

[This volume in the North of England Institute of Mining and Mechanical Engineers' collection appears to be an office copy of reports, mostly quarterly, sent to the Court of the London Lead Company by its agents in the North Pennines, Thomas Dodd (to 1814-6) and then Robert Stagg.]

**19 Apr 1806 Thomas Dodd**

[Note: The Bishop of St.Davids in 1806 was Thomas Burgess (1756-1837), who was also a prebendary of Durham Cathedral at the same time, being a close acquaintance of Bishop Shute Barrington of Durham]

Nenthead 19th April 1806

Hon[ourable] Masters

Having surve[ye]d the Lead Mines under my care, on the 25,26 & 27th, I Let the sundry Bargains, & have annexed a List of the same, which I hope will prove successful – Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss Mines in point of success are much the same as last quarter, but a great number of hands are at each, & they will ultimately do well - T.Humble & co as [per] List, are Driv[ing] one of the Levels at Rampgill Mine, this Mine consisting of various branches, Veins, Strings & flats render it necessary to drive several Levels to form proper Communications between the different parts – J[ohn] Dickinson & co are Driving another Horse Level & J[ames] Stobbart & co a third one, all in the great Limestone & contiguous to the several Veins-

J[ame]s Blalock & co are Sinking a Sump from an upper Level into one of these deep ones, to produce a circulation of fresh Air thro[ugh] the Mine. – At Scaleburnmoss Mine Caleb Dryden & co are driving a Level in the great Limestone, but will finish it this quarter & raise Ore. Tho[ma]s Cain & co are Driv[ing] a Level upon the Limestone, & will shortly sink into the Vein – Ern[es]t Natrass & co are Driving the Horse Level.

Middlecleugh Mine continues poor, & from such a number of Veins comprehended under the name Middlecleugh, renders a great deal of dead Work necessary to preserve the Veins in a proper Working State, having a manifest dependency upon one another - <Matt[hew]> Cousin & co & J[oh]n Hutchinson & part[ners] are each driving Horse Levels in the great Limestone to prepare Veins for rais[ing] Ore. – R.Elliot & co are Driving a Level upon the little Limestone & will shortly Sink into the Vein in search of Ore. – Matt[hew] Hall & co are Sinking a Sump to cause a Circulation of fresh Air in the sundry Workings, & Jos[eph] Dickinson & co are Cutting across to the Vein in the great Limestone – SmallCleugh Mine employs more hands than for some time past, a part of the Soles being relieved by the Engine & will of course raise Ore advantageously – J[oh]n & W[illia]m Richardson & co are both Cutting across to the Flats & when accomplished will raise a good deal of Ore; these Flats are at the distance of 40 fath[om]s from the Vein, which 40 fath[om]s are to be Cut in solid Limestone –

Wm Wharton & co are driv[ing] the deep Level from the bottom of the Engine, it is very difficult to Work & requires a great price. – Garrigill Mines are all poor, tho[ugh] some parts of them are in a hopeful way of reviving, being under eligible trials – At Browngill Sun Vein J[ohn] Harrison & co are driving the deep Horse Level, & J[oseph] Dickinson & co are driv[ing] an upper Horse Level which will prove the means of rais[ing] Ore in the upper Sills or Strata.-

At Browngill Mine J. Davidson & co are Sinking a Sump which will be 22 fath[om]s deep into the Horse Level, & as it will relieve the Coal Sills, great Limestone & Quarry Hazel of Water, will of course open a fresh field & prove the means of raising a considerable quant[ity] of Ore. W[illiam] Thomason & co are driving the deep Horse Level –

At Tynebottom Paul Readshaw & co are driv[ing] a Level in the upper Sills to open the Vein for rais[ing] Ore, & Jo[seph] Stanhope & co are Sinking a Shaft from the Surface to accommodate the deep Level with fresh Air & to try the Vein in the great Limestone. Hangingshaw Cross Vein & CapleCleugh Mines are raising Ore to advantage. – J[ohn] Dickinson & co are driving the Horse Level at the latter.

Broomsberry is Working to advantage & Rudgill Mine is yet under a small & frugal Trial.

Boltshaw & Jeffrys Mines are still extremely poor, & if some parts under Tryal at Boltshaw don't turn out well, it is probable that mine may be abandoned at the expiration of Mr Shotton's Leases.

W. Hudson & co are Driv[ing] in the Vein in expectation of some Strings intersecting the same, which may discover some Ore – Jos[eph] Vipond & co are Driv[ing] an upper Level & will shortly Cut a fresh Vein – A <S> Jeffrys Jos[eph] Gibson & co are driving a Level & will be done by the end of this Quarter.

Stanhope Mine is much the same as last Quarter J. Vickers & co are driv[ing] a Level to Cut the Vein in a fresh part where we expect to meet with some Ore- J. Bainbridge & co are driving the deep Level which is excessive hard & goes slowly.

Weregill as I inform'd the Court in my last report, is getting poorer, tho[ugh] still rais[ing] Ore to great advantage – H[enry] Robson & co are Sinking a Sump between the upper & the deep Level, for the convenience of fresh Air – Miles Walton & co are Cutting across to the north to a String which runs parallel to the Vein & which I suppose will be productive. J[ohn] Nixon & co are driving the Level as an accommodation to the whole Mine, & G. Allison & co are driv[ing] the deep Level for the discovery of fresh Veins & will shortly cut one –

Mannergill & Lodgesyke are both Working to advantage; I have ordered fresh Leases of them to be prepared – J[ohn] Watson & co at Flakebrig are driving a Level which goes in a north direction in about 18 months will Cut Flakebrig old Vein, which will raise some Ore, & then be continued in the same direction for fresh objects such as Wiregill Vein etc

Middlehope Mine is doing well & raises Ore to considerable advantage – R[ichard] Walton & co are driving the Horse Level which is the general convenience to the whole Mine & by which all the Ore & Rubbish are convey'd. H[enry] Coulthard & co are

Sink[ing] a Sump from an upper Level to the deep one for Air, & to try the Vein in the Coal Sills- J. Kidd & co are driving a Level in the Quarry Hazel which is intended to drain the upper part of the great Limestone now troubled with Water.

I have Let these Bargains as low as the appearance & nature of things would admit, but the Idea of great Wages runs so very high in this & every Mining Country that it renders the business troublesome.

After informing myself as much as possible respecting Lord Strathmore's Mineral Grounds, I conclude that the Court have nothing to do with them. Mr Bainbridges report on Mr Shotton's business will be sent up to the Court this day Week.

I cannot buy the Cowhill Ore under £7.12 the expenses as follows:

3 B[ing] 7 C[wt] makes the fother of Lead @ £3.12	£29.09.00
Carr[iag]e of 3.7 to the Mill	1.02
Expense of Smelt[ing] the same at N[ent]head Mill	14.09
Carr[iag]e of afo[resaid] of Lead to Stella	1.18.11
[annotated in a different hand: 'Shd be £32.3'	£31.13.10

If the Court have resolved on the Bishop of St David's Business, should be glad to have it in my power to give him an Answer – When with his Lordship I told him that I expected the Court would give him an Answer in a Month's time; so that he might be at liberty if the Court did not approve of the Mineral Ground.

I am etc

Tho[ma]s Dodd

**19 Jul 1806 Thomas Dodd**

Nenthead 19th July 1806

Hon[oure]d Masters

After having taken a general Survey of the Gov[ernor] & Co's of Lead Mines under my direction, I Let the sundry Bargains, on the 26th, 27th, & 28th past, of which I have annexed a List.

Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss Mines, which in some respects are blended together (the Work of both com[ing] out by the same Level, are doing well. W[illia]m Falkin & co in Rampgill are Driv[ing] the Horse Level Southw[ar]d for the discovery of fresh Veins, four new Strings have already been Cut by pursuing this level, several of which are now rais[ing] Ore, many more are yet to Cut, so that upon the whole it is a hopeful tryal, & as these Veins have not been explored to the depth of the great Limestone before, they will in all probability be of long duration. – G. Robinson & co are driv[ing] the deep Level as a common Water Course & Way in Gate to the whole Mine – Jon[athan] Shield & co are Driv[ing] a Level to prepare the Vein for rais[ing] Ore in the upper Sills at Scaleburn J[ohn] Bell & co are Driv[ing] the Horse Level, out of which we

occasionally Sink in to the Vein in search of Ore – T. Cain & co are Sinking into the great Limestone & will soon raise Ore in the Vein.

Middlecleugh Mine is still very poor & loaded with unavoidable dead Work. – R. Robson & co are Driv[ing] one of the Horse levels – J. Hutchinson & co & R. Briggs & co are also Driv[ing] Horse Levels to prepare the several Veins for Trial – Jos[eph] Dickinson & co are Sinking a Sump to procure a Circulation of fresh Air & try the vein for Ore- R. Elliot & co & M. Hall & co are Sinking in differ[ent] parts of the Mine to relieve the same with fresh Air, & raise Ore –

SmallCleugh is much the same as when last reported & will Work to advantage – W[illiam] Richardson & co are Driv[ing] the Horse level which is in a solid Limestone Rock & requires a great price – W. Wharton & co are Driv[ing] the deep Level from the bottom of the Engine, which is a common drain to all the different parts of the Mine. J. Richardson & co are Cutting across to the Flats (which raise Ore well) to relieve the same with fresh Air & will soon finish.

Garrigill Mines are still in a state of poverty & will require some time to bring many of the parts into a better situation – J. Harrison & co are Driv[ing] the Horse Level in the Sun Vein – Ja]me]s Dickinson & co are Driv[ing] an upper Level to try for Ore in the upper Sills. J. Davidson & co are Sinking a Sump at Browngill Mine which will be attended with great difficulties, but in the end will prove a relief to the Mine & be the means of rais[ing] a great deal of Ore.

That part of Garrigill Mines called Tynebottom continues poor, & all care of frugality is attended to in the several Trials – Jos[eph] Wanless & co are rising to try the Vein. W[illiam] Thompson & co are Sinking a Sump for fresh Air, & to search for Ore in the Vein.

Caplecleugh & Hangingshaw Cross Vein are no way materially altered since last report. J. Dickinson & co are Driving the Horse Level at CapelCleugh & T. Armstrong & co are Sinking a Sump at Hangingshaw Cross Vein. – Hudgill Mine is still raising a little Ore from the old pickings – R. Bainbridge & co are Driving in the Vein in expectation of a String intersecting the same, which may bring some Ore with it –

At Broomsberry & Gudamgillmoss, Chr[istopher] Armstrong & co are Driving an upper Level, which will open the Vein in the upper Sills & raise Ore when finished –

Boltshaw & Jeffrys Mines are extremely poor – at the former J. Armstrong & co are Driving in the Vein in search of better success & more Ore, & at Jeffrys we are doing the best we can till that business is settled –

Stanhope Mine is very poor – G. Vickers & co are unfinished (please see last report). J. Bainbridge & co are Driving in the deep Level, which makes slow progress –

J Johnson & co are Driving the new Level at Coldberry which will shortly Cut the Vein.

Middlehope Mine employs fewer hands & is poorer than last quarter, yet is Working to considerable advantage – Cha[rle]s Maddison & co are Driving the Horse Level as a drain to the whole Mine & a general Way Gate for all the Ore & Rubbish which the Mine produces – J. Kidd & co are Driving a Level under the Limestone, which will try the Vein in the deeper Sills, such as the Tuft & Quarry Hazel – H[enry]

Coulthard & co are Driving a Level which prepares the Vein for raising Ore in the upper Strata.

Wiregill is much poorer than last quarter, that part of the Vein which was rich being nearly excavated, the Strata above & below have little Ore in them, yet the scattered parts may collect in pursuing the Vein Eastw[ar]d. & raise a great deal more Ore – The Mine is now rais[ing] Ore to considerable advantage – H[enr]y Robinson & co are Driv[ing] a Level in a part of the Vein under the Soles, to drain that part of Water & to raise Ore; it will soon be finished. J. Nixon & co are Driving the level – G. Allison & co are Driving the Deep Level for the discovery of fresh Veins – J. Godling & co are rising into the upper Sills to try the Vein – Miles Walton & co are cutting across to a fresh String –

Mannergill is much the same as last report - J. Walton & co are Driving a Level out of which the Vein is occasionally tried – J. Watson & co are driving the new Level at Flakebrigg – The Mines in general are poor a few Workings excepted – I have let everything as low as I possibly could, & upon the whole they will make considerable profit.

I have received the Courts of the 10th Inst. & thank them for their kindness in inquiring after my health. I was able to go to Darwent, Stanhope, Middlehope & Teesdale as usual & I find I am getting better every day – On the 29th of this month I intend to set out for South Wales, & on Saturday Aug[ust] 2nd I hope to be upon the Mineral Ground, but cannot yet say where my head quarters will be – If the Courts have any more Instructions to give me, I shall either get their Letter before I leave home, or at Penrith on my Road to Wales.

The Court requested me to enquire when Mr Skottowe was last at Blanchland, that was in Aug[us]t 1802.

I am etc

Tho[mas] Dodd

**25 Oct 1806 Thomas Dodd**

Nenthead 25. Oct[ober] 1806

Hon[oure]d Masters

Having examined the Company's mines under my care, on the 1st, 2nd & 3rd past I Let the sundry Bargains, of which is annexed a List - Many parts of the Mines are poor, & but for the Lead's bearing a high price, they could not be Wrought, yet at the same time several of the other parts are doing well –

I have Let every Bargain as low as the nature & Circumstances thereof would admit, & hope upon the whole they will be fruitful.-

Rampgill, Scaleburnmoss, & Scaleburn Mines are all raising Ore advantageously; at Rampgill T. Humble & co are Driving in the Vein, in the great Limestone, which is hard & poor, but we expect shortly to meet with better success – G. Robinson & co are

driv[ing] one of the Horse Levels, - G. Dixon & co another, & T. Nattress a third one, which are all necessary to promote the general success of the Mine – at Scaleburn Mine J. Robson & co are Sinking a Sump in the great Limestone, to form a Communication with the Vein & produce fresh Air – T. Cain & co are driving the Horse Level upon the great Limestone, & L. Hall & co are driv[ing] the Level under the great Limestone at Scaleburnmoss as a general drain to the Mine. –

Hudgill Mine is still under Trial, but at an easy expence & raises part Ore in the mean time; - R. Bainbridge & co are driving in the vein, & as we look for a String's intersecting the same, it will in all probability make an alteration for the better, if not, it will be discontinued.

At Broomsberry T. Walton & co are driving a Horse Level for the upper Strata, which will be probably 18 months in finish, but after that, will raise Ore, which will more than refund the expence –

Middlecleugh Mine continues poor & I have reduced the number of hands on Dead Work. – Ridley Robson & co are Sinking a Sump & will shortly raise Ore – R. Briggs & co are driving one of the Horse Levels, which moves slowly, being prodigious hard – Jos[eph] Dickinson & co are driv[ing] a Level upon the little Limestone & will shortly try the Vein. R. Elliot & co are Sinking a Sump to accommodate the Vein with fresh Air, & prove the same in the little Limestone. –

Hangingshaw & Caplecleugh are vastly poor; at the former T. Armstrong & co are Sink[ing] in the Vein to furnish the Mine with Air, they will soon finish & raise Ore, - J. Dickinson & co are driv[ing] the Horse Level in the latter. – Smallcleugh Mine is doing better than for sometime past & especially in the flats, which are rais[ing] very good Ore. – W[illia]m Richardson & co are driv[ing] the Horse level – W[illia]m Cousin & co are Cutting across to the Vein – W[illia]m Wharton & co are driv[ing] the Level from the bottom of the Engine, which is the common drain for the Water – Mat[the]w Robson & co are driv[ing] a Level upon the great Limestone, from which the Vein will be occasionally tried. – Ra[lph] Walton & co are driv[ing] the Level at Ireshopeburn, this Mine will not admit of many hands being employed, but will raise small parcels of Ore to advantage while the Lead Markets are favourable.-

Garrigill Mines are much the same as last report – Ja[mes] Dickinson & co at Browngill Sun Vein are Sinking a Sump & will shortly try the Vein. – J. Davidson & co are Sinking a Sump (see last report – Jos[eph] Wanless & co are Driv[ing] the Horse Level at Tynebottom, & Paul Readshaw & co are Sink[ing] a Sump to provide fresh Air & to try the Vein for Ore.-

Boltshaw Mine is very poor & raises little Ore, & I am persuaded it will shortly become necessary to make Arrangements for leaving Derwent altogether, as there are no encouraging prospects in that Country. –

Stanhope Mine raises more Ore than it did last year, & I hope it will do better in future – J[aco]b Vickers & co are driving a Level to the flats in the great Limestone (the Vein being subject to break into flats) where we expect to meet with Ore – J[oh]n Bainbridge & co are driv[ing] the Horse Level. Middlehope Mine continues to raise Ore pretty well, & will probably Work to advantage for Years to come. – Cha[rle]s

Maddison & co are driv[ing] the Horse Level. Jos[eph] Dalkin & co are driv[ing] a level under the Limestone, which will drain the Vein of Water & prove beneficial in other respects.-

Lodgesyke (Teesdale) at length appears hopeful – We drove a Level up to the Vein in the side of a high Mountain, & Sunk a Shaft upon the same for fresh Air & for a more effectual trial of the Vein, we hit upon the right spot & have met with a strong body of fine Ore, of which we have already rais'd 150 Bings, & I hope will do well – J. Binks & co are Driv[ing] the new Level – Jos[eph] Richardson & co are beginning a fresh level 20 fath[om]s deeper in the Mountain to communicate with the other Level & to open the Vein more efficiently, - two Bargains are Working @ 25/ p[er] Bing.

Wiregill is become poorer – The alone Sill or part of the Strata in which the Ore was found, is almost excavated of course the Mine in that part which was successful is reduced to Pickings – But we trust Lodgesyke will prove a support when the other declines – J. Nixon & co are driving the deep Level – G. Allison & co are driving the deep Horse Level begun last year for the purpose of Cutting several Veins in fresh ground & which will Cut one during the present quarter.-

Manorgill is poor, but raises Ore so as to prevent loss. – J. Bainbridge & co are Cutting across to the Vein, & will shortly raise some Ore.-

Flakebrig new Level is going on by J. Watson & co in the Liberty or Lease lately obtained of W[illia]m Hutchinson Esq[ui]re –

I have received the Court's of 16th. & observe the Contents – I have not as yet received any notice from Mr Hall respecting the Darwent Concerns.-

I wrote the Bishop of St Davids, agreeable to the Courts directions, respecting my various objections to his Mineral Ground, & named one half of the expense of the View, but have not heard anything from him –

I am etc

Tho[ma]s Dodd

**24 Jan 1807 Thomas Dodd**

Nenthead 24 Jan 1807

Hon[ou]red Masters

Having made a general survey of the Mines under my direction, I let on the 5 & 6th Inst. The sundry Bargains, of which a List is annexed. – From the general Poverty of the Mines & the reduction of prices throughout the whole Concern, the Bargains have been more difficult to let than I ever before experienced; - however after all, the Court may still conclude the Bargains are Let high, but it is not in my power to let them lower. –

Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss Mines in different parts do pretty well, & upon the whole will Work to advantage – In Rampgill G. Robinson &c are driving the Horse Level – J[ohn] Eddy & co are Driving across to a String, about 8 fathoms distant from the Vein, & when Cut, will I believe raise Ore – Jos[eph] Elliot &c are driving a Level

under the great Limestone as a general drain to the Vein, & prepares the Limestone for raising Ore – In Scaleburnmoss, Mat[the]w Hall &c are driving the Horse Level Westward, parallel with the North Vein recently discovered . – T. Hewetson &c are driving the Horse Level Eastward, for opening & preparing the said Vein for raising Ore – Tho[ma]s Cain &c are Sinking into the Vein & will soon raise Ore. –

MiddleCleugh Mine is extremely poor & at present will scarcely raise Ore to preserve herself from loss, yet it is probable will shortly do better Math[ew] Cousin &c are Opening out some old Works & will soon Work by the Bing – Ra[lph] Briggs &c are Driving one of the Horse Levels which is prodigious hard, but must go on as an accommodation to every part of the Mine – Jos[eph] Dickinson &c are Sinking a Sump into the great Limstone to furnish the Mine with fresh Air, & raise Ore in the Vein – R. Elliot are Cutting across tow[ards] a fresh Vein & will try the same by Linking a Sump into the bearing Strata; Matt[hew] Roberts &c are Driving the Horse Level.

SmallCleugh Mine improves, employs more Hands, & will Work to advantage – W[illia]m Richardson &c are Driving the Horse level – W[illia]m Cousin &c are Sinking a Sump to try the Vein in the Limestone, & W[illia]m Wharton &c are Driving the deep Level which conveys all the Water of the Mine to the Engine, & which is a general drain. –

Garrigill Mines are vastly poor – At Browngill Sun Vein Ja[me]s Dickinson &c are Cutting across to the Vein, & will shortly Sink into the same & raise Ore – Jon[atho]n Spark &c are Driving in the Vein, With an expectation of meeting with better success – J[oh]n Archer &c are rising into the Limestone to try a part Of the Vein likely for rais[ing] Ore.

At Browngill G. Dodd &c are Driving a Level Under the great Limestone, & will prove the Vein in the deep Strata or four fathom Limestone – Rob[er]t Dickinson &c are Sinking a Sump into the deep Level to try the Vein in the great Limestone, the Strata is very hard & the trial slow & expensive, but we entertain sanguine hopes of meeting with a good deal of Ore when the job is Completed, the Limestone being altogether unexplored in that part of the Vein. –

At Tynebottom (which is very poor) Paul Redshaw &c are Driving across to a fresh Vein & will soon try the same, & Ant[hony] Brown &c are Driving the Horse level to prepare the Vein for fresh Tryals. –

Broomsberry Mine is poor, but raises a little Ore – T. Walton &c are driving a Level in the upper Strata, which has a long way to go, but will go very fast, & when up at the intended object, will raise Ore to refund all the expense. – Wiregill is Comparatively poor to what she once was, & the reasons assign'd in my last report stand good, tho' the Mine is still Working to advantage. – J[oh]n Nixon &c are Driv[ing] the Horse Level - G. Allison &c have not yet Cut the Vein refer'd to in my last report, but are near it. –

Lodgesyke offers to do well – The two Bargains raise Ore @ 25s/ P[er] Bing. – H[enr]y Robson & Jos[eph] Richards &c are both driving Levels in the side of a steep Mountain, the one 20 fathoms above the other, for the express purpose of relieving the Vein of Water, preparing the same for raising Ore, & bringing it & the Rubbish out at



an easy expence. – John Bainbridge &c are Driving the Horse level at Manorgill, & J[ohn] Watson &c that at Flakebrig, recently Leased of W[illia]m Hutchinson Esq[ui]re]

There is no material alteration with Middle-hope Mine since my last report. – Cha[rle]s Maddison &c are driving the Horse Level – Geo[rge] Temperly &c an upper Level, & Ra[lph] Elliot &c a deep Level under the great Limestone to drain the Vein – These three levels are all absolutely necessary for the accommodation & carrying on the said Mine. –

John Kidd &c are Driving the Horse Level at Ireshopeburn, where Ore will be rais'd to advantage –

Stanhope Mine raises more Ore then usual, Which will help to defray the expence of the deep Level – J[ohn] Bainbridge &c are Driving the Level which is very hard & makes but a slow progress. – J. Vickers &c are Driving the upper Level in the Limestone, where we now raise some Ore.

