against their Partner-defaulters

[Loose Sheet, Not in Index]

as they best could, However desirous, therefore, the Stable Partners i.e. those who ~~may~~ have something to lose, may be, to get the Concern, wound up, they cannot see their way to the accomplishment of it without the Risk of incurring great ~~risk~~ and loss.

[22bAa]

let both themselves, & their Customers easily down. Under this view of the Case I am inclined to think that your most prudent course will be to comply with burdes's Request Happen what may our Acco^t. is always sure to be on the Right Side of the post with them.

The general opinion, therefore, is that they will struggle on, and endeavour to get their Affairs, more in hand, but that ultimately they will wind up And it is by no means improbable that they may make an Arrangement with the District (our great Leviathan) Bank – for the purpose of letting themselves, easily down. Any Splicing, on, to the District Bank, with a transfer of Customers, will undoubtedly be better, than winding-up – both for the Customers & the Company. I therefore should think it the best Policy for the Customers whose Accounts, are Overdrawn – to afford them all the aid in their power, by giving them Acceptances. By nursing them thus – they may be able to
[Bud-60-5]

And if the worst should happen – time for the Retirement of Acceptances may be negotiated for.
The French seem to have lost their senses, and “gone clean daft” this Rumour of War is doing us immense Mischief in the vend of our Steam Coal. – there are plenty of Orders, but the Ship-owners dare not let their Ships load for any French Ports from the fear of having them detained.

23. [Blank Page]

[23a]

Walls-end 25th. Oct^r. 1840

Dear Sir

The present low price of Tanfield-moor Coals at Market – have reduced the Freights below Par. We cannot get the Coals vendd at the Standard Price. I therefore have to request the favour of your advice, as to what you think the best mode of proceeding to get out quantity Vendd.

24.

Walls-end 30th. Oct^r. 1840

My Dear Sir

I have delayed writing you for some time, in expectation of being able to inform you that the affairs of the Coal-trade were in a more settled and improved State. In this however I am disappointed, as matters still continue in the same unsatisfactory State, and even worse – as the rumour of War with France, has nearly extinguished the Coal-trade with that Country.

There appears to be only three modes of proceeding – to freight-up-hold, or Reduce our Price. My own feeling is in favour of the latter but I should wish to be governed by your advice

The affairs of the C.T. seem to be fast approaching a Crisis – the “House is divided against itself” – especially on the question of the Factors’ Regulation, which I apprehend cannot be much larger maintained. Your early Answer will oblige

Dear Sir y^{rs}. Truly

Mess^{rs}. Duke & Hill Jn^o. Buddle

[Bud-60-5]

The issue of Vend, owing to the continual influx of the new Collieries are so Small, that altho’ here, at Walls-end, we can Vend every Coal we are allowed, at the full price – without freighting yet the Amo^t. of Sales is so deficient that it will be all we can do, to make Ends meet at the end of the Year. And I don’t at present see my way at all, as to what may be the most prudent Line to pursue for the future. As to Washington short as the allowed quantity is, it cannot be

vended, and I am apprehensive that we may be on the wrong side of the past there at the end of the year.

On the 28th. of the last Mo. one of the Boilers of the B. Pit Machine (Washington) exploded, and greatly injured the Machine, but fortunately no person was seriously injured – but it put a Stop to the working of the pit. The J Pit has been set on to replace the B_ so as to employ the Pitmen &c.

I have had an Estimate of the cost of repairing this Machine made. The Engineers work is £298 and the Carpenters Work & Masonry will be £100 more – So that the Job may be called £400.

Under all circumstances I think it will be

[24a]

25

Walls-end 8th. Nov. 1840

My Dear Sir

I was duly favoured with your’s of the 2^d. Ins^t. – the absurd application of Perkins & Co. alluded to by J. Gregson, was instantly Repudiated & were fused to pay anything even on Acco^t. until the Valuⁿ. is completed. When this will be God-Knows. The measurement of the Cuttings &c. has progressed considerably; but is now at a Stand again by Blackmore hav^g. taken himself off into the Cocker mouth Country on some Engineering Business & when he Returns no one can tell & I really begin to doubt the accomplishment of the

most prudent to let this Hare Sit Sit, until we see what turn the Affairs of the Trade will take as well as what is to become of the Colliery under, our notice to quit. I have not yet heard of any body inquiring about taking the Colly.

I shall be very glad to receive a Line from you and hoping that you are in good health, I remain

My D^r. Sir your's faithfully

W^m. Russell Esq

Jn^o. Buddle

[Bud-60-5]

business against the 20th. [Scece] such absurd trifling never before occurred in any similar case.

I am glad you have written L^d. L. so [durce] on the prospects of the coming year – the prospects of the C. Trade, are becoming the longer the blacker. The Wear Comm^{ee}. had a Meeting yesterday on the Subject of the Haswell C^{os}. notice for a revision of their Basis. It was expected that they would have withdrawn it – but after a long discussion they

resolved to persevere. This drew forth a demand for a revision of our Bases from Morton, Phillipson & myself – as all think ourselves equally intitled to an increase of Basis. This will inevitably break up the Regⁿ. if the Has^l. Co. don't think better of it before the end of the Year.

Donkins Bill for attendance, Memorials &c.&c. £500 on the Church Lease Comm^{ee}. is now to be paid by the Parties interested in the Church Coal-Leases – in proportion to their Respective Int^{ts}. Lord Durham's, the Hetton Co. and our's will be about £100 each. I understand a Clause in the Act authorises the Ecclesiastic Comm^{ee}. to Sell the Church Property to the Lessees, but whether this extends to the Mines I am not yet informed. I have this Afternoon

[25a]

and at any Rate you may Congratulate your Friend on his good Luck – as should the Ore turns-out any thing like what is represented it cannot fail to be a capital Concern for him.

I am my Dear Sir

Your's faithfully

Jn^o. Buddle

Edw^d. M^cDonnell Esq^r.

[25b]

received y^r. Note with L^d. Eglington's enclosed & have written to Sir J.J. Guest by this Post & advised him to put himself in direct Communication with Lord Eglington – if he Still entertains the notion of embarking in Iron Works in [Scotland]
[Bud-60-5]

26.

Pensher 19th. Nov. 1840

My Dear Sir

Nothing out of the ordinary course of events has occurred with us this Week, and notwithstanding the very Stormy-weather and high Seas which have prevailed during the last Week I think we shall accomplish our full [most hi] Vend & not leave any Shorts, The Issue is undoubtedly very small for the Month of Nov. but we are doing all we can to compensate for the short Vend, by making as large a proportion of W. End as possible. In this however we must take care not to over-Shoot the mark as Stewarts W.E. "bear the Bell" at the market being 6^d. & 9^d. P. ten-higher than Lambtons & Hettⁿ. which gives them such a preference that we are sure to get plenty of Ships – want who may. This preference will be of vast importance to

us in the event of an open-trade.

The executive Comm^{ee}. meet tomorrow, to prepare their Report for the United Comm^{ee}. who meet next day. What is to be done with points for discussion – together with Haswell Co. notice of revision. I hear that they are disposed to retract their Notice which will set that matter at rest – but there are several others equally affecting the continuance of the Regulation to be disposed of

I am glad to say that the Harbour Works have effectually resisted the fury of the late Tempest. The finishing of the Pier-head has proved a capital job. I think of discontinuing the Lime Kilns – except for the Farmers next year, to enable us to make a Rush with the Rubble Glacis, in Front of the Pier – so as to set Neptune's fury at defiance, in his most angry moods

I am my D^r. Sir y^{rs}. faithfully

I have not yet heard

[Bud-60-5]

from Lord L.
E. M^cDonnell Esq^r.

Jn^o. Buddle

27.

Walls-end 7th. Feb. 1841

My Dear Sir

I was duly rec^d. your Letter of the 4th. Ins^t. I entirely concur in all your observations and reasoning, on the eventual results of the abolition of the Rotation System & do not therefore, feel it necessary to enlarge upon the Subject, as all I could say, would be the more echo, of what you have S^d. on the subject. I shall therefore, go at once to the affairs of Tanfield-moor Colly.

The Basis of T.M. Colliery is 60,950 Tons, or 23000 N.C. Ch^s. – the Issue on the Basis last year was 555 P. m . which gave an actual Vend of only 12650 Ch. little more than 9000 of which were Tanfield-moor If the gen^l. Reg. goes on (of which I have considerable doubt – I cannot expect the Issues to be more than 550 P. m . which will only give an actual Vend of 12650 Ch. Now as to the proportion of this which may be Pontop – depends upon the quantity of

[Bud-60-5]

[27a]

old Tanfield which you can Sell – the more Tanf^d. you can sell the less Pontop we can make and vica versa. All the profit we make is on the Tanfield – as at 7/- for Pontop, we can barely pay our Way. Of the quantity of Tanfield which the Market may probably take off you must be best able to judge. And if you can determine this point you may enter into a Contract for the complement of the quantity to make up the 12650 N.C. Cha^s.

On this point I can say no more, but shall be glad to learn your ideas as to the probable quantities of each sort you think the Market will take off.

The abrogation of the Rotation System, will throw us here, entirely upon the good Manag^t. of our Regulation & the judicious distribution of the monthly issues. But the Regulation is yet far from being established on a Satisfactory Foundatⁿ. for altho' the resolutions of the general meetg. including the Report of the executive Comm^{ee}. for the future Mang^t. of

[27b]

of the trade were passed unanimously, and were to have been Signed by every individual representative yet up to yesterday 14 Signatures for the Tyne and 4 for the Wear were waiting. The Comm^{ee}. therefore issued a Circular to the Recusants – to give them notice, that unless they Sign the Resol^s. & pay down their deposits on, or before Wed next – the

Comm^{ee}. will call a gen^l. Meetg. & declare their inability to carry on the Regⁿ.

What effect this may produce remains to be seen – but I think it an even chance whether the Reg. Goes on or not. The Petton Co. are Cuoqueting with the Comm^{ee}. in the most vexatious manner. Less than a Fortnight will I think decide the fate of our Regulation.

I beg to think S^r. James for his Letter of the 20th. Jan^y. which I have not yet had leisure to answer &

Remain My D^r. Sir

Mess^{rs}. Duke & Hill

Your's faithfully

Jn^o. Buddle

[Bud-60-5]

28.

Walls-end 7th. Feb. 1841

My Dear Sir

I rec^d. your Letter of the of the 30th. Ult^o. on the 4th. Ins^t. since which we have been bothering on with the affairs of the Coal-trade as usual. On Thursday last – the Comm^{ee}. for the current year were duly formed & commenced their duties – the Issue for the 1st. 15 days of Feb. is 15 P. ₤. On examining the list of Signatures to the Resolutions of the gen^l. Meetg. of the 23^d. of Jan^y. 14 for the Tyne & 4 for the Wear were found to be wanting & their deposits £2 P. ₤. on their Bases not paid. A circular was therefore issued to those Recusants calling upon them to Sign & pay up their deposits on, or before, Wed next, in failure of which the Comm^{ee}. will call a great meetg. Forthwith & declare their inability to carry on the Reguⁿ. What this may produce is uncertain, but if the fear of a break up does not

[28a]

bring the parties up to the Scratch the gen^l. Regⁿ. will break down & the best Colls. must endeavour to fall back upon the Sub. Regulation. This

[28b]

one from him dated at Sea – but nothing more – His Ldps. corrispond^{ce}. with Hunter are on private Cash transactⁿ. which Hunter Keeps to himself & which

is the more necessary – as since the adoration of the Factors Regⁿ. the Coal Merchants have made a dead point at the best Coals to beat down the Prices & but for the Short Issues in the last 2 Mo. aided by the severity of the Weather I believe they w^d. have succeeded. Next Wed. will I expect be an eventful day, as likely to settle the question of the carrying on, or breaking up of the Gen^l. Regⁿ.