Boltshaw is still very poor – Jos[eph] Vipond &c are driving the Level – Mr Hall & I have had an interview & have fix'd upon the 3rd March for settling the Disputes in Derwent.

The Arbitrators' Bonds will have to be signed in London by the Gov[r] & Co & Skottowe's Party, but Mr Bainbridge or myself will write the Court in time on this subject, as at present we are not altogether agreed respecting the Arbitrators & Umpire – We expect the Arbitrators will be Mr John Dickinson Moor Master for this Manor, for the Gov & co, & Tommy Hopper for Skottowe – Mr Hall offer'd four Gentlemen to me, any one of which I might name for Mr Skottowe's Arbitrator, & having fixed upon Messrs Dickinson & Hopper, Mr Hall seems rather like to deviate, however I hope I shall be able to Confine him to his own Proposal. –

In my Letter to the Court of the 10th Dec[ember], I mentioned the alteration I intended to make in the price of the Barg[ai]ns, at Xmas, & wish'd to have my intention sanctioned by the Court, but having received no Answer, I let every thing as low as I could, under the present Circumstances & Situation of the Mines. –

I am &c

Tho[mas]s Dodd

**18 Apr 1807 Thomas Dodd**

Nenthead 18 Ap[ri]l 1807

Hon[oure]d Masters

Having examined the Company's Mines under my Care, I Let on the 25th, 26, & 27th past the sundry Bargains, a List of which is annexed. I have made with the utmost difficulty a reduction in the prices, & hope the Court will be satisfied therewith; it has brought on a universal Grumbling thro' the whole ranks, & if times sh[oul]d turn out so unfavourable as to require a further reduction, many of the places in different parts of the Works may stand unwrought –

Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss Mines are both doing well, & probably will do so for a number of Years, which may be attributed solely to the Deep Horse Levels being Carried up to those Veins on a beneficial plan, without which those Mines must soon have been finished.

T. Humble &c agreeable to the List are Driv[ing] one of the Horse Levels – Josh[ua] Dryden &c another of the Horse Levels – J[ohn] Eddy &c are Cutting across to a fresh String, & will shortly raise Ore by the Bing – Jon. Shields &c are repairing an old Level as a general accommodation to the Mine & will soon be done – Jos[eph] Henderson &c are Driv[ing] a Level to relieve a part of the Vein of Water, will finish this Quarter, & then raise Ore – At Scaleburnmoss Mark Hall &c are Sinking a Sump in the great Limestone & in the course of 6 Weeks will begin to raise Ore – T. Hewitson &c are Sink[ing] into the Vein in a different part of the Mine, & J. Liverick &c are driving a Level under the great Limestone to drain the Vein –

MiddleCleugh continues poor, but will probably raise Ore in such a way, as to prevent loss – Ridley Robson &c are Driv[ing] a Level to drain the Vein of Water in the great Limestone – J. Hutchinson &c are Driving the Horse Level – R. Elliot &c are Sink[ing] a Sump to try the Vein in the great Limestone, & in the upper Sills also. Jos[eph] Dickinson &c are Sink[ing] in a different part of the Mine, both for producing fresh Air & proving the Vein in the great Limestone.

SmallCleugh Mine is doing better than it has done for some Years past, & is Working to advantage – W[illiam] Cousin &c are Sink[ing] a Sump to the Vein in the great Limestone – W[illiam] Wharton &c are Driv[ing] the level which proves a general drain to the Mine, & brings the Water to the Engine – W[illiam] Richardson &c are Driv[ing] the Horse Level, & G. Waugh &c another one in a different part of the Mine.

Garrigill – Browngill Sun Vein is beginning to revive; The difficult Sump expressed in my last report sinking by R. Dickinson &c is now got down to the Ore, which is very promising. Jos[eph] Lancaster &c are Sinking a Sump into the Vein & will shortly raise Ore – T. Bell &c are Driv[ing] a Level under the great Lime to drain the Vein.

Tynebottom is poor – Ant[hony] Brown &c are Driving the Horse Level & W[illiam] Thomason &c are driving a deep Horse Level as a common drain to the Mine, & to try the Vein in the four fathom Limestone.

Broomsberry & Capelcleugh are both under Trial but raise small parcels of Ore.

Middlehope Mine is still doing well – Cha[rles] Maddison &c are driv[ing] the Horse Level & R. Elliot &c are Driv[ing] a deep Level under the great Limestone as a drain. Ireshopeburn is rais[ing] Ore to some advantage, tho' upon the whole poor. J. Kidd &c are driving the deep level to relieve the Vein of Water –

We are doing every thing in our power to make a regular retreat from Darwent, but Mr Hall seems so fond of the Law, that I am afraid we shall not be able to please him. –

Stanhope Mine raises some small Parcels of Ore, but is very poor, the Level is going on by John Bainbridge & pa[rtners]

Teesdale Mines – Wiregill is much reduced, employs few hands, & the Water being in the Soles or bottoms from the declivity of the Strata to the Eastw[ar]d, obliges us to

continue the deep Level by J. Nixon &c as p[er] List in order to pick up the remaining fragm[en]ts of Ore & pursue the Vein Eastw[ar]d where it is unexplored – G. Allison &c in the new Level have Cut a strong Vein, but without Ore, & as the Lease binds us to Continue this Level, we shall be obliged to go on to Cut more Veins – At Mannergill J[oh]n Bainbridge &c are driv[ing] the Horse level – Ja[me]s Ainsly &c are open[ing] an old Level in the Vein where Ore will be got by the way which will defray the expense.

Lodgesyke is doing pretty well, & raises the principal part of the Ore @ 25/ & 37/ p[er] Bing, yet this Vein is like the greatest part of the Veins in Teesdale, uncertain in its Continuance of success- T. Robson &c are driv[ing] the Horse Level.

At Flakebrig J. Watson &c are Driv[ing] the new Level on Mr Hutchinson's Manor – The Ore Purchasers seem remarkably Shy this year, there has been no Sales as yet in this Country.

I am &c

Tho[ma]s Dodd

**29 Jul 1807 Thomas Dodd**

Nenthead 29th July 1807

Hon[oure]d Masters

After tak[ing] a General Survey as usual of the Company's Mines under my Care, I let on 25th, 26th, & 27th past the Bargains, of which a List is annexed. Agreeable to the Courts orders I have reduced the prices of all Bargains & of course the number of hands is much reduced, as many of the poor pickings cannot be Wrought at the prices now given, & upon the whole the Business has been difficult. – Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss are both doing well – Jos[eph] Blalock &c are Driv[ing] a Level upon the great Limestone & will soon Sink into the Vein – W[illia]m Wharton &c are repair[ing] a Level as a necessary convenience to the Mine. At Scaleburnmoss Jos[eph] Hall &c are Driv[ing] the deep Level, which is the general drain to the Mine – T. Hewitson &c are Cutting across to the Vein in the great Limestone – J. Hunter &c are Sink[ing] a Shaft upon the N. Vein & Successful.

SmallCleugh Mine is Working to advantage – W[illia]m Richardson &c are driv[ing] the Horse Level to prepare the Vein & Flats for rais[ing] Ore – J. Stobbart &c are Driv[ing] the Engine foot Level which drains the whole Mine – W[illia]m Cousin &c are Sink[ing] a Sump in the great Limestone to cause a Circulation of fresh Air thro' the Mine.

MiddleCleugh is poor & the n[umber] of Men reduced R. Briggs &c are driv[ing] one of the Horse Levels, which opens a Communicatioon with the Vein – J[oh]n Patrick &c are Sink[ing] a Sump & will soon try the Vein – Mat[thew] Cousin &c are Cutting across to prove the Vein in the little Limestone. –

HangingshawCross Vein is poor, but will raise Ore so as to be kept from loss – R. Readshaw &c are Driv[ing] a Level to drain the Vein of Water. – T. Walton &c are

Driv[ing] an upper Level at Broomsberry & Gudamgillmoss, which will open the vein afresh in the <bear[ing]> Strata, where we shall meet with Ore & put that part of the Mine in a Work State which has long laid dormant. –

Garrigill Mines are still in a poor State & the number of Men much reduced. – I have put these Mines as well as all others of the Company's Works under the most frugal arrangem[en]ts in my power, being fully persuaded that the appearance of the pres[ent] times requires the utmost Caution & Circumspection in Mining Concerns: – Jos[eph] Lancaster &c are Sinking a Sump, which when finished will greatly relieve Broning S. Vein – At Tynebottom T. Bell &c are Sink[ing] a Sump & will soon finish – W[illia]m Thomason &c are driv[ing] the Horse Level & J[ame]s Teasdale &c are Sink[ing] a Sump into the great Limestone. –

Lodgesyke (Teesdale) This Mine is hopeful & raises ore to advantage – T. Robson &c are driv[ing] the Horse Level & J[oh]n Gelding &c are Sinking a Shaft to prove the Vein on unexplored Ground. –

Wiregill is become very poor & employs few hands – J. Nixon &c are driv[ing] the Horse level, which will drain the Vein Eastw[ar]d where it is unwrought & I hope in future will raise a good deal of Ore – G. Allison &c are Driv[ing] the deep Horse Level.

Mannergill is poor & will scarcely be saved from loss, but the necessary trials shall be carefully Conducted Ja[me]s Ainsly &c are driv[ing] the Horse Level & J[oh]n Bainbridge &c are driv[ing] an upper Level for the relief of, & prov[ing] the Vein in the upper Strata. – J. Watson &c are driv[ing] the new Level at Flakebrigg. – Middlehope Mine still does well, but employs fewer hands on acc[oun]t of the reduct[i]on of prices – R. Elliot &c are driv[ing] the deep Level as a general drain to the Mine. – Cha[rle]s Maddison &c are driving the Horse Level & Tho[ma]s Gleason &c are driv[ing] an upper Level & will shortly Sink a Sump to try the Vein. – J. Kidd &c are driv[ing] the level at Ireshopeburn & John Johnson &c the Horse level at Coldberry. –

I am sorry to say that the Lead & Ore Markets look worse & worse; there has not been a pound of Ore sold in the Moor, & the little petty Comp[anies] are all nearly at a stand, not being able to sell their Ore, nor have they either Money or Credit, of course this Country will shortly be in a poor situation. – Mr Tilson will give the Court the Contents of the Trial with Easterby Hall & Co. This Business has prevented me from send[ing] this Acc[oun]t sooner.

I am &c

Tho[ma]s Dodd

**27 Oct 1807 Thomas Dodd**

Hon. Masters

Nenthead 27th Oct. 1807

After Examining the sundry Lead Mines under my care, I Let on the 29th & 30th past the Bargains of which a list is annexed, & I hope the Court will be satisfied that I have used all possible care & frugality respecting the prices.

Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss Mines are both raising Ore to advantage; At the former Jos. Dryden & co are Driving the Horse Level, which prepares the Veins for rais[ing] Ore - Hugh Pattinson & co are driv[ing] an upper Level from whence Sumps are frequently Sunk into the Horse Level as a necessary Communication for Airing & proving the Vein - Jon. Shield & co are driv[ing] across to a fresh String & will shortly raise Ore in it. Wm. Wharton & co are repair[ing] an old Level which is the general drain to the upper Workings in the Vein & proves the means of rais[ing] Ore from the old pickings. At Scaleburnmoss Thos. Humble & co are Driv[ing] the Horse Level in the Vein recently discovered (in the Lease called Scaleburn) which raises Ore very well - Thos. Hewitson & co are Cutting across to the abovement[ioned] Vein in the great Limestone - Jno. Hunter & co are Sinking a Shaft from the Surface to furnish the Mine with fresh Air.

Middlecleugh Mine is poor but the dead work is much reduced. Jno. Sanderson & co are open[ing] an old Level driven in one of the Veins 40 years ago, but will for a small expense be put into repair & enable us to raise a good deal of Ore. Wm. Foster & co are driv[ing] one of the Horse Levels, & T. Armstrong another, both of which prepares the Veins for Trial.

Small Cleugh is doing well - J. Stobbart & co are Driv[ing] the deep Level which drains all the Water off the Vein & brings it to the Engine - Wm. Richardson & co are Cutting across to the flats which are successful - Wm. Cousin & co are sinking a Sump into the deep Level to produce fresh Air.

Hangingshaw Cross Vein & Caplecleugh are extremely poor, but after the Accomplishment of certain tryals, will I trust be more successful & therefore we look forward to better days. Wm. Walton & co at the former place are rising out of a Deep Level into the old soles or bottoms to drain the Vein & raise Ore. At Caplecleugh R. Dickinson are driving a Level to drain & air the Vein in the great Limestone, which will be a good while in finishing, but is sure to answer our expectation in the end.

Garrigill Mines & Tynebottom are still poor. At Browngill Sun Vein Jos. Lancaster & co are sinking a Sump into the deep Horse Level & when finished will be a great advantage by way of draining the Mine, promoting fresh Air & rais[ing] Ore in the great Limestone - Wm. Tomlinson & co are Driv[ing] an upper Level & will soon sink into the Vein under the four fathom Limestone in expectation of meeting with Ore.

Tynebottom Israel Hall & co are sink[ing] a Shaft & when at a proper Depth, will try the Vein for Ore. J. Teesdale & co are rising to try the Vein in the great Limestone.

At Gudamgill & Broomsberry, T. Walton & co are opening an old Level to the Vein & when finished we will be able to raise Ore to advantage.

There is little alteration with Stanhope Mine since last report. J. Bainbridge & co are Driv[ing] the deep Level which is very hard & moves slowly. Jos. Vipond & co are making various repairs in the old Works, which will raise Ore. Bolts Law Mine in Derwent is poorer every day, but I have reduced the hands to 8 Men; I have already given the Court my Opinion respecting this place & hope they will soon come to a determination upon the Subjects. It goes very ill down with me to throw Money away where there is no prospect, besides Hall's recent behaviour has been so very

unaccountable, an Account of which will be laid before the Court by Mr. Tilson, Mr. Bainbridge having wrote him on that Subject. T. Bell & co are driving in the Vein, which is poor & can never be Wrought but to a manifest disadvantage, & there is no peace to be look'd for with the modern Buonaparte (Hall) but the usurper is not expected to Reign long.

Middlehope Mine continues to do well. Chas. Maddison & co are Driv[ing] the main Horse Level, which accommodates the Mine with Water to Wash the Ore at the Level Mouth, is a Waygate for all the Ore & Rubbish & enables us to Work the whole Mine on the best & easiest principles - Thos. Gleason & co are Driv[ing] an upper Level as a means of Working the upper parts of the Vein. Rd. Elliot & co are Driv[ing] a Level under the Horse Level, in order to try the Vein under the great Limestone in the Quarry Hazel. The Teesdale Mines are poorer than for some time past, but with proper care in the Managem[en]t they will raise Ore as to preserve them from loss.

At Lodgesyke (now the best of them) T. Robson & co are driving the Horse Level - At Mannergill Chr. Pinkny & co are driving a Level from the side of a Mountain to Cut to the Vein in a fresh part, & will no doubt raise Ore. Jas. Ainsty & co are opening an old Level by which the old pickings will raise Ore to advantage.

Wiregill Mine is poor but will revive again when the Level driven by Jno. Nixon & co arrives at a certain point - Geo. Allison & co are Driving the deep Horse Level.

Coldberry & Ireshopeburn Mines are still under trial. I have not yet heard from Sir Thos. White's people.

I am etc

Thos. Dodd

**23 Jan 1808 Thomas Dodd**

Hon. Masters

Nenthead 23rd Jany. 1808

Having examined the Company's Mines under my direction, I Let on the 4th, 5th & 6th Inst. the sundry Bargains, of which a List is herewith sent.

I have brought the highest price per Bing to 44/ & Ton to £12, except a few poor pickings at Stanhope & one at Bolts Law. The poverty of the former is such that they cannot be Wrought lower, nor can the Men make Wages at the prices given, but the Ore will save the Company from loss - The latter can do nothing but harm. - I have reduced the hands on the Dead Work List from 162 on the Mich. Bargains to 104, which makes a difference of 58, & have only kept in sight the preservation of the Leases, - under these Circumstances, I flatter myself the Business at large will do well, although Poverty begins to stare this Country very much in the face, & the general murmur of the laboring Class renders the lives of Public Men very troublesome.

Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss are both doing well, but especially Scaleburn New Vein.

Wm. Wharton & co are repairing a Level to bring the Water off the uppermost part of Rampgill Mine, & Rich. <Rains> & co are Driving the Deep Horse Level.

At Scaleburn New Vein Thos. Humble & co are Sinking a Sump which will shortly be finished, when they will raise Ore. J. Hunter & co are Sinking a Shaft from the Surface, to promote a general Circulation of Air thro' the said Mine, & also for trying the Vein in the little Limestone & Coal Sills.

Middle Cleugh is poor, but the Dead Works being much reduced, the Mine of course will be kept from loss. Jno. Eddy & Tho. Armstrong & co are each driving a Horse Level in different Veins.

Small Cleugh Mine (especially the Flatts) is doing vastly well - Wm. Richardson & co are making a fresh Cut from the Vein to the Flatts, where we expect a considerable body of Ore, & that of the best quality - J. Stobbart & co are Driving the Engine Level which is the general drain, both to Small Cleugh & Middle Cleugh Veins.

Garrigill & Tynebottom Mines are still poor, but we flatter ourselves that some parts under Tryal will shortly prove successful - We have put these places under the most frugal arrangements.

At Browngill Sun Vein Jas. Lancaster & co are Sinking a Sump in a fresh part of the Mine, which will soon be finished, & will then we hope raise a good quant[it]y of Ore. Is. Teesdale & co at Tynebottom are driving the Horse Level to prepare the Vein for Trial. At Browngill Wm. Thomason & co are Driv[in]g the Horse Level.

Middlehope Mine in Weardale continues to do well, & under the present prices will be successful.- Chr. Maddison & co are Driving the Horse Level, which prepares the Vein & Flatts for raising Ore - T. Gleason & co are Sink[ing] a Sump, both for raising Ore & a Circulation of Air.

At Broomsberry Thos. Walton & co are Driving a Horse Level, which goes at an easy expense, & is expected to prove beneficial when the Vein is Cut in the upper Stratum, & it is probable before the expiration of the present Year that some Ore will be raised here.

Robt. Dickinson & co at Caple Cleugh are Driving the Horse Level:- This mine is poor but holds out a better prospect when the Level arrives at a certain point of the Mine.

At Ireshopeburn Jno. Kidd & co are Driving the deep Level which prepares the Vein for Trial, & tho' the Vein is poor will be attended with no loss. - At Stanhopeburn Thos. Wilkinson & co are Driving the Horse Level which will shortly Cut a fresh Vein. - Lodgesyke is raising Ore to advantage, but the other Mines in Teesdale are poor. Thos. Robson & co are Driving the Horse Level which drains the Mine, is the common passage for the Ore & Rubbish, & prepares the Vein for raising Ore.

At Mannergill Chr. Pinkney & co are Driving an upper Horse Level, which will enable us to raise Ore in the Vein near the Surface - Jno. Nixon & co are driving the Horse Level in the Vein, which drains the Mine & is in different senses beneficial to the Working of the same - Geo. Allison & co are Driving the deep Level for Discoveries.

Age creeps upon me, & I feel Visiting the Teesdale Mines in the Winter Season oppressive, & if the Court would relieve me I would thank them, but sho[ul]d this not meet their Approbation, I will endeavour to struggle on a little longer.

I am etc Thos. Dodd

**16 Apr 1808 Thomas Dodd**

Hon. Masters

Nenthead 16th Apr. 1808

After a general View of the Mines under my care I Let on 30th & 31st past the Bargains of which a List is annexed. I have as proposed, reduced the prices with difficulty to 42/ per Bing £11.5 per Ton the highest. The no. of hands are a little increased, but those on Dead Bargains are nearly the same as last Qua[rte]r, Tho' many of the Mines are not rich, yet there are a number of favorable prices among the whole so that on the aggregate they will do well, except the Lead Markets get still lower; however I have done everything in my power to prepare you to meet those uncertain Events.

Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss Mines are raising Ore to advantage & being well accommodated with suitable Levels & other requisite Conveniences will do good for a long time, tho' they were in a ruined state when I began with them & have been redeemed by great exertion. R. Peart & co as per List are Driv[ing] the Horse Level at Rampgill. Wm. Wharton & co are opening & repairing an upper Level & will soon finish, & Wm. Hall & co are Driv[ing] the principal deep Level. At Scaleburnmoss Thos. Havelock & co are Cutting a Cross in a fresh place to the Vein recently Discovered. J. Hunter & co are Driv[ing] the Horse Level as necessary preparation for raising the Ore. - Small Cleugh Mine is doing vastly well in raising a considerable quantity of the best Ore I ever saw, & the bulk of it at favorable prices. - Wm. Richardson & co are Driving a Cross to the flats which are very hopeful. T. Armstrong & co are Driv[ing] the Horse Level & J. Stobbart & co are Driv[ing] the deep Level which gradually brings the Water off the Vein to the Engine & prepares the Soles or Bottoms for raising Ore.

Middle Cleugh Mine is much the same as last Quar[te]r. Wm. Bright & co are Driv[ing] one of the Horse Levels, I. Thompson & co are driving a Horse Level in another of the Veins, & C. Elliot & co in a third one, all of which are necessary for the effectual Working of the Mine. Emerson Cain & co are rising into the Vein in the great Limestone, but will soon finish & raise Ore. R. Dickinson & co are Driv[ing] the Horse Level at Caple Cleugh.