The Stat^t. of Vend &c. in my Letter of the 26th. Ulto. had reference to all the Colls. of this district – that is to say of the Tyne, Wear, Tees, Hartlepool & Blyth.

I expect the Hindhaugh will be ready for you about the 15th. & I shall be glad to see you at Pensher as soon afterwards as may be conven^t. as we shall have many important matters to discuss.

I have not heard from L^d. L. since the Letter I sent you, but Hunter told me yesterday he had rec^d.

[Bud-60-5]

it is not my business to pry into. For a Week we have had an incessant Gale of Wind from the East^d. & high Sea, but as yet no injury at Seaham

I go to Pensher to-morrow & on Thursday we hold a Board at N. Hetton, when I expect the last years Accot^s. will be closed.

Morton & Wood will be upon me about beginning to bore at Seaham – which so far I have staved off. There are terrible out [esers] about no Profits last year at several Coll^s.

Our merry making last Week was at Bran-cepeth, not Ravensworth – the thing went off remarkably well – only the Squire made too free with the Bottle – S^r. H. Williamson was there, one day

I am my Dear Sir

Your's faithfully

E. M^cDonnell Esq^r.

Jn^o. Buddle

29.

Walls-end 30th. May 1841

My Dear Sir

I rec^d. your Note of the 28th. with Milne & Robinson's Letter of the 14th. Ins^t. to Lee – complaining of the Short Supply of Stewarts' at W. End as compared with Lambtons' & Hetton. You will probably recollect, that I explained to you a while ago in

[29a]

The State of the Market shews however, that those young Factors, are not correct in their premises – as on referring to last Fridays (the 28th.) List I find the N^o. of cargoes of best Coals on the Market, as follows viz.

Stewarts	---	22	-	Sold	-	1
Lambtons	--	36	----	6	this shews that without	
Hetton	----	30	----	1	any fresh arrivals there	

answer to a similar inquiry, that from the great proportion of Pillar-work – both in Rainton & Pittington that we can only make a limited quantity of W. End Coals. If we were to attempt to make a larger proportion, it could only be done by mixing them with Eden-main, which w^d. inevitably injure their characture so as to depress their price, & instead of having them Standing at the top of the Market & always in demand – we should probably see them, like Bradylls at the bottom & a drug. The experiment is too hazardous to be Risked, and we must if possible presurve the high Characture of the Coals – especially under the present circumstances of the Trade.

[Bud-60-5]

N. Hetton – –	8		are as many Ships left
Haswell – – –	10	none Sold	as will Supply the demand
Braddyll – – –	18		for <u>best</u> Coals for <u>more</u>
Caradock – –	<u>11</u>	<u>1</u>	than a Month.
	<u>136</u>	<u>9</u>	Not so however with the
	<u>Left unsold 127</u>		Sund. best & inferior Coals

as they are selling freely – which shews that the best, are rated too high in the Scale of prices, & a reduction must be made, or see that they [—] will be beaten out of the Market. At the prices they are now held up at Market – they are paying the Ship-owner 1/ 6 P. ton more Freight than the 2^d. Class which is absurd & I mean to bring the subject under the Consⁿ. of the Comm^{ee}. at the Monthly

meeting at Chester next Thursday. The prices of the best Coals at market must either be reduced, or the 2^d. Class advanced – otherwise the system merely amounts to the best holding back to enable the Inferiors to supersede and drive them out of the Market altogether.

This State of things teaches us one important fact however – viz. That there is a maximum and limitation to the price of the best Coals, beyond which they cannot go, and which requires our utmost

[29b]

30.

Pensher 1st. June 1841

Confidential

My Dear Sir

This Afternoons post has bro^t. me your Confidential Letter of yesterday – with it's accompanying Packet of Correspondence with L^d. L. – the latter has taken me some time to wade through – and when done I find nothing new in it – only further expansion, & aggravation of former misconceptions, & misrepresentations. The Letters &c. of L^d. L. especially that of the 26th. Ult: contain such a Far-

Care and attention in the management
of the Regulated Prices & quantities. I will
write again after Chester – meeting as the affair
of the Trade are getting the longer the more
difficult

I am my Dear Sir

Your's very Sincerely

Jn^o. Buddle

Edw^d. M^cDonnell Esq^f.

[Bud-60-5]

rago of Stuff, as no Man but himself I think could have
committed to paper – such a jumble of Fact & Fiction,
Blarney & blame-vitrefication, and Buttering as is truly
characteristic of the source from which it emanates.

It is meant to annoy & disgust, for the purpose of
loning a particular object – but this line of operations
won't succeed. And L^d. L. will find himself most egre-
giously mistaken if he expects it to drive me one Inch
out of the Line of strict duty to the Trust, and to
himself & Family, so long as I hold my [soleration] but
at the same time the sooner I can be relieved from it

the better as L^d. L_'s vindictive disposition will always be
operating as a perpetual Blister. I therefore sincerely hope
with you, that some lucky turn of affairs may enable
us to get relieved from the irksome duties of the trust
in the course of next year.