Garrigill Mines & Tynebottom are still poor, but are under the most frugal management. Jos. Lancaster & co at Browngill Sun Vein are Cutting a Cross to the Vein in the great Limestone which I trust will prove successful. J. Smith & co are Driv[ing] the Horse Level. I. Teasdale & co are Driv[ing] D[itto] at Tynebottom. T. Walton & co are Driv[ing] D[itto] at Broomsberry (see last Report).



Teesdale Mines are poor in some parts, but Lodgesyke is considerably improved. I have been particularly positive in my last Visit respecting the general expense in that Country, & expect my orders will be attended to. G. Allison & I. Nixon & co are each Driv[ing] a Horse Level at Wiregill, one for discovery & the other to drain the Vein. I. Watson & co are Driv[ing] the new Level at Flakebrig. T. Robson & co are Driv[ing] the Horse Level at Lodgesyke, which Mine is doing well. C. Pinkny & co are Driv[ing] the Horse Level at Mannergill.

Middlehope Mine is still doing vastly well, which to me is a source of satisfaction. C. Maddison & co are Driv[ing] the Horse Level.

I. Kidd & co are Driv[ing] D[itto] at Ireshopeburn.

Stanhope Mine being so very poor, I was obliged to continue the prices the same as last Quar[ter], but hope in the course of another Year that Mine will be kept from loss. T. Wilkinson & co are Driv[ing] the deep Level.

I am anxious to have fresh orders & information respecting the disagreeable Business in Derwent. Hall has been for some time past in London, probably endeavouring to make his way to his friend the Lord Chancellor. I think I inform'd the Court that his Lordship married Hall's Cousin, a Sister to the Surtees of Newcastle. The Washing is now begun in the Moor & I requested in my Letter of 26th past to have a person appointed in Hayton's place & beg the Court will give me immediate orders on that point. I never had so much trouble & vexation with any man on Earth as Hayton, but am resolved never to have more from that Quarter.

I am etc

Tho. Dodd

**23 Jul 1808 Thomas Dodd**

Hon. Masters

Nenthead. July 23rd 1808

Herewith you will receive a List of the Bargains which were let on the 23, 24 & 25th of June after having viewed the respective places & which I trust will prove successful. Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss Mines are both raising Ore to considerable advantage and are hopeful for years to come. Wm. Hall & co are driving the Horse Level in Rampgill Old vein, & Wm. <Trather> & co a Level upon the Great Limestone in what is called the Sun Vein, cut by means of the deep Horse Level and which vein is promising. Wm. Teasdale & co are driving the Horse Level in the Vein recently discovered in Scaleburn, which continues to do well. Thos. Havelock & co are cutting a Cross to the North, for the discovery of Strings & Flatts in the Great Limestone. Wm. Patrick & co are driving a Horse Level in a different part of the Mine, as an accommodation for getting out the Ore & Rubbish & for the more effectual working of the Mine. Small Cleugh Mine is doing great things, especially the leading Bargains in the List which receive a good deal of very fine Ore. Wm. Richardson & co are cutting a Cross to the Flatts in a fresh part where we expect to meet with a large body of Ore.

Jacob Stobbart & co are driving the deep Level which is the ground drain & which takes the Water to the Engine. Joseph Henderson & co are driving the Horse Level. Middle Cleugh Mine is still poor in comparison of some others, but will raise Ore that will more than pay for the expense.

John Thompson & co are sinking a Sump in the Great Limestone for a supply of fresh Air, & also for raising Ore in the Vein. Chr. Elliott & co are driving the Horse Level in the vein. Josh. Low & co are driving a Level as a drain to a part of the Mine which is under Water. Broomsberry & Gudhamgillmoss are under trial. Thos. Walton & co are driving the Horse Level, and Hugh Spotswood & co are repairing a Level & a Shaft, and will, when finished, drive a Level out of Broomsberry to communicate with Scaleburn new vein and Rampgill, and as Broomsberry Level is 18 Fathoms deeper than Rampgill it will become a general drain to Rampgill, Scaleburnmoss, Small Cleugh etc & will put an end to all the <...wies> and expense in Engines, and it will in the end prove a source of gain. Caple Cleugh Mine is poor and under trial but will revive. Robt. Dickinson & co are driving the Horse Level. Browngill Sun vein is raising more Ore than for some time past. Jacob Grey & co are driving in a part of the vein which will probably, in a short time prove more successful. Jas. Lancaster & co are driving a Level in the Great Limestone which prepares the vein for Occasional trials as they proceed. Jno. Smith & co are driving the Deep Horse Level. Wiregill Mine is extremely poor, the part above water being exhausted, yet in all probability will raise a good deal of more Ore when the deep Level arrives at a certain point. Josh. Schollick & co are driving said Level. Geo. Allison & co are driving an upper Level & will sink a Sump into the deep one to obtain a circulation of fresh Air. Jno. Nixon & co are driving the Horse Level. Mannergill Mine is very poor and indeed many parts of the former Mines cannot be wrought, since the prices were reduced. Chr. Pinkney & co are driving the Horse Level. The Level at East Flakebrigg is going on by Jno. Walton & co. Lodgesyke Mine is going on very prosperously. The Mine is soft, and the part of the vein which produces the Ore, is not more than 7 or 8 Fathoms within the Surface. - I have lett the Bargains at favourable prices; of course they will make considerable profit. Jno. Pinkney & co and Thos. Robson & co are each driving a Horse Level in the side of a high Mountain, the one 20 Fathoms above the other, between which sumps will be sunk, both for the accommodation of fresh air and for trying the lower Stratum for ore. Middlehope Mine is still successful, & raises the Ore to advantage. I have removed a small Crushing Machine from Garrigill to Middlehope Mine, mentioned in my letter to the Court of 7 Jany. last, as being intended for Rampgill Level Mouth, however I have concluded the Machine was better adapted for Middlehope. Experience has proved, that nothing is so beneficial to Lead Mines as Crushing Machines. Charles Maddison & co are driving the Horse Level, Ra. Elliott & co are driving a Level in the upper Stratum and will try the Vein for Ore, Henry Coulthard & co are driving a Level to drain the Water from the upper part of the vein. Jno. Kidd & co are driving the Level at Ireshopeburn, This Mine will raise Ore so as to prevent loss. Stanhope Mine is poor, but raises small parcels of Ore from the Old Pickings. Thos. Wilkinson & co are driving

the deep Level. Jacob Vickers & co are opening and repairing an old Level, which will enable us shortly to raise Ore from that part of the Vein.

**31 Oct 1808 Thomas Dodd**

Hon. Masters

Nenthead 32 Oct. 1808

After a general Survey of the Co's. Mines under my management, I let on the 10, 11 & 12 last the Sundry Bargains of which a list is annexed. The highest prices for the Old pickings stand the same as last quarter, but the best and most prosperous parts of the Mines are let at low prices and will assuredly work to great advantage. Since the advance in the Lead Markets many of the Mining Companies in this Country have advanced the prices for raising Ore in their Old Works to 70/ and some to 80/ per Bing which makes our Way with the Workmen very difficult.

Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss Mines are both doing well. The deep Level, by way of which the Ore and Rubbish is brot. out, is of such Utility, that it will prove the grand Mean of these Mines working successfully for a great Number of Years. At Rampgill Wm. Hall & co are driving the Horse Level, which is the Level above referred to. Jno. Richardson & co are driving another Horse Level in a difficult part of the Mine, where Ore will be raised in the Vein in the Great Limestone. John Patrick & co are driving a Cross to the South of the Great Vein, for the discovery of Fresh Strings. At Scaleburnmoss Wm. Patrick & co are repairing one of the Branches of the Horse Level. John Eels & co are driving the Horse Level which prepares the Vein for raising Ore. These two Mines having little dead work upon them at present, will make a very considerable Gain, being upon a very advantageous plan for working and the Mouth of the Level commodiously situated for washing the Ore. Small Cleugh Flatts are doing great things, by raising a great deal of Ore, by the Bargains which stand in the Front of the List under the term Small Cleugh. The Court will understand that when I say Flatt or Flatts, I mean that the Ore is met with in the Great Limestone (and never in any other Stratum) in a horizontal position, similar to a Seam of Coal. They are sometimes found 50 Fathoms from a Vein, which is the case at Small Cleugh, but are always attended with Small Strings or Veins in Miniature. The Flatts are prodigiously hard, and are work'd entirely by blasting with Gunpowder, but we think the Hardness a good property, for when they are soft, and in broken Fragments, they are soon exhausted. Messrs. Pearson & Masterman were in this Mine and can give the Court an account.

The great Limestone contains three different Flatts, which will be pointed out in a Section of the Stratum in this Country, which my young man is preparing for the Court and which if framed might be hung up in the Court Room in Order that the Gentlemen might have recourse to it when necessary. John Thompson & co are driving a Sump into the Level which carries the Water to the Engine, both to drain the

Limestone Soles or bottoms, and to cause a fresh Circulation of Air, Jacob Stobbart & co are driving the Engine Level, Matt. Cousin & co are driving the Horse Level.

Middle Cleugh being less incumber'd with dead work, than formerly will raise Ore to advantage, tho' more exhausted, and less productive than any of the above mentioned Mines. Jos. Henderson & co are driving one of the Horse Levels in the Great Limestone, which opens up the way to the Ore. Thomas Lee & co are driving a Level under the Limestone as a Drain to the Mine. Chr. Elliott & co are driving another of the Horse Levels.

Hangingshaw & Caple Cleugh are poor, but raise Ore which will keep them from loss and the Ore is of as good a Quality as Small Cleugh Flatts Ore, which is excellent, & excellently washed. Robt. Dickinson & co are driving the Horse Level in Hangingshaw Cross Vein, and Jos. Thompson & co and Thomas Percival & co are driving a level at Caple Cleugh to keep the Mine In repair, and to raise Small parcels of Ore.

Garrigill Mines and Tynebottom are still poor but contain objects which would make it imprudent to relinquish any of the Leases. These Mines are conducted with all the Frugality I am capable of.

At Brownhill Sun Vein Jos. Lancaster & co are driving a Level in the Vein, in the Great Limestone, a large Extent of which is whole and unexplored, and as I expect the Intersection of some Strings shortly, I hope when it takes place, we will have a better Body of Ore. John Smith & co are driving the deep Horse Level, & Wm. Tomlinson & co are repairing an old one.

At Tynebottom Ra. Heath & co are driving in the Vein, in search of more Ore. Isaac Teasdale & co are driving the Horse Level & Jacob Grey & co are driving a Level in a different part of the Vein, to prepare the same for Trial.

Middlehope Mine goes on prosperously, is on a most excellent plan for working, and raises Ore to great advantage. The Crushing Machine is finished, and will be of great Use to the Mine, on calculating the prices of the Bargains now before the Crush, I reduced all the principal Ones 3/- per Bing, on acct. of the benefit of the Machine, and besides it may be fairly considered that the Machine will make 1/7 more Ore, than the common Mode of washing, in the poorest and most Stubborn part of the Ore; and therefore don't hesitate to say that the Crushing Machines are amongst the Improvements recently made in Lead Mining. Geo. Hill & co are cutting across to a fine String to the North of the Vein.

Lodgesyke (Teesdale) is raising Ore vastly well, and will I trust do much Good. Thomas Robson & co are driving one Horse Level in the side of a Mountain. John Pinkney & co are driving another one 20 Fa. deeper, both calculated to open and prove the Vein in the different Sills.

Wiregill & Mannergill are poor, but raise small parcels of Ore. Geo. Allison & co are repairing a Level at Wiregill, and will shortly sink into the deep Horse Level for the production of Fresh Air. Jos. Scholick & co are driving the Horse Level; and John Nixon & co are driving a Level to drain the Soles, when a good deal of Ore will be got. Chr.

Pinkney & co are driving a Horse Level, and when finished will try the Vein in a fresh part, and will prove the mean of raising Ore.

John Watson & co are driving the Level at Flakebrigg held of Wm. Hutchinson Esq and is yet near 80 Fa. Short of the Vein. A crushing and Stamping Machine is now erected there, and will get some Ore out of the Wastes in the mean time.

Stanhope Mine is poor, and very little alter'd since my last report, of course the prices for raising Ore from the Pickings are the same. Thos. Wilkinson & co are driving the deep Level which makes a Slow Progress, being only 4 Men and the Level hard. Jos. Vipond & co are driving a Level under the Great Limestone, and will shortly relieve the Vein of Water, and raise Ore. For my opinion of Bolts Law Mine. please see my Letter to the Court of the 25 Inst.

At Broomsberry Hugh Spotswood & co are driving the Horse Level, which will in future prove of great Utility both to this, and Rampgill and Scaleburnmoss Mines. Thos. Walton & co are driving an Upper Level where Ore will shortly be got.

I am etc.

Thomas Dodd

**18 Feb 1809 Thomas Dodd**

Hon. Masters

Nenthead 18 Feby. 1809

After a general Examination of the Gov. & Co's. Mineral Concerns under my Direction, I lett on the 10, 11 & 12 past, the Sundry Bargains of which a List is annex'd.

Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss Mines are raising Ore in a Successful & advantageous Way, and though I was under the necessity of raising the prices for the poorest of the Pickings (as recently explain'd to the Court) yet I have lett the most productive parts as low as possible, as well as the Dead Work, and all attendant Expenses whatever, are put upon the most frugal plan I am capable of. At Rampgill, Emman. Natrass & co are driving the Horse Level in one of the Sun Veins, which prepares the Vein for raising Ore as they advance. Wm. Hall & co are driving another Horse Level for the same purpose, but in a different part of the Vein.

John Patrick & co are cutting a Cross to the South of all Rampgill Veins, and Strings, for the Discovery of more Veins. John Liverick & co are driving in a part of the Sun Vein, where I expect the Intersection of some Bings to make it more successful. At Scaleburnmoss, Jos. Elliott & co are driving in an unsuccessful part of the Vein, to drain the Great Limestone, where a good deal of Ore will be got. Matth[e]w Hall & co are driving the Horse Level, as a general Waygate for bringing out the Ore, and Rubbish, as well as proving the Success of the Mine as they go on. John Eels & co are driving an upper Level which is necessary for laying the Vein open for trial in the Coal Sills, and upper part of the Great Limestone. Smallcleugh Mine continues to do well, especially the five foremost Bargains in the List of said Mine, which raise more than 3/4 of the Ore, the other parts are poorer, and some of them mere pickings required an advance

of price in two or three places. Wm. Richardson & co are driving a Cross to cut out the Flatts in a fresh and unexplored part, where we expect a good deal of Ore. Jacob Stobbart & co are sinking a Sump or Pit from the Horse Level to make a Communication for Air between the Horse Level and the deep Level driven from the bottom of the Engine, as well as to drain the water off the Vein into the latter.

Middlecleugh, consisting of several Veins, all of which are considerably exhausted, requires in general the highest prices, and without which they could not be carried on; yet under proper management and care will work to advantage. Thos. Lee & co are driving a deep Level under the Great Limestone as a general Drain to the Mine, which is excessive hard and bad to move.

Matth[e]w Cousin & co are driving one of the Horse Levels, and Jos. Henderson & co another, both of which are calculated to promote the Success of the Mine by making fresh Cuts into the Veins in different places. Hangingshaw Cross Vein is nothing but poor pickings, and will not work under the highest prices, yet will work to profit, having little dead Expense upon the Mine and the Ore is of the best quality. John Hall & co are driving the principal Level in a part of the Vein, and in the direction of the Flatts dropping down from Small Cleugh. At Caplecleugh Robt. Dickinson & co are driving the Horse Level. All the Garrigill Mines and Tynebottom are poor, and none of them can be wrought without high prices, yet none of them while the Lead Markets look up can with propriety be abandoned.

At Browngill Sun Vein, John Smith & co are driving the Horse Level. Wm. Thomason & co are opening & repairing an upper Level, both to open a Communication for fresh Air with the Horse Level, by sinking between, and also trying the Vein in the Sundry Stratums. At Tynebottom, Jos. Wanless & co are driving a Level in the Side of a Mountain, to try a fresh Vein in the Stratums near the Surface. Isaac Teasdale & co are driving the Horse Level. Those who are in Wages at some of the Mines are repairing Levels, Shafts and Sumps, which, if not attended, often go into Decay.

Respecting Broomsberry & Gudhamgillmoss Mines, I beg leave to refer the Court to my last report. In my Letter to the Court on the 21 past, I informed them that Middlehope was doing great things. Indeed I never think of that Mine but with the utmost pleasure, and it will certainly prove a considerable Source of Profit for many Years to come, though it must be allow'd that all Mines are fluctuating, and that the fairest prospects are often blasted by unforeseen Circumstances, but the sight of a good Mine is animating, and opens every Spring of Hope in the Mind of Miners. Geo. Hill & co are cutting a Cross to a fresh String, and will shortly raise Ore.

Ireshopeburn is poor, but will work without loss. John Kidd & co are driving the deep Level. Stanhopeburn Mine is poor, but the deep Level will by and by come up with some of the principal Veins, and I trust in a few Years the Expense will be refunded. Thos. Wilkinson & co are driving the deep Level. Jos. Vipond & co are driving an upper Level in order to come at some Flatts, where we shall get some Ore. I have already given the Court my Sentiments respecting Boltslaw, and see no reason to vary, but I hope the Court will give me instructions on that Subject at a proper time.

Lodgesyke Mine is poorer than last quarter, the near workings in the upper Stratums being much exhausted, yet the Mine will do well. Henry Robson & co and John Pinkney & co are driving the two Horse Levels in the Side of the Mountain, parallel with the Vein, the one about 22 Fa. above the other, between which, Sumps will frequently be Sunk, as necessary communications for Fresh Air, and for trying the Vein in the Stratums between the Levels.

Mannergill is poor, consisting of floor pickings, but as there is little dead Expense, I trust the Mine will be kept from loss this Year. Chr. Pinkney & co are driving a Horse Level to redeem the foremost part of the Mine, which I have reason to believe will raise a good Deal of Ore, but the workings were suffer'd to get out of repair, and run together, and fill with Water, and Rubbish, before I first went to Teesdale, and which has been much the Custom in former Years in Teesdale, and I am confident there is no mining Country in which Mines have been worse conducted.

Wiregill is at present extremely poor, John Leekly & co are rising out of the deep Level into the Old Soles or Bottoms, to drain the Vein of Water, which will soon be done, and raise Ore. Geo. Allison & co are sinking a Shaft into the Horse Level, for the benefit of fresh Air, and will soon be done. Jos. Schollick & co are driving the deep Horse Level, and John Nixon & co are driving a Horse Level in the Vein, which will unwater the Same 10 Fa. deeper than that part of the Vein which raised so great a quantity of Ore in 1805 and will by and by raise a considerable quantity more. John Watson & co are driving the deep Level at Flakebrigg.

I have not yet heard of the Gunpowder, which the Court said was ordered.

I am etc

Thomas Dodd Senr.

**29 Apr 1809 Thomas Dodd**

Hon. Masters

Nenthead 29. April 1809

After examining the Sundry parts of the Company's Mines under my direction, I lett on the 22, 23 & 24 past the Bargains, a list of which is annexed, and which I have no doubt will do well. All the Bargains in the different Mines both for Ore and Dead Work are lett as low as the Nature and Situation of them would admit, and in fact the whole extended concerns are put under the most frugal regulation.

Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss Mines are both doing well, and working to considerable advantage. John Liverick & co are driving the Horse Level in Rampgill Sun Vein, which prepares the same for raising Ore; Jas. Armstrong & co are driving the Horse Level in Rampgill Old Vein, both these Levels are necessary for preserving the Mine in a proper State of Repair, and coming at the Ore in the Veins with care & facility. Wm. Armstrong & co in Wages are repairing the Engine Shaft and the Water Wheels, which are old, and without repairs now & then, would go into a State of decay. At Scaleburnmoss Jos. Elliott & co are driving the Horse Level in the New Vein, to

prepare the Same for raising Ore in the Great Limestone, which is very productive. Matt. Hall & co are driving a Level in the Limestone for the discovery of fresh Veins, and for the effectual working and carrying on the said Mines. Wm. Hall & co are rising from the Horse Level, to try the Vein in the Little Limestone.

Smallcleugh Mine (especially the Flatts) is still very successful, and is raising very rich Ore to great advantage, and is upon the whole a pleasing concern. Wm. Richardson & co are driving a cross from Smallcleugh Vein to the Flatts, to cut them in fresh Ground. John Patrick & co are driving the deep Level from the bottom of the Engine, as the common Drain to the Mine.

Middlecleugh Mine will raise Ore to advantage (Please see my last report). Chr. Elliott & co are driving the Horse Level. Thos. Thompson & co are driving a Level under the Great Limestone to drain the Vein of Water. Matt. Cousin & co are sinking a Sump from the Upper to the Horse Level to accommodate the Mine with fresh Air, and to prepare the Vein for trial in the different Stratums between the two Levels. Hangingshaw and Capelcleugh are poor but will work without Loss; at Hangingshaw John Hall & co are driving the Level to open the Vein for trial in the Limestone. At Caplecleugh Robt. Dickinson & co are driving the Horse Level, which will shortly enable us to sink into the Great Limestone, and I expect we will meet with a Successful Vein.

Garrigill Mines are still poor, tho' from Sundry parts, small parcels of Ore are raised, and the other parts are under trial, yet with proper management will come round again, for it is common with most of Lead Mines to ebb & flow in their Success, and of course persevering, Patience, and proper management are always requisite in carrying on Mineral Concerns. At Browngill Sun Vein, John Smith & co are driving the deep Horse Level, & Wm. Thomason & co are sinking a Sump from an Upper Level to the Deep Level for circulation of Fresh Air, and for trying the Vein in the different Stratums.

At Tynebottom Isaac Teesdale & co are driving the Horse Level. Jos. Wanless & co are driving a Level to cut a fresh Vein, & Jno. Phillipson & co are Sinking to the Vein in the Great Limestone. There is little alteration with Stanhopeburn Mine since my last report, but the Ore Workings are poor. Thos. Wilkinson & co are driving the deep Level (Please see last report) Jos. Vipond & co are driving an Upper Level which will open some poor Ore Workings in the Great Limestone. At Boltslaw Thos. Bell & co are sinking a Shaft from the Surface, to try an upper Stratum in the Vein, and if that fail, the Mine is done.

Broomsberry & Gudhamgillmoss Mines are under trial. Hugh Spotswood & co are driving a Level at Broomsberry to cut some fresh Veins, and by continuing the pursuit of the Level, will unwater Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss Mines as well as all the Veins to the Southward belonging to the Company, and will in a few Years put an end to all the expensive Engines in the Company's Works. Thos. Walton & co are driving the Horse Level at Gudhamgillmoss Mine, to open the Vein for trial, which will in future raise a good deal of Ore. At Ireshopeburn Mine John Kidd & co are driving a Level which keeps the Mine in repair, and will raise Ore to advantage. Agreeable to my



Letters of the 3 & 15 Inst. to the Court. Middlehope Mine is in a very prosperous state of repair, and will turn up this Year to great advantage and will I trust continue to do so for many Years. Smith Elliott & co are driving the Upper Horse Level, as a proper Communication to all the other workings, as well as a general Circulation of fresh Air thro' the Mine. Lodgesyke Mine is poorer in the leading workings than for some time past, tho' is working to very considerable advantage, and no doubt the Fore-End of said Mine will revive again, by the Intersection of Strings, and other natural & co-operating causes. John Pinkney & co are driving the deep Horse Level parallel with the Vein, and prepares the same for raising the Ore either by rising or Sinking into the Vein. Henry Robson & co are driving the Upper Horse Level for similar purposes, as above mention'd. Jas. Bainbridge & co are rising from the deep Level to try the Vein in a Stratum called the Firestone.

Mannergill is under a fit of Poverty, tho' raising parcels of Ore to preserve the Mine from Loss, having little Dead Work upon her, and will be conducted with care, till better success come. Chr. Pinkney & co are driving the Horse Level. Wiregill Mine is raising small parcels of Ore, employs few Hands, and, is labouring under Dead Trials, some of which will soon be done and raise Ore, and others will require time, Money, & patience. John Nixon & co are driving the Horse Level. John Leekly & co are rising out of said Level, to try the Vein, and Jos. Schollick & co are sinking a Sump into the deep Level to furnish the Mine with fresh Air. John Watson & co are driving the Level at Flakebrigg.

I am etc.

Thos. Dodd Senr.

**15 Jul 1809 Thomas Dodd**

Hond. Masters

Nenthead 15 July 1809

After a general Survey of the Company's Mines under my care, I lett the Sundry Bargains on 27, 28 & 29 past, of which a List is annex'd. The Bargains are lett on the lowest terms they will admit of, but I am concerned to say, that the price of Provisions is such, that many of the Workmen are hard put to it to get Bread for their Families.

Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss Mines are doing well, though not altogether so successful as last Quarter, Robt. Elliott & co at Rampgill are driving the Horse Level in the great Limestone, which prepares the Mine for raising Ore, by rising and sinking into the same occasionally as need requires. John Liverick & co are driving a Horse Level in a different Branch of the Mine, to prepare the Vein for raising Ore. Matthew Robson & co are driving a Level in the North Vein, which is a main Way-gate for bringing the Ore and Rubbish from all the different Branches of the Mine, to the Mouth of the Level where the Ore is wash'd. Hugh Spottswood & co are driving a deep Level to unwater both Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss Mines which will lay aside two expensive Water Engines, and tho' the progress will be slow, being excessive hard, it will be of

great Utility in future to these Mines, as it will be an effectual Drain to Rampgill and Scaleburnmoss, and all their attendant Branches and Strings.

At Scaleburnmoss Wm. Hall & co are driving a Cross from the Vein, to cut a fresh Branch or Vein to the East laying parallel to the principal Vein. Matthew Hall & co are sinking into the Great Limestone in the Vein, and will soon raise Ore at a low price.

Smallcleugh Mine is still working to good advantage, Wm. Richardson & co are driving a Cross to cut the Flatts in fresh Ground, where in all probability we shall raise a great deal of Ore. John Patrick & co are driving the deep Level from the Engine, Matthew Cousin & co are sinking into the Vein in the great Limestone to try the same.

Middlecleugh Mine is still poor, but will be kept from loss by the Ore raised in said Mine. John Hall & co are repairing a Level necessary for the Accommodation and Support of the Mine. Thos. Thompson & co are driving a Level under the Great Limestone to drain the Vein and raise Ore in the same. Chr. Elliott & co are driving the Horse Level in one of the Veins, which prepares it for raising Ore. Jas. Armstrong & co are driving a Horse Level in a different Vein, but for the same End.

Robt. Dickinson & co at Caplecleugh are driving the Horse Level and Joshua Percival & Jos. Thompson & co are repairing Levels Shafts etc to keep the Mine in a proper State of Repair. Browngill Sun Vein, and all Garrigill Mines continue in a State of Poverty, but such parts as are under necessary trials shall be conducted with proper care & attention. William Thomason & co are driving a Level under the Great Limestone, and will make trials in the most likely parts of the Vein. John Smith & co are driving the Horse Level. At Browngill & Thortergill Wm. Robson & co are repairing decayed Levels & Shafts, and Jos. Hall & co are driving a Level from the Surface to make a proper Communication with other parts of the Mine and necessary trials for Ore. At Tynebottom Richd. Lowthain & co are repairing a Level. Jos. Wanless & co are sinking a Shaft from the Surface into the Horse Level as a Convenience for fresh Air. Isaac Teesdale & co are driving the Horse Level.

Middlehope Mine is doing great Things. I spent the whole of Tuesday last in Dialling, and tracing the direction of the Vein across the Mountains for 7 or 8 Miles, and I don't find that either the Blackett or Beaumont Families have ever discover'd or made a Cut into the said Vein in any part of their Liberty; but Mr. Bainbridge (to whom I have given every Information in my power) will write the Court by this Post on this important Subject, for I am persuaded the Vein is of great Value. Smith Elliott & co are Sinking a Shaft from the Surface to accommodate the whole Mine with Fresh Air.

At Ireshopeburn John Kidd & co are driving the Horse Level. Stanhopeburn Mine is much the same as when last reported. Jacob Vickers & co are driving an upper Horse Level, which prepares the Vein for raising Ore. Thos. Wilkinson & co are driving the deep Horse Level as the common Drain to the Mine. Lodgesyke Mine is doing well and raising Ore to advantage. Henry Robson & co are driving the upper Horse Level, as a necessary opening to the Mine, for raising the Ore and bringing the Ore and Rubbish to the Mouth of the Level.

James Bainbridge & co are driving the deep Horse Level, and Sumps are sunk between, which gives us a power to work the Several Stratum between the two Levels. John Pinkney & co are sinking a Shaft from the Surface for fresh Air. Wiregill is very poor but will revive again. Jos. Schollick & co are sinking a Shaft into the deep Level. John Nixon & co are driving the Horse Level. At Mannergill Chr. Pinkney & co are driving the Horse Level, which both relieves some Old Works (run together when I first visited the Mines) and prepares the Vein for fresh Trials. John Watson & co are driving the deep Level at Flakebrigg. Geo. Allison & co are opening an Old Level at East Rake Mine, which was recently purchased by the Company for £70. Thos. Walton & co are driving the Horse Level at Gudhamgillmoss (Please see last Report). Thos. Bell & co are sinking a Shaft at Boltslaw, which will soon be done, and I trust the Court will then come to a determination abo[u]t this Mine. On the receipt of the Court's Letter, I sent Mich. Stephenson a Copy of it, and have heard nothing more from him.

I am etc

Thos. Dodd Senr.

### **31 Oct 1809 Thomas Dodd**

Hond. Masters

Nenthead 31 Octr. 1809

Having made a Survey of the Company's Mines under my Direction, on the 28, 29 & 30 Sept. I lett the Sundry Bargains, a List of which is annexed. They are lett on the lowest terms I was capable of, but the hardness of the times, and the complaints of the People, make letting Bargains a very serious task.

Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss are much the same as last quarter, and are raising Ore to advantage. At Rampgill Robt. Elliott & co are driving one of the Horse Levels, which is a solid Limestone Rock, excessive hard and difficult to work. Jno. Liverick & co are driving another Level, which is also hard, and Matt. Robson & co are driving a third Horse Level in a different Vein, all of them highly necessary for the general Benefit & success of the Mine. Wm. Armstrong & co are repairing the Engine Shaft, which, when they began was in a State of utter decay, the Timber being all rotten from its long Standing, and as we are obliged to arch the Wheel Case with Stone, it will of course be a considerable Expense, probably Labour & Materials £250. At Scaleburnmoss Wm. Hall & co are driving a Level in the Stratum called the Little Limestone, and will occasionally try the Vein for Ore. Matt. Hall & co are driving the Horse Level. Hugh Spotswood & co are driving the deep Level for a general Drain. Please to see it described in my last report of Rampgill. Smallcleugh Mine is poorer than last quarter, tho' working to considerable advantage. Wm. Richardson & co are cutting a Cross to the Flatts, which is very hard but will soon be done. Jas. Armstrong & co are driving the Horse Level, and Jno. Patrick & co are driving the deep Level from the Engine Bottom, which is the general Drain of the Mine.

Middlecleugh Mine is poor, but raises so much Ore as to preserve the same from loss. Matt. Cousin & co are driving one of the Horse Levels, Chr. Elliott & co are driving a Horse Level in a different Vein, and Thos. Thompson & co are driving a Level under the Limestone to drain the Vein. At Hangingshaw Mine John Hall & co are driving the Level under the Great Limestone to unwater the Vein. At Caplecleugh Jos. Thompson & co are repairing a Level. Robt. Dickinson & co are driving the Horse Level.

All the Mines in Garrigill are still extremely poor. At Browngill Sun Vein, Wm. Thomason & co are sinking a Sump to furnish the Mine with fresh Air, and try the Vein in the Great Limestone. Jos. Hall & co are driving an Upper Level to communicate with the lower parts of the Mine and try the Vein in the Limestone. Jas. Dickinson & co are driving the Horse Level. Tynebottom is very poor. Jos. Wanless & co are driving an Upper Level to try some Veins & Strings in fresh Ground. Isaac Teasdale & co are driving the Horse Level to prepare the Vein for further trial. Wm. Robson & co are repairing Levels & Sumps which frequently get out of repair. At Gudhamgillmoss & Broomsberry Thos. Walton & co are driving the Horse Level which will shortly lay the Vein open for raising Ore. Middlehope Mine is not so rich in the leading forehead Westward, as last Quarter, the String & Vein having finally separated, of course the parts are become much poorer than when in a united Body, tho' the Mine is still rich, and likely to be, particularly in the New String. I have made every examination in my power, by Diallings under Ground, and upon the Surface, but cannot find that the String has ever been wrought by the Blackett or Beaumont Families distinct from other Mines. Smith Elliott & co are driving an Upper Level, both to try the Upper Stratums, and to furnish the deep Workings with Fresh Air by sinking between. The Mine is raising a great quantity of very fine Ore. John Kidd & co are driving the Horse Level at Ireshopeburn.

Lodgesyke Mine in Teesdale is successful, and in a proper State of working, having Levels carried up to the Vein in proper Situations. Henry Robson & co are driving the Upper Horse Level. Richd. Lee & co are rising into the Vein, and will soon raise Ore. Jas. Bainbridge & co are sinking a Shaft to air the Vein in the several workings. Wm. Watson & co are sinking another Shaft, and will finish in a few Weeks and raise Ore. Jno. Pinkney & co are driving the deep Horse Level, preparing the Vein to raise Ore in the deeper or low Stratums. Wiregill is very poor, but will come round again when the Horse Level driving by Ja. Nixon & co arrives at a certain point of the Vein. Jos. Schollick & co are driving the deep Horse Level. Mannergill Mine raises Ore without loss, but will by and bye do better; Chr. Pinkney & co are driving the Level. East Rake & Flakebrigg are both under trial, but I have no opinion of either of them. Yet as the Lease of Flakebrigg Mine and Egglestone Mill are one, the Mine therefore cannot cease working, without the Mill being forfeited. But the Court know all these things.

Stanhopeburn Mine is much the same as last report but will raise more Ore the ensuing Year than before. Jacob Vicars & co are driving an Upper Level to open the Flatts in the Great Limestone which will shortly raise Ore. Thos. Wilkinson & co are

driving the deep Horse Level which will shortly cut some Veins and try them in the deep Stratums, as the Level will drain them all. Thos. Bell & co have been sinking a Shaft at Bolts Law, and are now working in the Vein in a Strong Stratum, but this Vein is entirely without Success, nor is there any prospect of ever doing good there but inevitably throwing Money away, which I don't like, especially when all expectation & prospect is lost.

I am etc.

Thos. Dodd Senr.

**20 Jan 1810 Thomas Dodd**

Hond. Masters

Nenthead 20 Janry. 1810

After a general examination of the Company's Mines under my direction, on the 4, 5 & 6 Inst. I lett the Bargains a list of which is annex'd. Many parts of the Mines are much poorer this quarter than at Michlms. last, though a great number more Hands are employ'd, by reason of the Mines in the surrounding Country being so poor, of course the Miners cannot get Employment elsewhere.

The distresses from the dearness of all sorts of provisions are very great, and those who have large Families, are under the necessity of seeking parochial relief. The prices are as low in every department of my Business, as the Situation of the places will admit of, and will upon the whole be found to turn up to very considerable advantage.

Rampgill and Scaleburnmoss (which I always class together, being both connected with on deep Level) are poorer than last quarter, yet will do well. Robt. Elliott, Jno. Liverick & Jonathan Shield & co are each driving in different branches of Horse Levels, all connected with Rampgill Mine, and necessarily applied to the effectual working and accommodation of three different veins. Wm. Teasdale & co are cutting a Cross in the Great Lime, and will shortly raise Ore by the Bing. Wm. Armstrong & co are still repairing the Engine. (Please to see last report) At Scaleburnmoss John Thompson & co are sinking into the Vein in the Great Limestone. Matthew Hall & co are driving the Horse Level. Wm. Hall & co are repairing the principal Level & will soon be done, and Hugh Spotswood & co are driving the deep Level as a general Drain, express'd in last report. Smallcleugh Mine is raising Ore very well, but the Flatts are much poorer, though I have no doubt will open & again prove productive, so soon as fresh Strings or Leads intersect them. Wm. Richardson & co are driving the Horse Level. Thos. Robson & co are rising to search for a Flatt situated in the Limestone about 12 Feet above the present one. John Patrick are driving the deep Level connected with the bottom of the Engine. At Middlecleugh which is poor, tho' not a losing concern, Mile Irwin, James Armstrong & Chr. Elliott & co are each driving Horse Levels in different veins, which enable us to prove the same in the different Stratums most likely to produce Ore. Garrigill Mines are still poor, but most of them being under unfinished'd trials, we must therefore exercise patience, and tho' they are

at present expensive, we are obliged to employ Hands to keep the Leases from Forfeiture.

At Browngill Sun Vein Wm. Thomason & co are cutting a Cross to try the Vein in the Great Limestone in fresh Grounds. Jos. Hall & co are driving an Upper Horse Level to try the Upper Stratum in the Vein. At Browngill & Thortergill Jos. Wanless & co are driving a Level to try a fresh Vein in the Great Limestone & Isaac Teasdale & co are driving the Horse Level at Tynebottom which prepares the Vein for occasional Trials. At Hangingshaw Cross Vein Jno. Hall & co are driving the Horse Level to try & relieve the Vein of Water. And at Caplecleugh Robt. Dickinson & co are driving the Horse Level.

Middlehope Mine is raising Ore to much advantage though nothing like so rich as in the greatest part of last Year, for since the final separation of the Vein and New String, both are naturally weaker, and of course poorer. I have heard nothing from Col. Beaumont's Agents since the time my Letter was sent to Mr. Morrison by the Court's direction. A vast number of Hands are employed, & Jno. Postle & George Hill & co are the two partnerships working in the String West from the Cross Cut (Please to see the plan) and the last end at present is good for nothing. We are not able to have any plan made upon the Surface until the Snow (which is abundant) get off the Mountains. Smith Elliott & co are sinking a Sump out of another Level for the accommodation of fresh Air, and trying the Upper Stratum. Jno. Kidd & co are driving the Level at Ireshopeburn, and the Mine much the same as when last reported. Last week I was in the Mine at Stanhope. The Level situated near the Smelting Mill in which the Vein and Flatt are cuts mention'd to the Court in my Letter of the 15 Decr. last is not so prosperous as I expected from the Report, tho' will raise Ore pretty well at the prices you will meet with in the three foremost Bargains in the List. The Level goes on in a proper direction to cut & unwater several Veins & Flatts which have been wrought in a very defective way by former Companies, and will through the aid of said Level raise a good deal of Ore. Jacob Vickers & co are driving the Horse Level, and John Vipond & co are driving a Level northward for the discovery of more Flatts in the Great Limestone (where they are only to be found).

The Teesdale Mines are not much alter'd since last report. Lodgesyke is doing well and employs more Hands, which raises Ore advantageously. Henry Robson & co are driving the upper Horse Level in the side of the Mountain, which opens an early passage to the Vein, where much Ore is raised. James Bainbridge & co are driving another Horse Level 22 Fa. Deeper, and by sinking between, a communication is opened, which furnishes the Mine with Air, drains the lower Stratum, and prepares them for raising the Ore. John Pinkney & co are cutting a Cross to the Vein, and will soon be done. Wm. Watson & co are sinking a Shaft from the Surface.

At Wiregill, which is poor, John Nixon & co are driving the Horse Level & Jos. Schollick & co are driving the deep Level for discoveries. Chr. Pinkney & co are driving the Horse Level at Mannergill. Geo. Allison & co are opening & repairing an Old Level at East Rake, which is a Horse Level from the Surface, and will lead us into the Vein, but I have not a good opinion of this trial. John Watson & co are driving the Horse

Level at Flakebrigg, and it will require a considerable time before the Level can arrive at any likely object.

The Gunpowder is now all gone that came last, and such an article as never came to Lead Mines. The Workmen were obliged to dry it before the Fire, before they could use it, and it is well that no misfortunes happen'd by it. I wrote for a quantity to be sent in the last parcel mark'd FB but not one cask of it came. I was obliged to send to Newcastle for 20 half Barrels to mix with the Bad, which was the same price as that order'd by the Court, and better Gunpowder I never saw.

The Court will now please to order 60 half Barrels FB and 40 Qrs CB but except it be good, the Workmen will not use it.

I am etc.

Thos. Dodd Senr.

### **21 Apr 1810 Thomas Dodd**

Hond. Masters

Nenthead 21 April 1810

Having made my Quarterly View of the Company's Mines in Alston Moor, Weardale, Teesdale, etc - on the 4, 5 & 6 I lett the Sundry Bargains, a list of which is annex'd. The greatest part of the Mines are poorer than usual, and will not raise so much Ore this Year, by some Thousands of Bings, as they did last, and I am well convinced the prices are such, that the Workmen employed in the most exhausted parts of the Mines, will make very poor Wages. The prices of Provisions are so high, that many Families in this poor Neighbourhood are half starved.

Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss are poorer, and raising less Ore than last Year. Robt. Irwin & co are driving the deep Horse Level. Wm. Teasdale & co are cutting a Cross to a Vein situate to the North of Rampgill Vein. Jon. Shield & co are driving a Horse Level in a different part of the Mine, and all these Levels are extremely hard, and require high prices. Jas. Thompson & co are driving a Level Southward for the discovery of fresh Strings. At Scaleburnmoss Jno. Thompson, Hugh Spottswood & Jno. Hall & Partners are all driving necessary Horse Levels in different parts of the Mine.

Smallcleugh Mine still raises Ore very well, and of a good quality. Wm. Richardson & co are driving a Cross to the Flatts and will shortly cut them afresh. Miles Irwin & co are driving the Horse Level, and John Patrick & co the Level from the Engine, which will prove a general drain to Smallcleugh and all Middlecleugh Veins.

Middlecleugh Mine is poor, John Bowman & co are sinking a Sump, to furnish the Mine with fresh Air, and for trying the Vein in the upper Stratums. Thos. Thompson & co are driving a Level in a part of the Mine to drain the Vein in the Great Limestone. Robt. Elliott & Chr. Elliott & co are driving separate Horse Levels.

Garrigill Mines in general are poor, tho' one of the Workings in Browngill Sun Vein is become productive, & will probably raise 300 Bings this Year. It is the first Bargain in the List at Browngill Sun Vein. Wm. Thomason & co. are cutting a Cross to

try the Vein in the Great Limestone. Jos. Hall & co are driving an Upper Level to try the Vein in the upper Stratums. At Tynebottom Jos. Wanless & Issac Teasdale and Partners are each driving Horse Levels, and will occasionally try the Veins.

At Browngill & Thortergill Wm. Robson & co are repairing some Shafts & Levels, which frequently fall into decay. Hangingshaw Cross Vein & Caplecleugh are both poor, John Hall & co are driving the Horse Level at the former, & Robt. Dickinson & co that of the latter. Broomsberry and Gudhamgillmoss are poor; and principally under trial. Thos. Walton & co are driving the Horse Level.

Middlehope Mine employs many Hands, and raises a good deal of Ore, but being poorer than last year will of course raise less Ore. The new String is poorer than formerly, since quite separated from the Vein as I have already mention'd to the Court; tho' there is no doubt of a good deal of Ore being raised to the Westwards, in the Great Lime & Coal Sills, as the String takes its direction where the surface of the Ground has an easy declivity to Westward, and as the Hill declines, and goes off it leaves the Vein with a suitable Cover, and in all probability will increase in Strength, and get more & more successful. The Ground is in this situation for almost a Mile, but after that a rapid Hill puts on, and the new String having several North & South Veins to cross, will, I believe scatter & render it good for Nothing. A very high Hill puts on to the Eastward, of course the String, according to Mining terms is nippt or twitched (that is much narrow'd off). John Laverick & co are driving the Horse Level. Cuth. Watson & co are sinking a Sump from an upper Level for fresh Air, and open the Vein in the upper Stratums. Jno. Charlton & co are driving the upper Horse Level.

Ireshopeburn is raising Ore to advantage. Jno. Kidd & co are driving the Horse Level. Stanhopeburn is poor, tho' raises several parcels of Ore. The deep Level is going on with all possible Speed, by Thos. Wilkinson & co but is hard. John Vipond & co are driving a Level for the relief of the Flatts, which enables us to raise Ore, and will be of considerable benefit, as we are placing the Crushing Machine close to the Mouth of the Level. The Court will see we are merely supporting the Lease at Bolts Law at a considerable Expense & Loss. Lodgesyke Mine is doing well, but many parts of the other Mines in Teesdale are poor and under trials. Wm. Watson & co are rising into the Vein and will soon be done. Jas. Bainbridge & co are driving the deep Horse Level, Jno. Pinkney & co the upper one, & Thos. Towers & co are sinking a Shaft from the Surface, to furnish Air, and try the Vein in the upper Stratums.