I an exceedingly annoyed at the mistake about L^d.
L_'s Statement to Hunter – it arose from M^f. Hunter tellg.
me of the circumstances just as I was starting for Londn.
Lord L. did express his disproportion of the change
with Hunter – but Hunter cannot say that his Ldp.
s^d. He w^d. make up his Sal^y. – but he muttered something
about it, which Hunter could not make out-which might
mean that, or Something else.

[30a]

ready to meet fair & open inquiry by Men of Character.

I entirely concur in your view of a professional Ac-
countant to examine the Accot^s. if L^d. L. wishes it – but
the sending of a Viewer, to watch over our operations
can lead to nothing but Confusion. If L^d. L. thinks the
viewing & Engineering Departments mismanaged – let him
take the opinion of any, or as many of the respectable
Men of the profession as he pleases. But he ought
to consider what the consequences of exposing the situation
& Powers of the Coll^s. thus-may be-in the position they
hold in the Trade, as compared with Lambton's New
Coll^s. & Hetton. I return the packet of Corrispond^{ce}.
as it w^d. require more time to explain & refute all

[30b]

But to return to L^d. L_'s Correspondence, of the 23^d. to the 26th. May. He is undoubtedly entitled to call for explanation, on several points to which he alludes, and to leave his charges of mismanagem^t. not rebutted – but then there is a proper manner of having this done-by Fair, & honourable open investigation & not by Inquisitorial and assassin – like means. This I disputed, but am quite

[Bud-60-5]

the erroneous statements which it contains, than I can possibly spare at this time from more important business here. When you come down, which will I hope be very soon I will then go thro' the whole with you. I will however, observe with Respect to the leading of N. Hetton Coals, that if L^d. L. w^d. have allowed himself to have given the subject a moments fair Consideration

he must at once have detected the Fallacy of the Statem^t. put into his hands. And that the price p^d. For leading & Shipping the N. Hetton Coals, is higher than that for which we have agreed with the Durham & Sunderl^d. Co. to Ship our Coals for at Sunderland.

L^d. L. Knows that this Co. are under agree^t. to Ship our Coals at Sunderland whenever we may require them – at 3^d. P. Ch. P. mile & 3^d. Spoutage. Now the Length of Way from N. Hetton to Seaham Harbour is 6 miles – charging at the same rate, as we should have to pay the D&S. Co. w^d. be 6 Miles at 3^d. = 1/ 6 & Spoutage 3^d., making 1^s/ 9^d. P. Ch. in all The N. Hetton Co. pay us 2^s/ s^d. P. Ch. so that our Price is 5^d. P. Ch. better than theirs – or nearly 1^d. P. mile P. Ch. better. This is not the only Maris Nest his Ldp. has found – his information relative to Rogerson is quite erroneous – Rogerson never was employed at

[30c]

2.

[30d]

L^d. L. cut so conspicuous a Figure, and his conduct Stands recorded in the Annals of the Trade, on the occasion.

I have to be about the Works & at the Harbour to-morrow & have to attend the monthly meeting at Chester on Thursday (a very important one) so that I am afraid I shall not be able to revise the Harbour Statement – made by Ja^s. Oliver. – but I will do it as soon as I can. You shall also have an acco^t. of the expence of the Wall &c. which was only commenced a Month ago. Both Lee & Usher declared to L^d. L. in my presence, that they never had in any case appealed to me without having a fair hearing & redress, and that I have always supported them in the execution of their duty. But it is useless to report those things as L^d. L. will only take such garbled statements as suits his own oblique views so as to use them for his particular purpose.

Walls-end nor is he any Friend of mine – but he is an honest Creature & rendered the Trade through me great service during the Strike in 1831 when L^d. L_'s
[Bud-60-5]

To follow up, and refute all his erroneous views

would give me full occupation, and allow me no time to attend to matters of vital importance in the Concerns which seem to be beyond the scope of his understanding Nibbling & pecking at trifles seems to be his fort – not grasping the objects of the movements of our great Wheel. It must be kept in forward motion – if it ever retrogrades – it will overwhelm and Crush us.

I don't think I can say more at present but remain My Dear Sir very Sincerely your's
Jn^o. Buddle

Ed. M^cDonnell Esq^r.

[30e]

31.

Walls-end 6th. June 1841

My Dear Sir

I send you herewith a Paper containing the Fruits of L^d. L_'s present visit to Seaham I sent you also my Answer to this Communication which is brief, as I am resolved that he shall not betray me into a Labyrinth of [Protovlling]. & hope you will approve of my Answer. It is clear that L^d. L. means nothing but open war with the Trust if he can possibly find Grounds, or Means for carrying it on. If therefore behoves you as Trustee & me as manager, to take up our Ground accordingly

I have no doubt of being able to refute all the charges contained in this Paper – but the Answers will have to be given in very guarded Language and very circumspectly, as we have anything but generous Spirited Enemy to deal with. It seems

[Bud-60-5]

requisite that you Should consult M^r. Gregson upon this Document – and to consider whether it might

[31a]

32.

Pensher 11th. June 1841

Private
My Dear Sir

not be expedient for him to accompany you down to Pensher – to aid in preparing Answers to L^d. – L^d's Charges – for which purpose I am in the mean time to be preparing the Materials. He would also assist in our discussions on the affair of the Rainton Renewal.

It will be for Consⁿ. whether we should Answer those Charges – to L^d. L. or to reserve our Answers, 'till he brings them before the legal Tribunal, to which he alludes.