At Wiregill Jos. Schollick & co are driving the deep Horse Level & John Nixon & co the other one, which is intended to relieve the Vein of Water by & bye, and will prove the mean of raising Ore. At Mannergill Chr. Pinkney & co are driving the Horse Level to prepare the Vein for raising Ore. Geo. Allison & co are driving the Horse Level at East Rake for the trial of the Vein, when they arrive at a proper point for that end John Watson & co are driving the Horse Level at Flakebrigg, but are still at a great distance from any object which promises Success.

I have at the request of some Gentlemen inclosed a plan of a Bridge intended to be built over the Tees at Middleton (by subscription) which the Court will see on the plan, distinguish'd by a red Mark upon the line of the Road shaded with Green, but



except that part of the road from Middleton to Wolsingham be made, the Bridge will be of no Service to the Gov[ernor] & Co. - it is abo't 12 miles, and over a rugged Common. The principal Subscriptions are The Bishop of Durham £250, Lord Darlington £250, Lord Strathmore £250 and the Gentlemen wish to know whether or not the Gov[erno]r & Co. will subscribe.

I am etc.

Thos. Dodd Senr.

**14 Jul 1810 Thomas Dodd**

Nenthead 14 July 1810

Hon[oure]d Masters

After a general examination of the Company's Mines under my care on the 25, 26 & 27 June I lett the Bargains, a list of which I have annex'd. The Mines in a general way are poor, and I have lett the whole on the lowest terms I can, both the Ore Bargains and those in Dead Work.

Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss are both poor, and employ fewer hands, for many of the places have got so exhausted, that they cannot be wrought at the prices given. Wm Teesdale & co are cutting across from the Vein to find a North String, and will soon be done. Robt Irwin & co are driving the Horse Level. Jon Shield & co are driving a Horse Level in a different Branch of the Mine. Thomas Readshaw & co are driving an upper Level by the side of the Vein & intend to sink between that & the Horse Level for a Communication of fresh Air, & raising Ore in the upper Stratum. Scaleburnmoss is very much failed, by the North Vein scattering, and separating into small parts, and from which Vein we have been raising the principal part of the Ore, however we are using every effort to find the Vein where the scatter'd parts are collected together. Thomas Bell & co are sinking a Sump in one of those parts in the Great Limestone. Matthew Hall & co are driving the Horse Level, and Thomas Humble & co and John Richardson & co are both driving a deep Level to drain effectually Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss Mines, and which will cut several veins by the way.

Smallcleugh Mine is much poorer than for some time past, the Flatts having failed in the leading workings and the other parts very much exhausted, though I trust the foremost workings will revive again by the intersection of fresh Strings. John Stephenson & co are cutting across for the discovery of such Strings. Miles Irwin & co are driving one of the Horse Levels. John Bowman & co are sinking a Sump for the convenience of the fresh Air, and is a hard difficult job. Thos Hewitson & co are also sinking a Sump for a circulation of Air though a different part of the Mines, & raising Ore in the Great Limestone.

Middlecleugh Mine is poor. Chr Elliott & co are driving one of the Horse Levels in the Limestone & is prodigious hard. Thomas Thompson & co are driving a Level under the Great Limestone to drain the Vein. Robt Elliott & co are driving another of the

Horse Levels in a different branch of the Mine. Wm Hall & co are sinking a Shaft from the Surface to cause a circulation of air through the Mine.

Hangingshaw & Caplecleugh are both still poor. John Hall & co are driving the deep Level at the former, and Robt Dickinson & co the Horse Level at the latter. Browngill Sun Vein is poor, except the foremost Bargain in the list, which is now raising a good deal of fine Ore. Joseph Vipond & co are driving a Level to open more of that part of the Vein which is now successful. Joseph Hall & co are driving one of the Horse Levels. Wm Tomlinson & co are driving a Level in the Vein, and will occasionally sink into the Vein, where I believe they will meet with success. At Browngill Jas Dickinson & co are driving the Horse Level.

Tynebottom is poor. Jos Wanless & co are driving an upper Horse Level by the side of the Vein, and will at convenient points try the same for Ore, Isaac Teasdale & co are driving the deep Level to drain and prove the success of the Vein as they go on. Broomsberry & Gudhamgillmoss are principally under trial. Thos Walton & co are driving the Horse Level which will by & bye relieve the Vein of present difficulties. Jas Thompson & co are opening & repairing an old Level & will soon raise some Ore in the old Workings. Stanhopeburn Mine is raising small parcels of Ore, tho' being poor required high prices. John Vipond & co are driving the Level for the benefit of the Flatts. Thos Wilkinson the Horse Level (please to see the last report.)

Middlehope Mine employs a great many hands, and raised a great deal of Ore, though several parts of the Mine is poorer than last year. The new String to the Westward is still doing well, & especially in the upper part of the Great Limestone, in which are the three foremost in the Middlehope Bargain list, but the bottom part of the Limestone is poorer and hard, which is generally the case with all Veins. Beaumont's people were in our Mine last Thursday, taking their plan, but no observations were made by the parties. Chas Maddison & co are driving the upper Horse Level for the benefit of working the upper Stratums, and to form a necessary communication with the deepest parts of the Mine, as we ascend the high mountain in which the Vein takes its direction to the Eastward. Cuth Vannon & co are driving into the little Limestone, and will shortly raise Ore. Jno Liverick & co are driving the deep Horse Level, & Cuth Watson & co are sinking a Sump between the two Levels as an accommodation of fresh Air thro' the whole Mine.

There is little alteration with Ireshopeburn Mine since last report. John Kidd & co are driving the Horse Level. Lodgesyke Mine is doing vastly well, and the Ore of a productive quality. Jas Bainbridge & co are driving the Horse Level & John Pinkney the deep Level as a general drain to the Mine, and to try the deep Strata in the Vein. Thos Temple & co are repairing a Level. All the other parts of Teesdale Mines are very poor & some of them under fresh trials. Chr Pinkney & co are driving the deep Level at Wiregill for the discovery of veins, & John Nixon & co are driving the Horse Level which by & bye will relieve the Old Soles, which will raise a good deal of Ore, but requires patience & perseverance. John Watson & co are driving the deep Level at Flakebrigg which is yet some distance from the Vein. Geo Allison & co are opening an old Level at Brokergill, as I want to see a Vein work'd many years ago in that place.

I am &  
Thos Dodds Senr

**17 Nov 1810 Thomas Dodd**

Nenthead Nov 17th 1810

Hon[oure]d Masters

Having examined the Mines under my care in the Moor, Teesdale, Weardale & co, I lett the Bargains on the 2nd, 3rd & 4th Octo[be]r, but my Time having been so completely taken up with settling all the Moor Accts, going to Newcastle & attending the Pays & co that it was not in my Power to transmit the list of Bargains & report sooner. The Mines with the exception of a few Places are extremely poor, but especially in many parts in the Moor. However I have lett the Bargains both for Ore and Dead Work on the lowest Terms possible. A considerable Expense has occurred this Year of cast Iron, Timber & Workmanship & co at Rampgill and Smallcleugh Engine, Stanhope Crushing Machine and other inevitable repairs, which swells the general account but will not appear again, for the Engines are now in a complete state of repair, and Stanhope Crushing Machine nearly finished.

At Rampgill Thos Readshaw & co are sinking into the great Limestone, and will soon try the vein. Wm Horsely & co are sinking a shaft from the surface for furnishing the Mine with fresh air. At Scaleburnmoss Robt Barron & co are driving in a part of the Vein to relieve the same of Water under the great Limestone. Matthew Hall & co are driving the Horse Level which gradually prepares the Vein for raising Ore. Robt Elliott & co are cutting across to a fresh Spring.

Smallcleugh Mine is doing well. The two foremost Bargains in the List are in the new Flatt – it contains a great deal of good Ore, but it is so hard and closely compacted in the great Limestone that it requires 20s per Bing to raise it, it being altogether to blast with Gunpowder. Wm Richardson & co are driving the Horse Level under the Flatt. Thos Hewitson & co are sinking a Sump from the Horse Level into the Engine Level for the accommodation of fresh air. Thos Cain & co are cutting across to the new Flatt at the distance of 15 Fa[thom]s south from where it is already cut.

Middlecleugh Mine is poor. Chas Elliott & co are driving one of the Horse Levels. Jos Vickers & co are cutting across to a fresh String and will soon raise some Ore in the same. Miles Irwin & co are driving a Horse Level in a different Part of the Mine. This Mine consists of four different Veins. Thos Thompson & co are driving a level under the Limestone to relieve the Vein of Water & Wm Waugh & co are driving another Horse Level in the Vein to prepare the same for Trial.

Hangingshaw & Caple Cleugh are poor but the latter one is approaching a cross Vein, from which I have considerable expectation, and trust it will do much better for the ensuing Year. At the former, John Hall & co are driving the Horse Level and at the latter Edwd Fawcett & co are sinking into the Vein & will shortly raise Ore.

Garrigill Mines are poor, except Browngill Sun Vein which will raise more Ore next Year at less Prices. James Dickinson & co are driving the Horse Level & Wm Bright & co are rising into an upper Stratum to try the Vein in the same.

Tynebottom Mine is still poor. Josh Wanless & co are driving an upper Level to try the Vein & will shortly sink into the great Limestone or that End. Isaac Teasdale & co are driving the deep Horse Level, & will shortly cut a fresh Vein under the Limestone, which probably will produce Ore.

Broomsberry & Gudhamgillmoss are still under Trial, but will by & by raise Ore to pay the Expense.

Middlehope Mine continues to be productive, and especially the new String to the Westward. The seven Bargains which stand foremost in the list being all in it. The east end of it now working by the Comp[an]y & Col Beaumont is good for nothing, very hard, & agreeable to the mining phrase twitched. Henry Coulthard & co are driving a regular Horse Level in said String, which is a Cut of the old Vein, and as soon as this Level is driven into the String it will raise Ore. John Johnson & co are driving the Partnership Level. Cuth Vannan & co are rising in the upper Stratums, and will soon raise Ore. John Charlton & co are driving the upper Horse Level.

Ireshopeburn is very poor, but is lett in a Task as I explained to the Gentlemen when in the North, and therefore have represented in the list as usual.

Stanhopeburn Mine tho' poor will raise by & by such parcels of Ore from the different parts as to pay the Expenche when the Crushing machine is finished. Jno Vipond & co are driving the Level in the Limestone which prepares the Vein and Flatts for raising Ore. Thos Wilkinson & co are driving the deep Horse Level.

Lodgesyke Mine is successful and raises the principal part of the Ore at moderate prices. Jas Bainbridge & co are driving the Horse Level. Isaac Lee & co are rising into the Vein in the Limestone, and will shortly raise Ore. John Pinkney & co are driving the deep Horse Level. Thos Toward & co are sinking a shaft from the Surface. Mannergill will now raise Ore to prevent loss. Josh Atkinson & co are driving the Horse Level. Wiregill is under trial & will come round again but Money & patience are requisite to the accomplishment of that End. John Nixon & co are driving the Horse Level, & when it comes to a certain point in the Vein, will relieve it of water & raise Ore. Josh Schollick & co are driving the deep Horse Level for the discovery of Veins. Flakebrigg level is not yet at the Vein, but I hope will get into it during the ensuing year and raise some Ore. Boltshaw is not, nor ever will be worthy of Pursuit. The matter has been sufficiently discussed already, and when the Court have leisure they will give me instructions on this point, but in the mean time they will not forget that the money is spending. I have observed what the Court say respecting Nenthead Mill Lease, but I never saw such Lease, and if it was attached to any Mine Lease, it must have been Rampgill, but long since, it has not been in my time. That Mill never paid any Acknowledgement to Greenwich hospital and it is probable none will be required.

I am etc

Thos Dodd Senr

12 Jan 1811 Thomas Dodd

Nenthead Jany 12th, 1811

Hon[oure]d Masters,

Having viewed minutely the Company's Mines under my direction in the Moor, Teasdale & Weardale, on the 27th, 28th, & 29th, I lett the Bargains, a list of which is annexed., and am confident tho' some parts are poor, yet one with another they will do well. I have taken great pains in making the arrangements and bargains throughout these extensive Concerns, so as to render them profitable, but at the same time I am sorry to find such a depression on the Lead markets, in consequence of which all the little Companies in this Country are getting into a deplorable situation, as they can scarcely sell either Ore or Lead, and the Country Banks become shy respecting Credit.

Rampgill and Scaleburnmoss are not much altered since my last report. I have reduced the prices in the poorest parts to 48/- per Bing and £12.15.- per Ton the highest. and Middlehope and Teasdale to 45/- per Bing the highest being at present much more productive than the Moor, where the poor pickings will make the Workmen as good wages at 45/- as the Moor will do at 48/-. At Rampgill Wm Horsley & co are sinking a Shaft from the Surface to the Horse Level, and will finish before the end of the Quarter. Thos Readshaw & co are sinking a Sump into the Great Limestone and will shortly try the Vein in the same. Wm Teasdale & co are sinking a Sump in a different part of the Vein in search of Ore. At Scaleburnmoss Mattw Hall & co are cutting across to a String which runs parallel with the vein at a distance of 7 or 8 Fa[thom]s, where I expect to meet with Ore. Robt Barron & co are driving a Level in the Vein under the Great Limestone to relieve the same of Water. Thos Humble & co are driving the Horse Level to prepare the Vein for Trial at different points as they go on, and what we call in the Mining Trade 'opening fresh ground'.

Smallcleugh Mine is doing well, and the new Flatt continues prodigious hard, yet contains plenty of Ore, and has the appearance of being durable. The three foremost bargains are in it. Geo Robinson & co are driving the Level, considerably under all the other workings of the Mine, as the common Drain which brings the Water to the Engine. Thos Hewitson & co are cutting across in hard Limestone, to the Vein to try same. Thos Cain & co are cutting across to the new Flatt as per last Report. Middlecleugh Mine is poor, consisting principally of poor Pickings. Wm Waugh & co are driving one of the Horse Levels, which prepares the Vein for Trial. Miles Irwin & co are driving another Horse Level in a different part of the Mine, for the purpose of trying the Vein in the Great Limestone, and both are excessive hard.

Hangingshaw & Caplecleugh are not rich, yet will raise Ore this year to advantage; John Hall & co are driving the Horse Level at the former, and no dead work is upon the Latter this Quarter. Browngill Sun Vein, which is the chief part of the Garrigill Mines is raising better than for a long time past, and will work to advantage this year. Jas Hall & co are driving an upper Horse Level, for the Trial of the Vein in the higher Stratum, by

which means we are raising Ore. Richd Thomason & co are sinking a sump to furnish the Mine with air and commodious Way-Gates. Jas Dickinson & co are driving the Horse Level.

Tynebottom Mine is rising small parcels of Ore of the best Quality, probably the most productive in Lead of any of the Company's Mines. Isaac Teasdale & co are driving the Horse Level, and opens the Vein for Trial. Jos Wanless & co are driving a Level to prove the upper Stratum.

Gudhamgillmoss and Broomsberry Mines are under trial, and must remain so for some time, but in the course of this Year will raise some parcels of Ore. Geo Raw & co are driving the Horse Level. James Thompson & co are driving a deep level, which is to relieve Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss Mines of water when it arrives at the intended point, and will be deeper than the bottom of the Engines on these Mines and will cut several hopeful Veins by the Way. Thos Walton & co are driving an upper Horse Level, and will shortly enable us to raise Ore in the Vein.

Middlehope Mine is working to great advantage, especially the new String to the Westward. The twelve foremost Bargains in the list consisting of 60 Pickmen are all raising Ore in said String, but the old Vein and String Eastward continue poor. Henry Coulthard & co are driving the Horse Level in the String. John Vickers & co are cutting across to the String and will shortly raise Ore. John Johnson & co are driving the Horse Level Eastward in the String jointly with Col Beaumont's Workmen. Ireshopeburn Mine is poor. Jno Kidd & co are driving the Horse Level. Stanhopeburn Mine being poorer than the rest obliges me to give 50/- per Bing for the poorest parts. Thomas Wilkinson & co are driving the deep Level which I expect during this Year will cut one of the principal Veins, when a shaft will have to be sunk from the surface, and will prove the means of raising more Ore. Jno Vipond & co are driving the upper Horse Level which opens the Vein and Flatts for raising Ore as it advances.

Lodgesyke Mine is doing great things and will probably raise as much Ore this Year as Middlehope, and at as favorable prices. The String which I reported to the Court in my last (Dec 22) is raising a good deal of most excellent solid Ore, which will be very productive of Lead. Isaac Lee & co are driving in a part of the Vein, where we expect to meet with Ore shortly. Jas Bainbridge & co are driving the deep Horse Level, & Jno Pinkney & co are driving another Horse Level, which lays open the Vein for raising Ore, and bringing out to the Surface to be washed. Thos Toward & co are cutting across to the Vein, & will soon raise Ore. Jos Atkinson & co are driving the Horse Level at Mannergill.

Wiregill is still under Trial. Jno Dixon & co are driving the upper Horse Level, which will by & by relieve the Vein of Water when we shall again raise Ore. Josh Schollick & co are driving the deep Horse Level for the discovery of Veins. And at Flakebrigg Wm Allison & co are driving the Level which will shortly be up to the Vein. The Court will please to apprise me when Gunpowder is shipped and name the price.

I am etc

Thos Dodds Senr

**13 Apr 1811 Thomas Dodd**

Nenthead April 13th, 1811

Hon[ou]re]d Masters,

After minutely inspecting the Mines under my Care, on the 19th, 20th & 21st, I lett the bargains, a list of which I have annexed, and trust the Court will give me credit for having taken every step in my power to render the whole concern beneficial. Under the present arrangement the number of hands in Dead-Work are between 40 & 50 fewer than the last return of Bargains, for there are none employed, but such as are necessary for the support of the works. The Mines throughout Alston Moor are very poor, the price of Lead bad, and the division of the Commons have brought the Country into a state of the most abject poverty, and it is a fact, that three fourths of the Workmen in the Moor cannot make wages to support their families but not knowing how to relieve themselves are obliged to submit themselves to such an indigent pittance as they can obtain. The Court will find the prices as I stated them.

Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss Mines tho' poor will work to advantage under the present regulations. At Rampgill Mine Anty Hewitson & co & Geo Raw & co are each driving a Horse Level in different parts of the Mine, but which are under different Leases. Scaleburnmoss Mine – Robt Barron & co are driving a deep Level to drain the Mine to the Bottom of the great Limestone. Thos Humble & co are sinking a Sump, and will try the Vein for Ore in the Limestone. Smallcleugh Mine is working to advantage, tho' the Flatts are very hard, and the Ore procured by constant blasting with Gunpowder. Thos Cain & co are cutting across for the discovery of fresh Flatts. Geo Robinson & co are driving the general drain Level which brings the water of the Mine to the Engine.

Middlecleugh Mine is poor, but having little Dead work at present will be kept from Loss. Miles Irwin & co are sinking a sump to the great Limestone and will raise Ore when finished. At Caplecleugh Mine which is poor, Robt Dickinson & co are repairing Levels which frequently get into decay by long standing. At Hangingshaw Mine John Hall & co are driving the Horse Level.

Broomsberry Mine is still under Trial. Thos Walton & co are driving the Horse Level. Garrigill Mines are poor in general, and as they consist of several Leases, they of course take the more hands in Dead work to support and preserve them from forfeiture. In Browngill Sun Vein John Lancaster & co are driving a Level under the Firestone Sill where the Vein is whole, and will occasionally try the Vein for Ore. Jno Dryden & co, & Thos Vipond & co are repairing the Levels. Jas Dickinson & co are sinking and will soon try the Vein for Ore. At Browngill Jos Wanless & co are sinking into the great Limestone, and will prove the vein shortly. At Tynebottom Mine Thos Archer & co are driving a Level in the Limestone, and will soon try the Vein.

Lodgesyke Mine in Teesdale is doing vastly well. The Horse Level which I put in on the side of the Mountain is in a proper place, going under the productive part of the

Vein, and is a very great accommodation to the Mine, by producing a constant stream of water for washing the Ore, and by bringing both the Ore and rubbish out at an easy expence. I have lett a great number of bargains at this Mine, at favorable prices, and only one bargain is Dead Work. Geo Tarn & co are driving the Horse Level. The future prospect is flattering. Mannergill, Wiregill & Flakebrigg are so poor that they can raise little or no Ore at the present reduced prices, and are under Trial with as few hands as can support the Leases.

Middlehope Mine in Weardale is still successful in the new String to the Westward and raises a great deal of Ore. I think this Mine and Lodgesyke will be about a par this year, tho' the duty at one is much easier than the other. John Johnson & co are driving in the String Eastward jointly with Col Beaumont's Workmen. In driving about 4 Fa[thom]s more then String and Vein will be the given distance of 20 Yards from each other, when we will be quit of them. The String Eastward is not worth a shilling as was prophesied of it – there is little or no Ore in it, and it requires £14 per Fathom to drive it - & I am persuaded when it reaches the Boundary they will give it up. Henry Coulthard & co are driving the Horse Level Westward in the said String. Ireshopeburn is poor. Jn Kidd & co are driving the deep Level to open the Vein. Boltshaw is still in the same miserable state as before. There is little alteration with Stanhopeburn Mine since my last Report. Jno Vipond & co are driving the Horse Level for the relief of the Flatts and Vein in the Great Limestone. Thos Wilkinson & co are driving the deep Horse Level.

The Court are in possession of my Son's Plan & Mr Bainbridge's letter respecting the Allotments. If the Court intend to inclose and improve their Lot I should be glad if they would take mine, for I have neither time nor money to bestow upon it. It is of some better quality than the Court's, & has a fine stream of water in it Winter & Summer, and an excellent Quarry which is very convenient for the Company's Allotment. I will refer the Value to the Court or any person or persons they will please to appoint, and will be happy to hear from them on the subject, as the time or season now approaches for doing something.

I am etc

Thos Dodd Senr

**13 Jul 1811 Thomas Dodd**

Nenthead 13th July 1811

Hon[oure]d Masters

After viewing the Mines under my care in Alston Moor, Weardale & Teasdale, on the 1st, 2nd & 3rd instant I lett the sundry Bargains a list of which is annexed.

I have taken all the care in my power to curtail the general expence throughout the whole Works that I might fully meet the Court's wishes in the reduction of prices for raising the Ore, & which has caused 146 fewer hands in the working list than it



contained at Lady Day, & comparatively speaking, there will be little Ore raised this Quarter in the Moor and Stanhope which are at present the poorest parts of the works.

Rampgill is some degrees poorer than last quarter & employs fewer hands in consequence of the reduced prices, but will raise the Ore to advantage, should the Lead markets support the present price. Caleb Dryden & co are driving in a cross vein and will shortly meet with Ore to work by the Bing. Josh Blaycock & co are rising into the vein in the great Limestone in the same vein and will soon raise Ore. Jacob Peart & co are driving the deep Level, which in time is intended to abolish Rampgill Engine & we are obliged to drive s[ai]d level as it supports a separate lease. Scaleburnmoss Mine will raise Ore to preserve the Mine from loss. Robt Barron & co are driving the deep Level which drains the Mine & Thos Humble & co are driving the horse level under a different lease – of course both are necessary to be pursued.

Smallcleugh Mine is poorer than formerly, but will work to advantage. Jsh Percival & co are cutting across for the discovery of fresh Flatts. Geo Robinson & co are driving the deep level from the Engine as the general drain of the Mine. Middlecleugh is poor & employs few hands on account of the alterations in the Bargains. Miles Irwin & co are driving one of the horse levels & Thos Hewitson & co another one, but are different leases. Garrigill Mines are still poor, but no more dead work going on but such as is necessary to support the different leases. At Browngill sun vein John Lancaster & co are repairing a level. At Tynebottom Joseph Wanless & co are driving the horse level, & Richd Lawthian & co are driving a horse level in a different vein. I have given up two leases called in the list of leases of the Co[mpany]'s Mines in the Moor, Cooper-dyke-heads middle vein & Fletcheras vein, there being no longer any prospect in them. They have always appeared in the name of Tynebottom. At Browngill Jas Dickinson & co are driving the horse level. At Hangingshaw John Hall & co are driving the horse level, & little alteration with either this Mine or Caplecleugh since my last report. Edwd Fawcett & co are driving the horse level at the latter. Thos Walton & co are driving the horse level at Broomsberry, which is still under trial.

Stanhope Mine is much the same as last quarter & I was obliged to give 40/- per Bing for the Ore Bargains, otherwise they would not have been wrought.

The Crushing Machine is of great benefit & will make at least 1/5 more of the ore than the common way of washing, for the more stubborn the ore the more beneficial the machine. John Vipond & co are driving the horse level which is a general accommodation for bringing out the ore and rubbish and also working the Flatts in the limestone. Thos Atkinson & co are driving the deep level to drain the whole Mine & dry the veins in the low stratum.

Lodgesyke Mine is doing well & raises the Ore at favorable prices and the levels being in a proper situation makes the general expence easy. Geo Tarn & co are driving the horse level & John Pinkney & co are repairing Bingsteads, Knockstones, Buddles, and winning stones etc in wages.

At Wiregill, Mannergill & Flakebrigg we are merely driving the necessary horse levels to preserve the leases, as none of the poor pickings will work at the reduced price.

Middlehope Mine is still doing well and raises a great deal of Ore and especially in that part of the string to the westward which was obtained in the settlement with Col Beaumont, for the East end is very poor on account of the high mountain coming gradually back on the vein & string. Josh Dalkin & co are cutting across to the vein in one of the upper stratum.

Ireshopeburn is much the same as the last report. John Kidd & co are driving the horse level. Boltshaw Mine is still very poor & will always be a losing concern. I have been obliged to turn away all the workmen this quarter end & send fresh hands from Nenthead. Such a parcel of designing Men I have seldom met with.

I am etc

Thomas Dodd Senr

**1 Nov 1811 Thomas Dodd**

Nenthead November 1st 1811

Honored Masters,

Having examined the situation of the sundry Mines under my care on the 14th, 15th & 16th I let the Bargains a list of which is annexed. The prices for raising the Ore being reduced to 35/- the highest, has put it out of our power to work many of the poor Pickings, of course the number of hands is fewer than last Quarter, and will be fewer every Quarter whist things remain in their present state, as few Mines will work at the price given. The Mining Countries are getting into great distress and the people are flying in all directions for employment, & none to assist them but Frederick Hall who employs all that go, in Derwent, and says he will employ a thousand and yet he gets little or no ore. He must be throwing away £20000 a year in that Country. At the same time I believe he is making himself rich.

Rampgill & Scaleburnmoss under the present curtailed mode of working cannot do much good, but trust they will be carried on without loss. At Rampgill Josh Blaylock & co are driving the Horse Level under the great Limestone, and the Vein looks hopeful. Wm Hardy & co are driving in the Vein in an upper Stratum, where Ore will be got shortly by the Bing. Thos Humble & co are driving the Horse Level to prepare the Vein for raising Ore. Robt Barron & co are driving a Level in the Bottom of the great Limestone as a drain to the Mine.

Smallcleugh Mine under the present Mode of working will raise Ore to advantage. The workings are principally in the Flatts, and the Ore of course is of a superior quality. Geo Robinson & co are driving the Level from the bottom of the Engine in a south direction, to unwater, in process of time, all the Middlecleugh East & West running Veins. Middlecleugh is poor and employs few hands, tho' will be kept from loss, being only one Dead Bargain.

Hangingshaw & Caplecleugh are poor and carries few hands. At the former Thos Cain & co are driving a Level to relieve the Vein of Water in the Great Limestone & will

shortly raise Ore. Jno Hall & co are driving a Level which will in the course of two years, cut some Veins by the way, bottom the Smallcleugh Engine and prove of great utility. At Caplecleugh Mine Robt Dickinson & co are driving the Horse Level, which embraces several valuable objects, both Cross Veins & East & West ones in very hopeful Ground. Browngill Sun Vein is poor, the foremost Bargain in the List excepted. This is a fresh Stratum in which the Vein contains a great deal of Ore, and will prove beneficial to all appearances when more of the Vein is laid open. Jas Dickinson & co are driving the Horse Level. The other parts of Garrigill are poor. At Tynebottom, Richd Lowthain & co are driving the Horse Level & Josh Wanless & co are driving a Horse Level in a different Vein. Isaac Teasdale & co are driving the Horse Level at Browngill & Thortergate. Josh Gray & co are opening and repairing an old Level. Broomsberry & Gudhamgillmoss is poor. Thos Walton & co are driving the Horse Level.

Middlehope Mine raise a great deal of Ore of an excellent Quality and has the appearance of doing well for years to come. The new String to the westward continues productive but Col Beaumont's part Eastward produces nothing. Henry Coulthard & co are driving the Horse Level in the String. Josh Dalkin & co are cutting across in one of the upper Stratums to try the new String. Ireshopeburn is not much altered since my last Report. Jno Kidd & co are driving the Horse Level. Stanhopeburn Mine is very poor. The workmen cannot make wages in the poor Pickings at the prices given; and but for the Crushing Machine the Mine could not be wrought. Thos Wilkinson & co are driving the Horse Level & Jno Vipond & co that in the Limestone Flatts.

Lodgesyke is prosperous. The Ore is good and being raised near the surface makes it of a soft kindly nature, and must be productive in Lead; & I sincerely wish the Lead Markets wore a more pleasant aspect. Jno Pinkney & co are driving a Horse Level 23 fathoms deeper than the present workings, & when driven to a certain point, Sumps will be sunk out of the present workings, and prove the success of the lower Stratums. Geo Rain & co are driving a Horse Level in a different part of the Mine. All the other Teesdale Mines are poor, & under trial, with only a sufficient number of Hands to preserve the Leases from forfeiture. There is not any prospect at Boltshaw, & the Workmen necessary to preserve the Lease are working to no purpose & I should be glad to relinquish that disagreeable concern.

The above (see Waste Book Fo 47) is all the Ore of which the Court request to be informed, for as there is no time given after the 30th September the Miners came out of the Mines to assist the Washers in washing up all the Ore against that day, and of course there never will be any Stock of consequence in future.

The Court will please to observe that none of the Ore above is in this Years Accts, but will come in 30th Sept 1812.

I am etc,

Thos Dodd, Senr.

**18 Jan 1812 Thomas Dodd**

Nenthead 18th January 1812.

Hon[oure]d Masters,

After viewing the Comp[an]y's Mines under my care, on the 6th, 7th & 8th Inst I lett the Bargains, a list of which is annexed. Rampgill Mine is much in the same state as last Report. Jno Hall & co are driving a Horse Level for the support of one of the leases & which is the only dead Bargain at said mine. Scaleburnmoss Mine will raise the ore to advantage. Roby Irwin & co are the only dead Bargain and is an intermediate one & will by finished by Lady-day next.

Smallcleugh Mine raises good productive ore in the Flatts: but is very hard & difficult to work, being altogether got by the use of Gunpowder (called blasting.) Geo Robinson & co are sinking a sump into the deep Level from the bottom of the Engine to accommodate the said Level with fresh air which is the general drain to the Mine, and tho' at present an intermediate Bargain cannot be permitted to stand unoccupied without evidently injuring both Smallcleugh & Middlecleugh Mines. Middlecleugh Mine is poor, and several parts so much so, that they cannot be wrought at the present prices. Thos Hewitson & co, an intermediate Bargain, are sinking a sump for fresh air & will probably finish by Lady-day. Garrigill Mines are still poor but the most hopeful part is Browngill Sun Vein, which is now raising ore pretty well. Anty Brown & co is an intermediate Bargain and will finish and raise ore before Lady-day. James Dickinson & co are driving a Level to cut a fresh Vein, and is to prevent one of the Leases from forfeiture.

At Tynebottom Isaac Teasdale & co are driving the horse level in one of the veins, and is an intermediate Bargain which will be finished by the end of the quarter. Josh Wanless & co are driving a new horse level on the west side of the Tyne to cut two veins & several flatts in fresh ground in the Limestone, which trial covers and supports two Leases and must go on, but is the best object in the Tynebottom leases and will, I expect, raise some very good ore, before the end of the year, and altho' many parts of the Comp[an]y's Mines raise ore of a very productive quality, yet there is no equal to Tynebottom on the west of the Tyne. Jacob Gray & co are at Browngill & Thortergill which are very poor and are opening & repairing one of the levels and is an intermediate Bargain which will be finished before Lady-day - But it also supports one of the Garrigill Leases. At Broomsberry & Gudhamgillmoss Thos Walton & co are driving the horse level which both supports the Leases and is an intermediate Bargain, but will shortly be finished at a certain point of the vein, where we shall raise ore. Hangingshaw is poor, and Thos Cain & co are driving a level under the Limestone in some strings and Flatts, it is an intermediate Bargain and will soon raise ore. Robt Dickinson & co are driving a horse level at Caplecleugh, which covers the leases of these different veins. This trial embraces some of the best objects which we have in the Moor, but being at some distance, will require time for its accomplishment, and they cannot be held without pursuing it.

Lodgesyke Mine goes on prosperously, and the ore of a famous quality, the poorest pickings in this Mine being softer & better to work than any of the Comp[an]y's other Mines, I therefore made the highest price 33/- per Bing. Jno Pinkney & co are cutting across to the vein in one of the deep stratum to prove its success. And Geo Rain & co are driving the deep horse level. This being all the dead Bargains at present, the Mine of course will work to great advantage. At Wiregill and Manorgill we are barely preventing the lease from forfeiture, the former will shortly begin to raise ore. The deep level at Flakebrigg is now up to the vein and the old man's work being 3 or 4 fathoms deeper than the level, we are therefore obliged to put in a small Engine under the Level to bring us under the old works; we had the wheel and some other materials on the spot, so that the expence will not be much, and will soon be put to work.

Middlehope Mine is doing vastly well in the new Vein westward. The agreement with Mr and Mrs Beaumont was difficult to procure but the reflection of it always produces satisfaction in my mind. John Phillipson & co are driving the upper Level in the new Vein. Richd Pears & co are cutting across to a north string at Boltshaw but it never can succeed. Stanhope Mine is poor, and no reasonable wages can be made by the workmen at the price, but they are unwilling to quit & flatter themselves times will get a turn. Jno Vipond & co are driving the upper Level for the flatts, & Thos Wilkinson & co the deep one. In answer to the Court's letter of the 9th respecting Ireshopeburn Mine, I have to state as follows. 1st the Bargain has to run till the 30th Sept, 1813. 2nd the number of hands now employed as pickmen are 12, which number they are not to exceed, but has the liberty to reduce them to 4, but in the summer season they employ not less than 10 men & lads to wash the ore, having so much rubbish in it, it requires many hands to make it clean. 3rd my sole and entire reason for letting this Bargain beyond the usual time (and which is the only one in the Comp[an]y's Works) was the universal poverty of the Mine and the Comp[an]y's advantage. Previous to my letting this Bargain the Mine stood unwrought a long time on account of its poverty, for there was not ore in it to work it by price of Bing, nor was there any object left for fresh trials. I therefore lett the Bargain to the present workmen untill the period above mentioned for which they pay the Comp[an]y £55 per annum, and sell me the ore at a fair market price, the £55 being always deducted off the ore whatever sum it amounts to, and this mine being a concern of so little moment, I therefore concluded it was not worth troubling the Court with an explanation of it, but represented it under the usual mode of Bargains at the other Mines. Now the method by which these Men make themselves & their hirelings wages on this Bargain is, the great exertion that they use, for they work from Monday morning to Saturday night, and nearly double the work which is wrought in common Bargains, and it is plain as possible the Comp[an]y could not have wrought this Mine in the common way without considerable loss, nor will they ever be able to do it after this bargain expires on account of its poverty. After stating these facts to the Court trust they will exculpate me from the most distant intention to do wrong or injure them, but to do them good, which has always been the ruling motive of all my transactions in the Comp[an]y's service.

I am, etc,

Thos Dodd, Senr

**18 Apr 1812 Thomas Dodd**

Nenthead April 18th 1812

The Hon[ourable] the Governor & Co,

Having reviewed the Mines under my care in Teasdale, Weardale & the Moor, on the 24th, 25th & 26th March I lett the Bargains, and have herewith annexed a List. I have lett every part as low as possible both for the Ore and the inavoidable Dead Work, & yet after having offered 38/- per Bing & £10 per F[ath]om for old Pickings, as I proposed to the Court, many of the workmen refuse to take and are unemployed in the Moor, and several who are employed, I am afraid, will not be able to clear their advance money and other Charge. Some parts of Rampgill Mine raise a good deal of ore, and will upon the whole do well. Geo Barron & co are driving the Horse Level, and will imminately rise into the Vein in the Great Limestone which is above the Level, and will raise ore in the same. Wm Hardy & co are to drive the same Level when these above are finished. This Vein was discovered in driving Rampgill Horse Level, is whole 1500 or 1600 yards to the southward, is of considerable strength & looks hopeful. On account of the present reduced prices, Scaleburnmoss Mine employs fewer hands, and even at 38/- per Bing & £10 [per fathom] the poor Pickings will not work. Thos Humble & co are driving the Horse Level. Robt Irwin & co are sinking into the Vein in the great Limestone to prove its success. Smallcleugh Mine, in some parts of the Flatts, raises ore to advantage, but many of the old Pickings, not only in this, but also in all the Company's Mines on the Moor, stand unwrought for want of higher prices, and may remain so until greater encouragement can be given. Should the present depressed state of the Lead Market last long, it will eventually happen, that all the best parts of the Mine will get exhausted, and the poor parts will stand unoccupied for want of price for raising the ore. Geo Robinson & co are unfinished. Please to see the last report of Smallcleugh Mine.

Middlecleugh Mine is so universally poor that scarcely any part can be wrought under the present arrangement. Miles Irwin & co are driving a Level to drain one of the Vein of water in the Great Limestone.

Hangingshaw & Caplecleugh mines labour under similar difficulties with Middlecleugh and many others, & are so poor that few hands can be employed at the prices given. At the former Thos Cain & co are driving a Level to drain the Vein in the Great Limestone, and will soon be done. And at the latter Robt Dickinson & co are driving the deep Level, which imbraces the great Trial set forth on the Plan which I left with the Court. This will be a work of considerable time, will require patience & money, but the prospect is flattering.

Broomsberry & Gudhamgillmoss Mines are poor. Thos Walton & co are driving the Horse Level and will shortly try the Vein in the Great Limestone.

Garrigill Mines are all poor, & it is with the utmost difficulty they can be carried on with the prices now given; the workmen <murmer> hard, & make poor wages. Jas Dickinson & co are driving a Level and have cut a fresh Vein, and which will be tried in the Limestone for Ore. Wm Armstrong & co are repairing a Level to prevent utter Decay. At Tynebottom Richd Louthian & co are driving a level in the Sun Veins where some good Ore is procured. Jas Wanless & co are driving a Level from the Surface, to prove some Strings and Flatts in the Limestone. Isaac Teasdale & co are sinking a Sump, will soon finish & try the Vein in the Great Limestone.

Middlehope Mine is doing well, & raises a great deal of fine productive Ore. Jno Philipson & co are driving an upper Level to prepare the Vein for raising Ore in the upper Stratum, (such as the Little Limestone and the Coal Sills) in the new String, which was the cause of the recent contention. Josh Dalkin & co are driving the Horse Level in the same string in the Great Limestone. Jno Teasdale & co are sinking a Sump for the accommodation of air and way-gates. Ireshopeburn is very poor. Jno Kidd & co are driving the deep Level. Stanhopeburn Mine can scarcely go on under the recent arrangements, being extremely poor. Jno Muse & co are driving the deep Level, & Jno Vipond & co are repairing a Shaft which is to go into the deep Level.

Teesdale Mines – Lodgesyke is very successful, and raises a large quantity of good Ore. Jos Spark & co are driving the upper Horse Level, and which is on a Level with the principal Body of the Ore, but, as much ore sets down under the Level I therefore put forward another Horse Level by Josh Richardson & co 22 Fathoms deeper, and when it carries exactly under the high Level we shall sink between, for the purpose of draining that part of the Vein betwixt the two Levels, causing a circulation of fresh air, and raising the Ore. The other parts of the Teesdale Mines are poor, and under Trial, but few Men employed. At Wiregill Jno Nixon & co are driving the Horse Level which will by & by relieve the sole & bottom part of the Vein & raise Ore. Geo Tarn & co are driving the deep Level for fresh discoveries. Wm Allinson & co are in Wages at Flakebrigg, where we are fixing a small Engine. Please to see last Report.

As Mr Bainbridge has the management of the Comp[an]y's Allotment, I therefore submit it to the Courts consideration, whether it would not be advisable for to let him have the management of the Tynebottom Estate also. I name this to the Court as it would leave me more at liberty to attend to the Mineral Concerns, which at this critical junction require my whole attention, but shall always be ready to do every thing for the best, & the interest of the public concerns. I have inclosed a List of the little things at Tynebottom, as they will stand at May-day next, and beg the Court will give orders accordingly, as May-day is approaching. I rec[eive]d the Courts letter of the 9th, & have to declare that I had no knowledge of the Courts intentions respecting my Brother until their Resolutions were sent down, nor do I remember his name being mentioned in the Court from first to last, for if I had known their determination, I would have remonstrated respecting this matter before the Court.

I am etc,

Thomas Dodd, Senr.

**18 Jul 1812 Thomas Dodd**

Nenthead 18th July 1812

The Hon[ourable] Gov[ernor] & Co

Having reviewed the Mines under my direction on the 8th, 9th, & 10th Inst, I lett the bargains, a List of which is Annexed. From the hard Times, the general poverty of the Mines in the Moor, and wages low, we are subject to many difficulties.

Rampgill Mine is much the same as last quarter, but Scaleburnmoss is so poor that few places in that Mine can be carried at the prices given. At Rampgill Geo Barron & co are driving in the Vein, which is at present poor, but expect, in a short time, better success. Wm Hardy & co are driving the Horse Level under the great Limestone, which prepares the Mine for trial. At Scaleburnmoss Thomas Humble & co are driving the Horse Level upon the great Limestone & will shortly sink into the Vein. Middlecleugh is so poor that few parts can be wrought at the present low prices. Mathew Hall & co are driving the Horse Level, which is hard & moves slowly. The Flatts at Smallcleugh go on pretty well, and raise a considerable quantity of the best Ore I almost ever saw, and which must of course prove very productive. Geo Robinson & co are driving the deep Level as the common drain to the Mines. Browngill sun vein is much the same as last Report. James Dickinson & o are sinking a Sump into the vein in search of Ore The other parts of Garrigill Mines are very poor. At Tynebottom Jos Wanless & co are driving the Horse Level. Richd Lowthain & co are sinking a Sump to try the vein. Geo Dodd & co are driving the Horse Level at Browngill & Thortergill. Hangingshaw & Caple Cleugh Mines are extremely poor, & can scarcely be wrought at the present prices. At the former John Redshaw & co are driving in the great Limestone to try the Vein, and at the latter Robt Dickinson & co are driving the principal Horse Level, as a general trial of the several Veins.

Lodge Syke Mine continues to do well, & raises ore to great advantage. Jos Spark & co are driving the Horse Level in the upper part of the Mine, and Jos Richardson & co are driving the deep Horse Level, 22 Fathoms under the upper one, and Sumps will be sunk between, to form a necessary communication for air, & for raising the Ore, the principal Body of which is found between. Wiregill and Flakebrigg are under trials, & the expense is managed as frugally as possible.

Middlehope Mine is raising Ore vastly well, & which is of a productive nature. The famous String to the westward raises by far the greatest proportion of the Ore. I should like to be furnished with the Heads of the agreement between the Comp[an]y and Col Beaumont. Josh Dalkin & co are driving the Horse Level westward in the String & Jno Phillipson & co are sinking a shaft from the surface, to produce fresh air and prove the Vein in the upper Sills, which has not yet been done. Ireshopeburn Mine is not much altered since my last report. Jno Kidd & co are driving the deep Level. Stanhopeburn Mine is so poor that I am afraid we shall not be able to go on at the prices given for



raising the Ore. Jos Butler & co are driving the deep Level which is very hard and goes slowly.

Boltshaw Mine remains good for nothing. There is not more than 5 or 6 Bings of Ore raised at the Mine this year. The Court no doubt are acquainted with their own reasons for continuing this Mine, but they may believe me, it is money thrown away for there is no prospect. I have set on a trial at Lovelady Shield, in the fresh ground granted by the Greenwich Hospital to the Gov[ernor] & Co: please to see Wm Teasdale & co in the List of bargains. We have four Veins to cut with the said Level in a parallel situation, the whole within a distance of 120 Fathoms.