I shall be very anxious to see you in the North as soon as convenient. I shall always be at home 'till the middle of July – the only engagement I have, in the mean time, is the Examinatⁿ. of the Engineer Students at the Durham University – between the 15th. & 18th. Ins^t. I am my D^r. Sir

Your's very Sincerely

E. M^cDonnell Esq^r. Jn^o. Buddle

[Bud-60-5]

I have been to the Harbour this morn^g. – where from the prevalence of the Strong N. Easter and high Sea during all the Week – business has been at a Stand as no Ships could get either, in, or out. The same has been the case at Shields, Sunderland Hartlepool & Stockton – but “out of the evil comes the good” – as this detention of the loaden Vessels at this end – will help to ease the London Market of it's present over-load.

I found Lee, in a sad way L^d. L. with Capt^s. Fitzroy & Lyon, was at the Harbour last Sa. his Ldp. sent Usher, with those Gen^t. to view the Harbour, and then Singled off Lee, and put him through a long & Sever Cross-examination (worked him to the Oil) the object of which was to extract from him statements and opinion, which might enable his Ldp. to establish Charges of mismanagement against you and myself. Lee was so thoroughly disgusted with L^d. L^d's conduct on this occasion, that he

32.

[32a]

waited rival upon his Ldp. at the Hall next Morn^g. and told him, that he w^d. resign his Situation Rather than be subject to such inquiries by his Ldp. As he considered himself to be the Servant of the Trustee & amenable to him alone for his Stewardship, and all the Harbour Transactions. This is only in Keeping with the rest

[32b]

strictly within the Line of my Duty) I shall certainly feel myself entitled to call upon the Exch^r. Bill Loan Commiss^{rs}. to send their Engineer, to Report upon my proceedings in the fulfilment of the Conditions of the Loan – and on this report I will Stand, or Fall. In the mean time I shall pursue a

of L^d. L_'s mean & unworthy conduct, towards those who are his best friends. Things have been so managed under the Trust that he has never Sustained the least personal inconvenience – he therefore erroneously imagines, that the Trustee has been equally at ease, as himself. Neither does he seem to recollect what was the true object of the Exchequer Loans – they were not made for the Purpose of Finishing the Harbour – but to aid in Finishing it and whatever they may fall short in the attainment of that Object, he is bound to make up. If therefore I am to be called to Account for mismanaging the Engineering department (which by-the-bie as Colly. Manager I do not think

[Bud-60-5]

straight forward course, and stand up as firmly against all L^d. L_'s Freaks of caprice, at our Piers
Stand up against the buffeting of the Waves.

I am my Dear Sir

Your's faithfully

Jn^o. Buddle

Edw^d. M^cDonnell Esq^r.

N^o. 33

Walls-end 1st. Aug^t. 1841

My Dear Sir

I received your Note announcing M^r.

Cowburn's Communication, which paves the way to the result you always anticipated. I have had a Letter from M^r. M^cDonnell, in which he says that he met L^d. L. in Belfast, by accident & after a little explanation his Ldp. Promised to Sign Pennant's Deeds & the trust Acco^t. on his return to London. His Ldp. called at Seaham Harb^r. yesterday Week – in a most amiable humour – no fault found

[33a]

I am sorry to say that M^r. M^cD. has had a relapse of the attack in his throat, and is very ill. This is an awkward concern.

The Renewal of Rainton Colly. Lease

I have been corresponding with Boyd, on this affair, and yesterday, I had a meeting with him, and received the Chapter's Counter-proposition. They demand £11,111..2..2 Fine for the Stipulated ann^l. Quantity of 40,000 Ch. – they have calculated upon the principle of the Rental but have charged 7 P. Cent, instead of 8 – on Acco^t. of

with anything – all Coulour de Rose !!! why this sudden change of wind, remains to be explained. Before leaving Wynyard, however, he did not forget to write Geo. Hunter – to say that he now hoped all w^d. go on in an amiable way & that the Spirit Rather than the Letter of the Trust-deed w^d. be consid^d. & that we w^d. give him every possible assistance from the Coll^s. in the reconstruction of Wyn^d. House. I suspect that the fresh application has originated in some Soft wood that M^r. M^cD_n-I may have dropped at the meeting at Belfast. I will however hold fast & not Suffer any thing to be sent from the Coll^s. without M^r. M^cD_n-II's express orders in Writing.

[Bud-60-5]

the 3 years gap which has been allowed to take place

I must own that under Circumstances I think this a very reasonable offer – as I should certainly have recommended £14000 to have been P^d. rather than not have renewed. I did not however Snap at the offer – but told Boyd that I sh^d. recommend it to M^r. M^cDonnells favourable Consⁿ. – provided the Rev^d. Body would allow the vend of the inferior Steam Coal, to come in aid of the 40,000 Ch. at 17/ 6 P. Ten – and that they would allow us to make up Shorts, which is not permitted by the present Lease. He is to Submit these points to the Chap. and I have little doubt of getting Somthing – altho' I

[33b]

do not expect to obtain all I have asked for. We must not however, on any Acco^t. let this affair Slip thro' our Fingers. I have written M^r. M^cD_n-I, in the Strongest terms to urge him to put every Iron in the Fire to get the matter Knocked off out of hand – as I think you will agree with me that the accomplishment of this Renewal is an affair of the most vital importance to Lord L_'s Family And I submit that the sooner you communicate the matter to S^r. J. Beckett & M^r. Groom. to prepare them to deal with L^d. L. the better – You will I make no doubt have a letter from M^r. M^cDonnell, on the subject in course of Post. And I will

[33c]

Perkins & C^{os}., Viewer, that no written Licence for workg. the Barrier off between the two Coll^s. was ever given.