The Court will please order

50 ha[lf] & 50 q[uarter] Bar[rel]s Gunpowder per C.B.

50 do. & 150 do. do. F.B.

please to hurry them as we get none elsewhere and are almost out.

I intreat the Court to give me their final answer respecting my brother, that if he is to remove he may have time to look out for a situation, and if so, the Court, I trust, will have the goodness to name the reason.

I am, etc

Thomas Dodd, Senr

**31 Oct 1812 Thomas Dodd**

Nenthead, Octo[ber] 31st, 1812

The Hon The Gov[ernor] & Co,

Having gone through and visited the Company's Mines under my care, on the 15th, 16th, & 17th inst I lett the Bargains, and have, with this transmitted a List of the same. The utmost frugality has been attended to in all the Mineral Operations under my direction during the present year, which is now closed, & which I am persuaded will turn up to the satisfaction of the Court, but at the same time many necessary trials have been avoided on account of the strict injunctions we were laid under in the Court's resolution to produce the Lead at Market at the prices specified therein. I must therefore apprise the Court, that except they give me directions to put on a little more Dead Work in some of the likeliest trials, several of the Leases will immediately become forfeited; and except better prices are given for the old pickings, one third of the Ore will remain in the Mines. In this important Concern I will give the Court my best advice, and they are at liberty to make what use of it they please.

Almost all the Middlecleugh Leases are unprotected, also Hangingshaw, one at Broomsberry, and some in Garrigill. Mannergill & Brokergill in Teesdale etc are also unprotected. Now by employing about 12 Men more on these different parts, I could probably preserve them all, and be making necessary trials, and may be, some

successful ones, but without this some of them must be relinquished, which would be a difficult matter, seeing the Leases throughout are so connected one with another. I write also to advise to make the highest for the old pickings 40/- per Bing & £10.10 per Ton, and at the same time lett all the best workings in every Mine as low as possible, which indeed I have done. By pursuing this mode, some of the poorest of the Mines, now unoccupied, on account of their poverty, would again work, get Ore to advantage, and at the same time preserve the Leases without Dead Work in some parts. I have thus given the Court the best advice I was capable of, and the Mode I would pursue if the Mines were my own.

Rampgill Mine is doing well. The Cross Vein recently cut in the Horse Level is successful, and has raised a considerable quantity of Ore this year. Scaleburnmoss is very poor, and if no better prices are given will shortly have to be quitted. At Rampgill Jasper Hunter & co, & Chas Armstrong & co are each driving a Horse Level in different parts of the Mine, and at Scaleburnmoss Thos Humble & co are driving the Horse Level. Smallcleugh Flatts are going on prosperously, and produce the most productive pure Ore I ever saw. It is nearly all lead. John Parker & co are driving the Horse Level in the flatts, in the most convenient situation that can be imagined, the workings being on each side of the Level like a street with the houses on either hand. Wm Cousin & co are cutting a Cross from the old Level to the Flatts for a circulation of fresh air. Geo Robinson & co are driving the deep Engine Level, which will one day or other unwater all the Middlecleugh Veins under the great Limestone, and make them new and raise thousands of Bings of Ore, and until this is accomplished Middlecleugh will do no more good. Wm Hall & co are driving the Horse Level at Middlecelugh. At Caplecleugh Robt Dickinson & co are driving the Horse Level, but those parts of the Mine which contain Ore cannot be wrought on acco[un]t of the low prices and the poverty of the Mine. Garrigill Mines are poor, and Tynebottom also. Jas Dickinson & co at Browngill Sun Vein are driving the Horse Level, and at Tynebottom Richd Lowthain & co are sinking a Sump, and Joseph Wanless & co are driving the Horse Level. At Browngill & Thortergill Geo Dodd & co are driving the Horse Level.

Middlehope Mine is still doing well, yet not so successful as the last Quarter, but will still raise a great quantity of Ore, of a very good quality, and to much advantage. Wm Hall & co are sinking a shaft from the surface, in the West Forehead of the new vein for the accommodation of fresh air through the whole, and preparing the Vein for raising Ore in the upper Stratums. Josh Dalkin & co are driving the Horse Level in the vein Westward, in the successfull string, obtained in the settlement with Col Beaumont. John Kidd & co are driving the deep Level at Ireshopeburn.

Stanhopeburn Mine is extremely poor, and but for the benefit of the Crushing Mill could not raise any Ore at the prices given, as it could be washed in the common way. Jno Muse & co are driving the deep Level which is excessive hard and goes slowly. John Vipond & co are driving the Horse Level in the Flatts.

Lodgesyke Mine continues prosperous, and produces a great quantity of fine Ore. Jas Richardson & co are driving the deep Horse Level, and when it arrives at a certain

point in the Vein I intend to sink a Sump between the Levels which will lay the Vein open for trial in all the Sills and produce fresh air.

Wiregill & Flakebrigg Mines are both under trial, and it will be some time before we can look for profit. Broomsberry Mine is poor, and can scarcely be wrought at the price now given. Thos Indian & co are driving the Horse Level, which lays the Vein open for trial in the Limestone & Coal Sills. Richd Pears & co are driving in the Vein at Boltshaw to no purpose, having no prospect. I have been waiting in expectation for several quarters past, that the Court would order me to put an end to this business, and the expense which occurs yearly at this worthless place, might be applied in making a trial in the Mining Ground recently granted to the Court by Lord Darlington.

I only rec[ei]ve]d the Courts of the 22nd Inst and will endeavour to see the parties mentioned, who I believe will be well satisfied.

I am etc,

Thomas Dodd, Senr

**9 Jan 1813    Thomas Dodd**

Nenthead, Jany 9th, 1813

The Hon[ourable] the Gov[erno]r & co,

After viewing the Comp[an]y's Mines under my direction on the 28th, 29th & 30th last past, I lett the sundry Bargains & have annexed a list thereof. Lodgesyke (which I visited first) employs a great number of hands, having many Pickings left in the rear or hindermost parts of the Mine. The general workings are not richer than the last Quarter, yet will raise a great quantity of Ore to very considerable advantage. Jos Richardson & co are driving the deepest of the horse Levels. Jno Binks & co are sinking a sump (or Pit) from the upper Level to the deeper one (23 fathoms between) which is intended to cause a circulation of fresh air, & lay the vein open for raising Ore in the Stratums between the Levels. Richd Davidson & co are repairing a Level. Wiregill & Flakebrigg Mines are still under trial & shall be conducted on the most economical plan.

Jno Pinkney & co are driving a horse Level to cut Coldberry Vein, in a proper situation for trial, in the fresh lease obtained from Lord Darlington. Old Levels had been driven many years ago, but, as I think, very improperly. Mr Bainbridge & I corrected some trifling errors in the draft, & have sent it to his Lordship's Attorney to be engrossed. The Court will please to bear it in recollection that Coldberry Vein is the same as Lodgesyke.

Middlehope Mine continues to do well, & is not materially altered since last Report; but Col Beaumont's Mines have been poor the last year, and I am afraid the composition in lieu of Duty will be heavier upon the Comp[an]y's Ore. Jos Dalkin & co are driving the horse Level westward in the new string which continues successful. Wm Hall & co are sinking a shaft and will soon be finished. Please to see last Report.

Ireshopeburn is much the same as last Report. Jno Kidd & co are driving the deep Level. Stanhopeburn Mine continues poor, the two Levels are prodigious hard & move very slowly.

Rampgill Mine is doing well in different parts, and raising ore to advantage, especially the cross vein which we last cut in the horse Level. Jasper Hunter & co are driving the Level. Wm Armstrong & co are repairing an old Level, & Jno Stephenson & co are driving a horse Level in a different branch of the Mine. Smallcleugh Flatts are successful & raise a considerable quantity of Ore, & probably none more productive in England. It is a pleasing commodious Mine. Wm Cousin & co are cutting across from the old Vein to the Flatts, to throw a supply of fresh air into all the workings. Jno Parker & co are driving the horse Level, & Geo Robinson & co are driving the deep Level from the Engine foot, for the reviving all Middlecleugh Veins, by draining them in the deeper Stratums. Please to see last Report.

Scaleburnmoss Mine is not rich, & employs few hands, on account of the prices being low, but is not much loaded with Dead Work, & will work without loss. Thos Humble & co are driving the horse Level.

Middlecleugh Veins are miserably poor & must remain so, until the Smallcleugh Engine Level (already discribed) relieve them. Mathw Hall & co are driving the Horse Level in one of the Veins, & Charles Walton & co are driving a Level in another Vein to preserve the Lease.

Capelcleugh & Hangingshaw Mines are both so poor that neither will work at the present prices, either by Bing or Ton. Robt Dickinson & co are driving a Level which preserves the several Leases from forfeiture, but will shortly be taken to Blackashgill where the trials will be shorter & more effectually relieve the same Veins. Jno Hall & co are driving a Level for the relief of Hangingshaw Cross Vein and fair running Vein, & we are obliged to carry on said Level to preserve the Level [sic - mistake for Lease?]. Broomsberry & Gudhamgillmoss are very poor, but hope they will do better by & by. Thos Indian & co are driving the Horse Level. Wm Teasdale & co are driving the new Level at Loveladyshield but will be sometime before the first Vein will be cut.

The Garrigill Mines are still poor, though Browngill Sun Vein will raise Ore that will preserve the same from loss. Jas Dickinson & co are Sinking a Sump to try the Vein in a Flatt. Geo Dodd & co are driving the Horse Level at Browngill to preserve the Lease from forfeiture, & occasionally try the Vein. Jos Wanless & co are driving the Horse Level at Tynebottom, to prove both the Vein & Flatts, but are yet short of the object. Isaac Teasdale & co are driving a Level to cut one of the Tynebottom Veins, which is by way of covering the Lease & to try the same for Ore, & if it does not succeed in the course of six months, will be relinquished. Boltshaw does not offer any better prospects. I have said nothing to Hall's people as yet, for there is great confusion in their concerns in that Country. The new Comp[an]ys begin to see their error & take in. Their expense must have been enormous, & they are beginning to check Frederick in his most unaccountable Mining career, which has put him almost mad. He roves & swears about like a Madman & tells them to break the Engines to pieces. I will keep a

look out on the business of Boltshaw & if I can make anything out will inform the Court.

I shall conclude with observing to the Court, that in letting all Bargains whatever in their Mining concerns, I have gone upon the most frugal plan, both in the Ore Bargains and Dead Work, such as I trust will prove satisfactory to the Court.

I am, etc,

Thomas Dodd, Senr

**10 Apr 1813 Thomas Dodd**

Nenthead 10th April, 1813

The Hon Govr & Co

Sirs,

Having visited the workings of the Mines under my care, on the 24th, 25th & 26th past, I lett the sundry Bargains, a List of which is annexed.

Rampgill Mine is successful. The eight foremost Bargains on the List are raising a great deal of very excellent Ore. It is a fresh Vein recently cut in the deep Level & never before discovered, is whole for about a mile in Length, & it is certain it might have laid dormant for Ages had not the deep Level been driven. What principally causes the success of the Vein, is the intersection of a number of small Strings or Feeders passing through the West side or Cheek into the Vein as we advance southward. It is a North & South or Cross Vein, and the Strings passing are from the Veins which the Governor & Comp[an]y purchased of Henry Errington & Co about 12 years ago. This I trust will be a good concern. Josh Wallace & co are driving the deep Level which lays the Vein open for raising Ore & bringing it out of the Mine by Horses and Waggons. Wm Armstrong & co are driving the upper Level, and will sink Sumps occasionally into them for the accommodation of air, and trying the upper Stratums.

Scaleburnmoss is poor at present & employs few hands. Thos Humble & co are driving in the Vein in the great Limestone, with expectation of better Success. Jacob Blaylock & co are sinking a Sump for the circulation of fresh air. Smallcleugh Mine is doing well, though not so rich as it has sometimes been. The ore from the Flatts is of the very best quality. Mathw Cousin & co are driving a Level to furnish the Flatts with a current of fresh air. Geo Robinson & co are driving the deep Level from the Engine to drain all the Middlecleugh Veins, but it will be three or four years before the Level arrives up with them, & I am confident a great deal of Ore will be got in consequence. Jno Parker & co are driving the Horse Level in the Flatts. Middlecleugh Mine is poor and must remain so until the above trial is accomplished. Chas Walton & co are driving a Level to unwater one of the Veins in the great Limestone. Wm Hall & co are driving the Horse Level to prepare the Vein for trial. Hangingshaw Mine is poor. Jno Hall & co are driving the deep Horse Level. Wm Teesdale & co are driving the Level at Loveladyshield, but no Veins are yet cut. Broomsberry & Gudhamgillmoss are under

trial. Thos Indian & co are driving the Horse Level. Browngill Sun Vein employs few hands, but by the Ore raised, will be preserved from Loss. Jas Dickinson & co are sinking to try the Vein. Tynebottom is under trial in different parts and will by & by raise more ore. Jno Broadwell & co are sinking to prove the Vein in the Limestone. Jos Wanless are driving the Horse Level, and will cut some Flatts in the Limestone, and Geo Dodd & co are driving the Horse Level to open the Vein for trial.

Middlehope Mine employs many hands, & raises a considerable quantity of ore, but several parts require higher prices, as many of the pickings are getting poorer. Jos Dalkin & co are driving the Horse Level in the String Westward where the principal body of ore is raised. John Charlton & co are driving the Horse Level Eastward in the old Vein & is excessive hard. Ireshopeburn Mine is prodigious poor and almost done. Jno Kidd & co are driving the deep Level. There is little alteration with Stanhopeburn Mine since my last report. Jno Vipond & co are driving the upper Horse Level, to prepare the Flatts, which are poor, for raising ore. Geo Hill & co are driving the deep Level which is remarkably hard and moves slowly, and has not yet cut the first strong vein, of which there are two or three.

Lodgesyke Mine is raising a great deal of ore, though not richer than formerly but employs many hands in raising ore and will do well. Jos Richardson & co are driving the deep Horse Level, & Jno Binks & co are sinking a Sump from the upper Level to the deep one, which will drain the water from the Vein, and enable us to raise a good deal of ore between the two Levels.

Wiregill, Flakebrigg & Coldberry are all under trial, and will require both patience and money to accomplish them, but the prospects are fair and will I trust in due time do well.

Black Ash Gill Mine which I have minutely examined, is left by the late Co[mpany] in a ruinous state, and will be some time before the sundry parts of this Mine can be repaired and put into a regular working state, but the principal inducement for engaging with this Mine is its connection with the Greenwich Hospital part or North End of said Mine, called Middlecleugh Cross Vein, a large field & a good prospect. And in process of time I trust Black Ash Gill will refund the expense the Co[mpany] may be at, for the Lease contains several Hopeful Veins. Jno Elliot & co are driving the Horse Level left off by the old Co[mpany] southward, which will in future try the Eastmost and most likely Vein. Jno Vipond & co are repairing a Level and building a shop or workhouse at the Level Mouth for the accommodation of the Mine. Robt Dickinson & co are driving the Horse Level Northward into the Greenwich Hospital Liberty, which will be to drive about 80 Fa[thom]s and sumps to sink by the Way for air, before we come at any object, or raise any Ore of Consequence, after that I believe we shall do well. I think before both Manors are put into a fair situation for working it will cost us £1000 besides the purchase.

Boltshaw is still the same, good for nothing. I have met with no favorable opportunity of learning whether or not it could be disposed of.

Yesterday Mr Bainbridge brought me the copy of Agreement between the Comp[an]y & Col Beaumont and I will on Monday next go upon the business of the Plan with Col Beaumonts Agents.

I am etc

Thomas Dodd, Senr

**10 Jul 1813 Thomas Dodd**

Nenthead, 10th July, 1813

The Hon the Governor & Co

After examining the Governor & Compy's Mines under my care, on the 24th, 25th & 26th past I lett the Bargains, a list of which is annexed. Rampgill Cross Vein recently cut in the Horse Level, and the Proposal for which is dated 30th May 1811, is raising a large quantity of Ore at low prices (please to see the last report) but we shall not be able to get it all worked up against the 30th September, the washing place being too confined; of course the unwashed on that date will go on to 1814. Hugh Spottiswood & co are driving the Horse Level Eastward, where more cross veins are to cut, and as the Great Limestone is unexplored may be of consequence, for if the deep Horse Level had not been driven, the successful vein had never been discovered. Jas Armstrong are driving the Horse Level in the Cross Vein, under the Great Limestone, in the best situation possible, as all the Ore is got immediately above the roof of the Level. Wm Roddam & co are driving a Level in the Little Limestone, 20 Fathoms above the other, and will occasionally sink between for a circulation of fresh air and prove the vein in the same.

Scaleburnmoss Mine has varied little since the last report. Jacob Blaylock & co are sinking into the vein in the great Limestone, and when finished will raise Ore, & Thos Humble & co are rising & sinking for the convenience of air, and will shortly raise ore.

Smallcleugh Mine is raising most excellent ore from the Flatts, & to considerable advantage. Jno Parker & co are driving the Horse Level in the midst of the Flatts and is very hard. Matt Cousin & co are driving a Level over the Flatts, and when it arrives at a certain point, they will sink into the workings for fresh air, and will prove a general accommodation through the Mine. Geo Robinson & co are driving the deep Level from the Engine, to drain all Middlecleugh Veins (please to see last Report.) Those parts of Middlecleugh Veins which are free from water, are so poor that nothing can be done in them at the present low prices, but barely to preserve the Leases from forfeiture. Henry Cowing & co are driving the Horse Level. Garrigill Mines are poor. Geo Dodd & co, Thos Archer & co, & Robt Hallam & co are all upon trials; the two former of which will soon be finished & raise some Ore, & the latter will soon make the trial satisfactory, so as either to raise Ore, or give up the Lease which is Cooper Dyke Heads Vein. Loveladyshield Mines or Veins are not yet cut in the Levels. At Broomsberry Wm Allison & co are sinking into the Vein in the Great Limestone. Hangingshaw Mine is

poor. Jno Hall & co are driving the Horse Level. Robt Dickinson & co are driving the Horse Level at Middlecleugh Cross Vein, which trial is connected with Blackashgill. Please to see the last Report on this subject. Jno Elliot & co are repairing the Horse Level, & Jno Vipond & co are repairing the Engine Shaft Wheel.

Lodgesyke Mine is not quite so good this Quarter as formerly, tho' employs many hands and raises a great deal of ore of good quality, but not well worked, which I have already expressed to the Court. Jos Richardson & co are driving the deep Horse Level, and Jno Binks & co are sinking a Sump between this & the upper Level, which is to accommodate the Mine with fresh air, and raise Ore in the deeper stratums. Coldberry, Wiregill, and Flakebrigg Mines are all under trial by the respective Partnerships attached to them in the List.

Middlehope Mine continues to raise a good deal of fine Ore, not so productive this quarter as before, except in the two foremost Bargains in the List, which is in the Old Vein Eastwards, & which I named to the Court in my letter on the 22nd May last. Jos Dalkin & co are driving the Horse Level westward, & Geo Wilson & co are rising into the little Limestone in the New String to try the Vein.

Ireshopeburn Mine is almost finished, is excessive poor & cannot go on much longer. Jno Kidd & co are driving the deep Level.

On the 29th past I was in Boltshaw Mine and am sorry to say there is not one Prospect left there; and I have had no opportunity of sounding any of Hall's People about Boltshaw, as that concern is likely to fall to pieces. They have been throwing away Money very fast indeed, & I have no doubt all my predictions will be fulfilled respecting the business. Five or six of the new Comp[an]y have been drawn from London, who have banished Hall from all management in their concern. However it is as plain as possible, that perseverance in that Concern must be attended with heavy losses, for I am positive all the Mines in that Country are not worth a shilling.

Stanhope Mine is poor, and some parts under trial. Wm Metcalfe & co are cutting across from the old Shaft, and will sink into the deep Horse Level for air, & Jno Vipond are driving the Horse Level in the Flatts, where the Ore is got.

I have received the Courts of the 1st inst, and agreeable to their orders have put up an advertisement for a fresh letting of the Levels & Whimseys, & with this have transmitted the Proposals to the Court. As the Undertakers said nothing to me of their hardships until their time was expired, I thought I would take no notice of it until that period, nor did I expect the Court intended to make fresh lettings every year, as it must be attended with the utmost confusion, for the Court must know that every fresh undertaker must necessarily provide Horses, Harness & Provender when they engage (which many that propose cannot do) and then all is to part with against the end of the year, and our business must remain in a perplexed state whilst this mode continues. When the Court fixes upon the fresh Undertakers, they will have the goodness to send down the names & the Proposals, as their time will end on the 25th June 1814. I have sent a copy of the advertisement for the Moor, to the Court, & the Weardale & Teasdale ones were similar.

I am, etc



Thomas Dodd, Senr

**6 Nov 1813 Thomas Dodd**

Nenthead, Novr 6th, 1813

The hon the Gov.r & Co

I have viewed the Comp[an]y's Mines under my care, & on the 6th, 7th, & 8th past I lett the sundry Bargains, a List of which is annexed. Rampgill Mine is successful and still raising a great quantity of Ore, & the principal part at low prices. Jas Armstrong & co are driving the Horse Level, as preparatory to raising the Ore. Hugh Spotiswood & co are rising into the vein in the Great Limestone. It is a fresh vein cut about a Month ago, in the Horse Level, at a short distance from the successful vein, & likely for raising ore, and which, during this quarter, will be proved in two different places. Wm Roddam & co are driving a level in the Little Limestone. Jno Thompson & co are cutting across in the Limestone, from the old vein to the new one & will in a short time prove its success.

Scaleburnmoss Mine is much the same as last Report. Thos Humble & co are driving in the Vein in the Limestone where I expect Ore will shortly be raised, being the same vein as Rampgill Successful Vein, bearing away to the Northward. Jacob Blaylock & co are driving the Horse Level. Smallcleugh is still doing well & raises the most beautiful & productive Ore I ever saw. Jno Parker & co are driving the Horse Level. Matt Cousin & co are sinking into the Flatts for fresh air, & Jos Sparks & co are driving the Engine Level, as the common drain of several Veins

Middlecleugh Mine is doing nothing, except two places under trial, to preserve two of the Leases from forfeiture. Garrigill Nines are prodigious poor & employ few hands. Wm Elliot & co at Browngill Sun Vein are driving a Level in the Little Limestone, to take the water of the Vein in the upper Stratums, where some Ore will be got. At Tynebottom Jas Dickinson & co are sinking a Shaft from the surface to try the Flatts & Vein in what is called the Tynebottom Limestone. Thos Cain & co are driving the Horse Level & Jos Heatherington & co are sinking to prove the Vein in a deep stratum call the Four Fathom Limestone. Jno Hall & co are driving a Level at Hangingshaw to get at the bottom of the Smallcleugh Engine & put an end to a considerable annual expense, & prove the means of getting ore in different veins when accomplished.