Anderson thinks he might have given a verbal Sanction to work the Barrier – but is no certain. H[emener] saw the Lease & is not aware that any Barrier was reserved

Nick Woods object is to purchase the Lease for the Partnership – Lord Ravensworth & Co. to work the Coal from their Burradon Colly. He thinks £1500 the full value – which I could not admit & he is to reconsider the point – but I did not think it prudent to push the matter with him, until you have an opportunity of considering, what may be the best course to pur-

send you a copy of the Chapter's Offer, by to-morrow post.

Wide-open Colliery

I learn from Brandlings Viewer, who is the Check-Viewer for E. Brunton Colly. – that Perkins & Co. have not given notice to quit that Royalty & he thinks that their Notice to quit Wide-open is a mere Ruse to obtain an abatement of tentale.

I learn also from W^m. Anderson, the Check-Viewer for Wide-open & also by Easton [Bud-60-5]

sue with respect to Perkins & C^o. under the above Information. I hope you had a pleasant journey home from Ross & remain

My Dear Sir

Your's very truly

Jn^o. Buddle

John Gregson Esq^r.

34.

34

Pensher 11th. Augt.1841

My Dear Sir

I rec^d. your's of the 5th. on the 9th.

Ins^t. and am much gratified to learn that the negotiation for the renewal of Rainton Colly. Lease has met your approval & that you have acted so promptly & energetically upon it. I had anticipated your wishes, by writg.

J. Gregson, the same post I wrote you, to apprize him of all I had done, & to put himself in commⁿ. with Groom. By this I expect you will have rec^d. my Letter of the 7th. with Copy of my final Agree^t. with Boyd – which I am glad to say I consider a much better Bargain than w^d. have Resulted from his former offer of the 31st. July. as in the 1st. instance we

[34a]

Fight I really cannot but think this an important event on the Eve of the Lord Seaham's coming of age, and if L^d. L. can continue to pay off the liabilities of the Trust, at the same-time – it would make a Capital Finale, to that affair, which has been, and is likely to be anything but an Agreeable, or harmonious one to you and myself. I am, however, very glad to find that you expect matters to go on rather more smoothly with L^d. L. in future – but I confess from former experience, that I very much doubt this, and it remains to be seen how this affair of Renewal will be heated by him

I have not had, nor shall have any direct communication with him on the subject, as I consider his late unworthy treatment & behaviour towards me, has exoneratd.

Save £1111..2..2 in the Amo^t. of the Fine – next we get the liberty of making-up Shorts, every 3 years & lastly we are to have a separate Agree^t. for the Inferior Seams at 20/- P. ten for a corresponding Term with the New Lease – instead of being tenants at will for those Seams & being liable to have the Rent Raised, or even to be ejected at any time – at the pleasure or caprice of the Chapter. – So much for shewing

[Bud-60-5]

me from all Business Communications with him. But if you have not already done so I think the Sooner you communicate what has been done, in this affair to him, the better – as if he should Run resistive there will be more time before the Grand Chapter Sealing-day 28th. Sep. to get the affair settled by one means, or other – to allow the opportunity to Slip past, would be an Act of the most

gross mismanag^t. – building great Walls at the Harbour &c. would be mere Flea-bite to it.

I was at the Harbour yesterday, which is cram-full of Ships & 30 P. m. issue, is going off briskly at N. Hetton as well as our Coals. But I will not expand on Business details at present, as I am occupied in revising our various Establishments, with a view to reduction & retrenchment.

L^d. L. Shirked the Dinner at Darlington yesterday, as was anticipated by many – having allowed his Name to go forth as Chairman, as a decoy for the Gulls without ever intending to go – an apology was received just before Dinner & L^d. Seaham attended – the Party was numerous and our Squad – consisted of Eight got home yesterday

Orders have come to Seaham-hall, to prepare for receiving the family to-morrow – a dinner to be

[34b]

than £1500 besides £200 of former arrears – L^d. L. has p^d. £420 which is said to have been the Estimated Expence. How the Rest is to be paid is the question – the only thing certain about it is, that there will be a rare squabble about the Charges with Maynard.

I sent a duplicate of the Mem. of Agree^t. with Boyd on the 7th. to J. Gregson, with a request that the w^d. put himself in communcatⁿ. with Groom & push on the affair of the Renewal, in anticipation of receiving your Instructions to that effect.

I am glad that you feel your health improving and hope you will soon be quite well again

I remain My Dear Sir

Your's faithfully

Jn^o. Buddle

Ed. M^cDonnell Esq^r.

[34c]

given there to a large Party. Orders have come here thro' Lee, to send Forage for the Horses to Seaham for a 9 days Campaign – the Forge to be Charged – a Bill of the Amo^t. to be sent to L^d. L. who will Sign it.

There is a hubbub about the late Durham Election Bills. Maynard has bro^t. in Accot^s. to the Amo^t. of more
[Bud-60-5]

35 [35-1]

Walls-end Colly. 22^d. Aug^t. 1841

My Dear Sir

I am getting a little fidgetty about our Edinburgh on the 16th. of Sep. from whence I have to proceed to Glasgow & Ayr, which will occupy me 'till the 26th. And as I have to attend to some af-fairs in this quarter which will occupy me from the 10th. 'till the 15th. of Sep: I shall be glad if you can contrive our Meetg. at Dowlais, so, as to make me returnable here on the 9th. or 10th. of Sep: or defer it 'till the beginng. of October.

I estimate the gross quantity of Coal in the Hutton Seam – Medomsley Colliery at 100,000 Ch. or 5 year's Working at 20,000 Ch. P.
[Bud-60-5]

[35-1a]

Ann: of unscreened Coals

I am sure you will be sorry to hear of the death of young Ed. Smith, who was Killed in the South Pit, last Thursday Mornng. by falling down the Shaft, from the Five-quarter to the Hutton Seam. He was a Fine young Man, and likely to become a very useful Servant to the Co.

I am My Dear Sir

Your's very truly

Jn^o. Buddle

Rob^t. Stephenson Esq^f.

35. [35-2]

Walls-end Colly. 27th. Aug^t. 1841

[35-2a]

Sum than we would have given for the renewal of

My Dear Sir

I received your Letter of the 25th. on returng. here from Pensher last night. I am as well as yourself uninformed of the particulars of the Treaty of Belfast – nor do I know that the £3000 P. Ann. was conceded. But I infer from Subsequent circumstances that it was.

My last communication from M^r. M^cD_n_Ill state his his being in communication with L^d. L. on the subject of the renewal, & that he expects he will consent to it. I have written M^r. M^cD_I as strongly as I can to push this affair to a conclusion, without delay. I presume the Chapter have raised the Farm Fines, in consequence of the Gap which has taken place, by the neglect to renew in due time But still the Fines they demand, if added to the £10,000 for the Colly. Lease will Amount to less

[Bud-60-5]

the Colly. Lease.

The Boring at Seaham has proved infinitely more favourable than was hoped for. The Limestone is 12 or 15 fath^s. thinner than was expected, and there is no quick Sand – this will reduce the Cost of the Winng. Probably to the extent of £20,000. in consequence the Hetton Co. & Morton, for Lady Durham, are [again] to commence the Winning – but what are we to do?

Braddyll's people too have got thro' their difficulties at the Dalden Pits & will probably be in full Coal-work there in 2 years. The Coals must be Shipped at Seaham Harbour. Seaham Colliery might also be won in 2 years. Those two concerns would give ample employment to the Harbour, for an indefinite period of time, and render it quite independent of Way-leaves &c. from the more distant Collieries. And thereby greatly enhance the value of the Harbour & indeed of the whole of the Seaham

[35-2b]

Estate. But this I apprehend is building Castles in the Air, as Lord L. like an Incubus on the property will Prevent as far as he can every measure for its' Real benefit from being carried into effect. This question of the Winning will however have to be dealt with and disposed of in some way, shortly – I wrote M^r. M^c

36

Newcastle 2^d. Sep. 1841

My Dear Sir

This day's post has bro^t. me your Letter of the 29th. Ult^o. informing me of the arrangm^t. you have made with L^d. & Lady L. respecting the appropriation of the surplus of the Old Durham Railway Purchase

Donnell upon it yesterday & I have little doubt but he will bring it under your Consⁿ.

Wideopen Colly. Lease

Nich. Wood is now very pressing for your decision – he does not think it worth more than £1500 I told him your notion was £2500 & I did not think you would take less than £2000 at the least. He Requested me to write you to say what you really will take, as the time is slipping over This Conversatⁿ. took place at N. Hetton yesterday.

I am my D^r. Sir

Your's faithfully

Jn^o. Gregson Esq^r. Jn^o. Buddle

[Bud-60-5]

Money to the reconstruction of Wyn^d. Mansion. This transaction shews very clearly that L^d. L. is not sincere in the incessant Cry which he makes about getting out of the Trust. As if he really was sincere in the desire, he would have allowed you to appropriate this Sum to the liquidation of your Bank Bal^{ce}. but at any rate he should for so great a boon, have consented at once to the Rainton Renewal. It is utterly incomprehensible to me how L^d. & Lady L. can persist in thus expanding all available means, in the face of declining Profits from Collieries, and the almost certain prospect of the breaking up of the Regulation at the end of the year, when it is impossible to foresee what the consequences may be – further than that a

decline of Prices & defalcation of Profit will be inevitable.

With respect to the deferring the removal of the Rainton Lease, I should think it highly in[judicious] – As independently of the Risk of the Church Comm^{rs}. putting a Stop to all renewals before another year lases there will be the Risk of the Chapter changing their minds upon it – And as they could not but feel that they had been trifled with on the present occasion they would not fail to make us pay for it.

[36a]

John Beckett & his Co. Trustee, have the power, to renew independently of L^d. L. they ought to do so – otherwise I should say that they were guilty of a most Serious dereliction of their duty. For this is really far too important and vital an Affair – in the present position of the Family-affairs to be trifled with.

I cannot off hand give a Valuation of the Land at Old Durham actually occupied by the R.W. Co. but will do so to-morrow, or next day. I however hope to see you over very soon, as all those matters

[36b]

It is impossible for me to calculate how much higher Fine they w^d. demand next year – as from the mercantile Gap which has taken place in the term – the Fine would be altogether a Fancy-Price and the Chapter would have a Right to make any terms & Screw out of us as much as ever again be able to make so good & advantageous a bargain, as we have done on the Present occasion, and if Lord L. blindly persists in refusing his assent to it. If Sir

[Bud-60-5]

render personal discussion the more necessary – and you may also probably See L^d. L. at Seaham, which might tend to some good.

I write in haste to save
Post & remain My Dear Sir

Your's very truly

Jn^o. Buddle

Ed^d. M^cDonnell Esq^r.

37

Walls-end 5th. Sep. 1841

My Dear Sir

I have this post received y^r.
Bulletin of the 2^d. And lose not a moment in congratulating you, on the favourable result of your difficult diplomacy relative to the Rain-ton Renewal.

The same post has bro^t. me a Note from J. Gregson, to say that he had received a Communication from L^d. L. requesting him to proceed with the Renewal – that he had seen Groom & that all the requisite Arrangements were made for that purpose And that he wants a Report from me of the expediency of the measure for the justification of the Trustees – which he shall

[37a]

and myself & the fault shall not be mine if you don't succeed. It is not in my nature to harbour vindictive feelings & no one Can be more ready to forget & forgive than I am, and I can say truly that I harbour no ill-will, or unkind feelings to any human being.

I am going to the Monthly meeting of the Comm^{ee}. at Chester to-morrow & thence to Pensher for the remainder of the Week – during which I am not without hopes that I may have the pleasure of seeing you there – in which case this will cross you on the road

Hoping to see you quite recovered from your troublsome complaint I remain My Dear Sir

Your's very Sincerely

Jn^o. Buddle

Edw^d. M^cDonnell Esq^r.

have forthwith.

I beg to tender you my cordial
thanks for the offer of your Kind mediation to place
matters on a more comfortable footing between L^d. L.

[Bud-60-5]

38.

Pensher 8th. Sep. 1841

My Dear Sir

I have rec^d. your's of the 5th. Ins^t.
on returng. from the Harbour this Afternoon, and am
exceedingly concerned to learn that your troublesome
complaint is of so obstinate a character. And think
you are perfectly Right in adopting the vigorous mea-
sures for it's removal which your medical Men advise

I am in corrispond^{ce}. with J. Gregson, on the affair of
the renewal & lent him, yesterday My Report on the ex-
pediency of that measure, for the satisfaction of [D^r.] Jn^o.
Beckett & L^d. Dungannon – I also sent him copies of the
Seaham & Seaton Papers agreeably to your wishes, so
that all those matters are now fully before him.

I received a Letter from him yesterday, Requesting me
to look over the Df^t. of the Rainton Colly. new Lease
& then to send it to him. I sent to Chaytor for
it this Mornng. but he had sent it to Boyd to look
over & then to send it to me. I shall therefore
expect to have it in a day, or two & will lose no

[38a]

time in perusing & making observations upon it, and
in forwarding it to him – as there is now no time to
be lost, in getting it all ready & engrossed for the
Sealing day, on the 28th.

The perusal of the Df^t. (especially if Boyd should be
from home & any alterations should have to be dis-
cussed), may possibly detain me a few days, and as
I must start for Edinbro' this day-week, on my way to
Ayr, I could not have time to come to you before I
go there – but I can proceed from thence to Glenarm
for a conference with you, & get back again by the
28th. if necessary. altho' I do not think it will. As
after Boyd & I have agreed upon the Df^t. being right
with respect to the terms & conditions – nothing will
remain to be done, but the Lawyer's-work, which J.
Gregson & Chaytor will manage.

The Price of best Coals is still declining in London
and both Factors & Ship-owners a roaring-our amain
for Small issues. At the monthly meetg. however on the

[38b]

6th. The Comm^{ee}. gave out 30 P. ꝰ. for the first half of the Mo. this we did in Self-defence, as Thornly -Car-radock & others, are Running Riot, on one perilous pre-tence, or another & cannot be kept within bounds by the utmost efforts of the Comm^{ee}. I consider the Regutⁿ. in a State of dissolution, and if it survives the year is all I expect.

I am glad to say that all matters at the Collieries are in a Comfortable State, and an abundance of Ships in the Harbour.

I hope a good appointment awaits L^d. L. a Queen's Messenger came for him a few day's ago to Wyn^d. but he had left for Wales, where the Messenger followed him. I hope he will go to Paris, as I think that appointment would be most Congial to his feelings: I hear that young Laddies and Lords Adolphus are at Seaham. I am my Dear Sir

Very Sincerely your's

Edw^d. M^cDonnell Esq^r. Jn^o. Buddle

39.Newcastle 11th. Sep. 1841

My Dear Sir

I am grieved to have so bad an account of your complaint, but hope the medical advice which you are about to take will lead to an effectual removal of it, And you are right in deciding at once to take the best advice that is to be had.

It occurs to me that as you will probably take London in your way to France, it would answer better for me to meet you there, than at Glenarm, as we could in that case have a full discussion, with J. Gregson, on all points.

I have to be in Glasgow on the Evening of the 16th. on my way to the Ayr Assizes, and should be glad to receive a Line from you at the Post Office Ayr – to say if this Plan of meeting in London meets your approbation, as in that Case, I should not cross the Channel

[39a]

I have perused the Df^t. of the Rainton new Lease with Boyd, & find all right, with respect to our Bargain. I have sent it off to J. Gregson to

[39b]

and will be scrutinised by Morton & myself before it is agreed to, or submitted for the final approbation to L^d. Grey & yourself. The extent of the Coal

examine it legally & then to return it to Chaytor and I have no doubt of it's being ready for Sealing, on the 28th.

On the Monday I have an appointment with Morton, Donkin & Philipson, on the Seaham affair, and on Tuesday I have appointed to be with Chaytor at Durham to try to beat him down in the Acco^t. of the Farn-Fines.

I have rec^d. a Letter from J. Gregson containing some shrewd observations on the Hetton Project for working the W. Part of the Seaton Coal. He does not seem to be quite aware that this is merely a proposition, or out-line – Submitted to the Consⁿ. & revision of all parties

[Bud-60-5]

and Term of years, are for negotiation.

The Scheme was submitted to the Ann^l. Meetg. of the Hetton Co. last Thursday – but they came to no decision & adjourned for a Month to consider it.

Lord Howick is contesting
Sunderland with M^r. Atwood
& the Report, here, this Afternoon
is, that he will succeed.

I shall be anxious to find
a Letter from you at the Post Office Ayr
and with the most sincere wish for the Speedy
removal of your troublesome complaint.

I remain My Dear Sir

Your's very Sincerely

Ed^d.. M^cDonnell Esq^f. Jn^o. Buddle