At Broomsberry & Gudhamgillmoss Jno Richardson & co are driving the Horse Level. The Mine is poor. Loveladyshield is under trial. Wm Teasdale & co are driving the Level. One vein is cut of a bad complexion, of course we are driving to another about 25 Fa[thom]s distant. Middlecleugh Cross vein connected with the new trials at Blackashgill. Robt Dickinson & co are driving the Horse Level Northward, which will prepare the Vein for raising Ore in the Greenwich Hospital's Liberty & Geo Oliver & co are opening an old Level to the southward.

At Blackashgill Jno Vipond & co are driving the Horse Level by the side of the vein & will occasionally sink into the Great Limestone in search of Ore. Jno Elliot & co are driving a level from the surface to try some different veins under the same Lease, & these places will be expensive for some time before trials can be made.

Lodgesyke is still raising a great deal of Ore, & is on a proper easy plan for working, the levels in proper situations, but the Vein carries a soft heavy Rider (that is a large Mineral part exclusive of the Ore) which consumes a great quantity of Timber to support the Levels and Workings, & is such a width as renders the whole operation dangerous, & requires attention & skill to carry on the Mine. Jos Richardson & co are driving the deep Horse Level, & Jno Binks & co are sinking a Sump between the two Levels, Please to see the last report on this subject. Wiregill is now beginning to raise ore again, the soles relieved of water by the Low Level. Geo Tarn & co are driving the Low Level, & Jno Nixon & co are driving the Level for the more effectual relief of the Soles, & the vein to the eastward, where the Ground is unexplored. We are beginning to get a little Ore at Coldberry new trial. Jno Pinkney & co are driving the Horse Level. Flakebrigg is still under trial, & will yet require time to carry that trial into effect, but I think it a proper one. Jon Morton & co are driving a Level from the Surface to carry the water on to the Engine Wheel.

Middlecleugh Mine is doing well, raises good ore, & of course works to considerable advantage. Jos Dalkin & co are driving the Horse Level. Jon Lowes & co are cutting across to prove the Vein in the Little Limestone in whole ground. Thos Hudson & co are sinking into the great Limestone in the Vein, & will shortly raise Ore by the Bing.

Stanhope Mine is still poor, & can scarce go on at the prices given. Jos Collingwood & co are driving a Level in the side of the Flatts & tries them occasionally Wm Metcalf & co are sinking a Sump into the vein recently cut in the deep Level, & will by & by prove the vein.

I am etc,

Thomas Dodd, Senr

**15 Jan 1814 Thomas Dodd**

[Note: In a different hand to previous reports in this series from 1806 onwards]

Nenthead Jany 15th, 1814

The Hon'ble The Gov[erno]r & Co

Sirs,

After viewing the Sundry Mines under my care and management, on the 5th, 6th, & 7th Inst I lett the Bargains, a list of which is annexed. The Mines in general are much poorer this Quarter than the last, and are all lett as low as their situation and present state will admit of, both the Ore and Dead Bargains.

Rampgill Mine raises a good deal of Ore, but a Cross Vein from the East having passed through the Forehead of the successful Vein has injured the Mine considerably. Hugh Spotiswood & co are driving the Horse Level Eastward to cut some more North & South Veins which are before them. Wm Roddam & co are driving an upper Level above the Horse Level & will sink between for communication of fresh air, & try the Veins in the upper Stratum. Wm Poutin & co are driving the Horse Level Southward which prepares the Vein for raising Ore.

Smallcleugh Mine is much the same as last report, raises a considerable quantity of fine productive Ore (in fact the best I ever saw) and upon the whole doing well. John Parkinson & co are driving the Horse Level. Robt Wharton & co are sinking into Flatts in fresh ground, and will soon be at Ore. Josh Spark & co are driving the deep Level from the Engine bottom as the common drain of Smallcleugh & Middlecleugh Veins, Geo Robinson & co are cutting a Cross Vein in the Great Limestone.

Scaleburnmoss Mine is much excavated, & very poor, and indeed except times will admit of giving higher prices both for this & several other Mines, they cannot be wrought, nor the Ore raised, for during the last three or four years the prices have been lower than usual, & all the best parts of the Mines have been cut out, and except better prices are given for the old exhausted workings they will have to be relinquished. Thomas Humble & co are sinking a Sump into the Great Limestone in the Vein, and will soon finish.

Middlecleugh Mine can be of little consequence until the deep level going up from the bottom of Smallcleugh Engine cut the several veins under the great Limestone to drain them of water. Matthew Chester & co are sinking a Sump from a higher to the Horse Level, to cause a circulation of Air, and prove the Vein in the Little Coal Sills.

Garrigill Mines are excessive poor, and several trials in hand. At Browngill Sun Vein Jno Lancaster & co are driving a Level to drain the Vein of Water, where some Ore will be got when finished.

The Tynebottom Mines are still poor and different parts under trial. Thos Archer & co are driving a Level to the Flatts, where we expect to meet with some Ore. Josh Heatherington & co are sinking into the Four Fathom Limestone and will shortly make a Trial of the Vein. Jas Dickinson & co are sinking for a Flatt in a different part. Thomas Cain & co are driving the Horse Level at Browngill & Thortergill.

Blackashgill & Middlecleugh Cross Vein will remain under Trial for some time to come, but the latter, which is a favorable prospect will raise Ore before the expiration of the present Year. Jno Vipond, Jno Elliott, & Robt Dickinson & co are all driving Horse Levels in different parts.

Lovelady Shield is under Trial. The first Vein has been cut in the Level and has a bad appearance, & Wm Teasdale & co are driving said Level to cut another Vein at a distance of about 25 Fathoms from the former.

Gudhamgillmoss Mine is poor but raises some Ore and expect this Mine will do better by & by. John Richardson & co are sinking a Sump into the Vein in the Great Limestone.

Lodgesyke Mine is rather poorer than when the Michaelmas Bargains were lett, tho will raise a great deal of Ore to considerable advantage. Cutht Fairless & co are driving the Horse Level, & Thos Lee & co are boring a sump between the two Levels, and will be sunk, to relieve the Vein of Water & try the Vein, where no doubt much Ore will be raised, and at lower prices when the Water is drained off the Vein.

Coldberry, Wiregill, and Flakebrigg are still under Trial. Tho' some of them hopefull ones. The Coldberry Mine is beginning to raise some Ore. Jno Pinkney & co are driving the Deep Horse Level, at Wiregill Geo Tarn & co are driving the Deep Horse Level and John Nixon & co an upper one to bring the Water off the Vein. Flakebrigg is a hopefull Trial, Jon Morton & co are driving a Level to convey the Water on the Engine Wheel.

Middlehope Mine is poorer than last Quarter tho' raises a considerable Quantity of Ore, Thos Hudson & co are sinking a Sump into the Great Limestone, & Josh Dalkin & co are driving the Horse Level in the New String to the Westward to prepare the Vein for raising the Ore.

Stanhope tho' poor continues to raise ore in the Flatts. Jos Collingwood & co are driving the Horse Level for the benefit of the Flatt Workings. We are in want of Gunpowder & none has appeared from London.

I am etc etc

Thomas Dodd Senr

**1 Apr 1814 Robert Stagg**

General Report of the Teesdale Mines 1st April 1814

Flakebridge Mine The object of the present working this Mine is by sinking a Shaft with the help of an Engine to try the Strata at a Lower Random than they had been able to get at in the former workings, the lower parts of which are Reported to have been left Rich. The Engine Shaft is already sunk 12 Fathoms and is proposed to be sunk 3 fathoms further from which Random a Cross Cut Northwards of about 10 or 12 fathoms will have to be made to get under the Old Workings in the Vein, when the objects of this trial may be expected to be in some measure ascertained, and which it is calculated may be completed during this present Quarter should no unforeseen obstacle intervene

Wiregill High Level. This Level has been driving with the Joint view to try the Vein (which was successful in the upper Strata) at a lower Random, and to relieve the forehead of an upper level, which was left with Ore in it although not Rich, and which they were unable to prosecute on Account of Water & want of Air, & also to try a New Cross Vein which was discovered at the forehead of the Old Workings and appeared promising but which from the same cause they were able [sic; unable is presumably meant] to prove – The Level has now been driven in the Vein at this lower Random in a

bearing sill for about 200 fathoms on an average from 4 to 7 fathoms below the bottom of the Old workings immediately beneath the Richest part of the Old Mine but totally without success, and at the present forehead there is hardly the appearance of a Vein. It is therefore a fair conclusion that this Vein (which I find is characteristic of most of the Teesdale Veins) although very productive in the higher sills, is not sufficiently strong to carry it down at a lower Random, & from the length of the trial made already to ascertain this point, the first object of the trial may be pronounced to have entirely failed. To arrive at the second object Viz: to relieve the forehead of the Old Workings about 130 fathoms will yet have to be driven which at a Moderate computation will cost not less than £1,500 and Require 6 or 7 Years to complete it. As it has been already proved that the Wiregill Vein will not bear at a very low Random, & as by putting down a Shaft which may be done for about £200 the forehead of the Old Level can be Relieved & the Cross Vein tried at the Random of the upper Level which appears to be as low as is Valuable - It is the joint opinion of Mr. Joshua Stagg Senr, Mr Millican, Mr Little and Myself that it will be most the Company's interest to discontinue the present Level, and by sinking the Shaft in question to come at the only remaining object of the trial at a much earlier period & at saving 12 or 1300 expence on this subject the Court will please to give me their immediate instructions, that in the event of it being viewed by them in the light I see it the working of the Level may be discontinued and the sinking of the Shaft substituted in lieu of it

Wiregill Low Level. The objects in driving this Level are to cut on the Wiregill Liberties at a Low Random, First East Rake Vein which has been cut, but as its appearance was not promising in crossing the Level it has not been further tried Second Mannergill North Vein which was productive on the Mannergill side, and is expected to be cut in a few Fathoms driving. Thirdly West Rake Vein which was productive in that Liberty, Fourthly Flakebridge Vein, which is the same Vein that has been wrought at Flakebridge Mannergill, & Lodgesyke with very great success and is that part of the Vein lying between Flakebridge and Mannergill boundaries where it will be cut by this Level in a very favourable plot of Ground Fifthly the High Wiregill Vein which at the High Level was successful, and lastly, to discover any other Vein which may cross the line of the Levels direction, - This Level is going at a very low Random, and will completely unwater – and throw open a large field of each of these hitherto successful Veins, should they be found productive within the Range of this Level. The present forehead is driving in a strong and very hard hazel sill, it has already been driven about 380 fathoms and has still to be driven about 400 fathoms further, before the last of the above objects is attained It can not be estimated that this trial from its commencement to its termination will Cost less than £10,000. – It is however a trial of that magnitude and promise which bids fair to open a lasting and advantageous Mining Field in that part of Teesdale.

Lodgesyke Mine. This Mine is at present very good at the forehead of the High Level, and as there is now on it all the Weight of the hill through which the Vein is passing the

prospect is very flattering that it may continue an advantageous Mine, the Ore raised during the half year ending Lady Day Inst: is computed to be about 2300 Bings From its present appearance we calculate it may probably Raise 3,000 Bings more from this period to the 30 Sept next. A Level is driving at this Mine at a lower Random to unwater the upper workings and prove the lower sills, it is of the utmost importance to give every possible dispatch to the driving of this Level, as for want of it there is an expence incurred in pumping the present workings to the Amount of £500 p[er] an I trust therefore the Court will see the propriety of having as many Men employed in driving this Level as can work it without disadvantage. Finding on the Survey that by cutting about 14 Fathoms across from this Level forehead which will cost about £80 and boring from the upper Level to this Cross cut, the pumps could be relieved to the amount of £400 p[er] Annum. I did not hesitate to let this cross cut to be wrought day & Night until it is completed which I doubt not the Court will approve

Coldberry Mine. This Level is driving with a View to cut Lodgesyke Vein (which is at present so productive) in the Colberry Liberty; As there seems to be considerable doubt about the Range of this Vein on the Colberry side and consequent uncertainty in the driving of the Levels, & as a Hush can be Run across the Ground where it is expected the Vein will pass, at an expence of £15 which by boring the Strata must discover its exact situation and consequently enable us to make the trial with greater precision and comes at its object with probably a great saving of expence, I did not scruple to contract for the performance of this Work.

East & West Rake Mines. There are no men employed in these Workings, prior to these Mines being undertaken by the Company the lower parts of the Ground through which the Veins pass had been successfully wrought by another Mining Company, and as they had gone down as far in the Strata, as an Engine would enable them to do; this part of these Mines is considered to have been fully tried by them; the upper or More Mountainous part of the Vein was tried by the Company since their entrance on this Tack, but shortly given up as the Veins were found totally unproductive & Joshua Stagg Senr does not consider these Veins worth further trial in this liberty.

Brokergill Mine. This Mine is at present unwrought, Three Veins, each of which were very productive in part of the adjoining Liberty of Pikelaw; are known to Run through the Ground within this Lease, one of them only has been tried by the Company which raised some Ore but became poor in rising the Hill, & no lower ground being in the Lease through which this Vein Runs, the trial of it was discontinued, the other two Veins have never been explored within this boundary. It must be Remarked that the Veins in question, although very Rich in part of the adjoining liberty of Pikelaw became poor before they Reached the Company's liberty of Pikelaw & the richness of one of them at Pikelaw was attributed to the intersection of a Cross Vein the other Vein had no such Intersection, and as it has to pass through the same Strata (the Limestone) in the Comanys ground in which it was productive at Pikelaw, Joshua Stagg Senr thinks it

worth an easy trial which might be made by running a Hush across the ground to discover the exact situation of these Veins, & then putting in a flank Level to cut them with the shortest possible Run in the Sill where they may be expected to bear Ore. I understand from Mr Barnes that an Application has been made for this ground on the part of a Small Mining Company in the event of its being discontinued by the Company.

Rt. Stagg

**16 Apr 1814 Thomas Dodd**

The Honable. The Govrs & Compy.

Nenthead April 16th. 1814

Sirs

Having viewed the sundry Mines under My care, on the 30th & 31st of March I lett the Bargains, a list of which I have transmitted to the Court. I have given 44 p[er] Bing for the poorest parts of the Old Pickings, by way of supporting some of the Leases, & raising Ore which could not otherwise be obtained, & trust it will meet with the Courts approbation, the proportion of the Ore raised will be very small compared with the quantity at the lowest prices

In my Report of Ramgill [sic] Mine on the 15th January last I informed the Court that a Cross Vein had passed through the leading Forehead of the successful Vein which has injured the same considerably and am sorry to say the bad effects of this intruding Vein still continues. It has broke the good Vein into loose unconnected lumps of Limestone and Rider of course rendered the whole far too strong, and cut out the Ore. The Rear or backward Workings raise a considerable quantity of Ore, & especially at the lowest prices in the List. Thos Hewitson &c as p[er] List are raising into the Limestone in the Vein in the Forehead in expectation of meeting with a more favorable part for Ore, as we cannot think of quitting until every effort is used to Recover the success of said Vein Hugh Spotswood &c are driving the Horse Level in the Sun Vein to prepare the same for raising Ore. Mattw Hall &c are driving a Horse Level in a different Vein to preserve of the Leases from forfeiture, and will try the same for Ore. John Elliott &c are driving an upper Level upon the little Limestone, which Stratum and the Coal Sills are unexplored in the successful Vein, and by sinking into the same occasionally from the Level I expect we shall raise a great deal of Ore

Scaleburnmoss Mine is poor, tho' will raise Ore without loss. Thos Humble &c are driving the Horse level.

SmallCleugh continues to do well in the Flatts, and the Ore retains its most excellent quality. Jos. Spark &c are driving the deep Level, which is thereon <more> drain to the Mine and also intended to bring the Water off all the Middle Cleugh Veins. Jacob Blaylock &c are driving a Level above the Flatts, which is to prove a constant source of

Fresh Air by occasionally sinking from said Level into Flatts. Geo; Robinson &c are sinking a Sump into the Limestone and in the Vein, in a fresh part in search of Ore.

Middle Cleugh Mine is extremely poor, & must remain so until the deep Level comes up from Small Cleugh, to cut & unwater these Veins in fresh Ground, in a deeper situation, where a great deal of Ore will be raised. We are therefore obliged to do something in the meantime to support the Leases of Middle Cleugh Veins until the Level comes up to the Veins, which will be four or five Years in accomplishing, but the trial is a good one and cannot fail of success. Matt Chester &c are sinking a Sump from a high Level to furnish one of the Veins with Air & Wm Cowing &c are driving an upper Level where some Ore will be got. They are both for the preservation of the Leases. Hangingshaw Cross Vein is poor at present John Hall &c are Repairing the Level, which in certain parts is gone into decay. This Lease contains several hopeful Trials, but till the Level is repaired and other necessary jobs done, cannot be carried into execution.

Middlehope Mine is become extensive as a great deal of both the Old & New Vein is laid open, & employs many hands, but several part are poor & become pickings, tho' the leading Workings are still successful, on the whole will raise a considerable quantity of Ore to great advantage. Jos Dalkin are driving the Horse Level Westward in the New Vein. Peter Hutchinson &c are Rising in the Vein to accommodate the other Workings above with Fresh Air, will soon be done and raise Ore. Thomas Hudson &c are sinking a Sump under the Horse Level where, in all probability, an Engine will have to be erected, to enable us to take out a large body of Ore left under the Level, where the Old & new Veins form a junction, and there is no other means left us of procuring it. Henry Coulthard &c are driving an upper Level, & Wm Brown &c are sinking a sump from the upper to the Lower Level to accommodate the Mine with fresh Air and other conveniencies.

Lovelady Shield is under Trial & must Remain so for some time to come. Wm Teasdale &c are driving the Level for the discovery of more Veins

Broomsberry & Gudhamgillmoss is poor and much altered since last Report. Jno Richardson &c are cutting a Cross to the Vein, and will shortly try the same in the Great Limestone.

Ireshopeburn Mine is so poor that the Vein cannot be wrought under 50/s p[er] Bing, and as it is almost finished, there is no Dead Work upon the Mine, and I thought I had better pick out what Ore can be got while the Waygates are open

Garrigill & Tynebottom are all very poor & several parts under Trial. Adam Walton &c are driving the Horse Level which goes direct into the Flatts, and will try the same for Ore. Josh. Hall &c are driving a Horse Level to try the Vein in fresh Ground. Jos



Heatherington &c are sinking a Sump into four Fathom Limestone, and will prove the success of the Vein shortly. <Jas> Dickinson &c are cutting a Cross to try the Flatts in unexplored Ground. Thos Cain &c are driving the Horse Level to open the Vein for Trial

Middle Cleugh Cross Vein connected with Blackashgill labours under very heavy Expencc at this time cannot be avoided, but in a short time we shall raise Ore in the Vein. Robt Dickinson &c are sinking a Sump into the Great Limestone, and in two Months time will be in the Vein which cannot fail of producing Ore. Jon Houses &c are driving a Horse Level from the North most boundary of said Vein, to Relieve the same of Water. Geo: Hiver &c are driving an upper Level to form a communication with the above Level by sinking between

Blackashgill. John Vipond &c are driving the Horse Level in the South End of MiddleCleugh Cross Vein, but in the Liberty of the Mineral Ground which the Court hold of Mr Dickinson, granted at the same time the Lease of Middle Cleugh Cross Vein was obtained of Greenwich Hospital. The Vein is the same but in two different Manors, the one called Middle Cleugh Cross Vein and the other Blackashgill. John Elliott &c are driving a Horse Level to try a Vein in an adjacent part of the Manor of Blackashgill

Stanhopeburn is so poor that no part will work under the highest price Jos Collingwood &c are driving the Horse Level in the Flatts as a general accommodation to the Mine where the Ore is raised

I have thus taken all possible pains to arrange every part of the Company's Mineral Concerns under My Care in the best manner I am capable to render the whole successfull Does the Court mean, when they say J French is appointed their Wood Agent on the usual Terms, that his Salary is to be £100 a year together with Expences – please to Name it

I am &c &c

Thomas Dodd Senr

**30 Jun 1814 Robert Stagg**

General Report of the Teesdale Mines 30th June 1814

Flakebridge Mine The Engine Shaft sinking to try the Strata below the Old Workings, has been compleated during the last Quarter the Crosscut to the Vein is now prosecuting, and the Vein is expected to be cut by it in few Weeks

Wiregill High Level We are opening out the leading part of the Old Level to enable us to judge of the best mode of sinking the proposed Shaft This was necessary for the purpose of obtaining accurate Dialings for the sitting [sic] of the Shaft as well as to ascertain whether the unwatering of the Workings could be effected after the sinking the Shaft without the lower level being brought up; and as these Workings would have been to open out at any Rate to cause a circulation of Air in the event of the lower Level being continued, we judged it proper, by opening them out now to prevent the possibility of disappointment in our proposed plan of sinking a Shaft to try the Vein forward in the upper Workings prior to the continuation of the Levels. We expect to compleat the opening out of these workings very shortly, when we shall be enabled to come to a certain conclusion as to the best future mode of prosecuting this trial; which we still are of opinion will be by sinking the Shaft as proposed last Quarter provided no obstacle occurs on our getting into the Workings in Question, to prevent its practicability

Wiregill Low Level. This Level continues to be driven under exactly similar circumstances as when the last Quarterly Report was given

Lodgesyke This mine is somewhat poorer than at letting of the last Quarterly Bargains the prices, however, the Court will observe, have undergone very little Alterations We calculate that about 1,100 Bings of Ore have been Raised during the last Quarter. The cross cut undertaken last Quarter, for the purpose of unwatering the upper Workings and thereby getting quit of the pumps which have been costing so heavy an Annual Sum has been prosecuted with the utmost vigour, and we are now sinking from the upper Workings to meet it, which, when completed will enable us to set aside Pumps to the Amount of £400 p[er] Annm and also to Air the Low Level. We entertain sanguine hopes of accomplishing these desirable objects during the present Quarter

Coldberry By the Hush set on last Quarter this Vein has been discovered, and we have in consequence turned the direction of the Level to cut the Vein much earlier than it would have been done by its former Range – and also contracted with a partnership for £5 to cut it by a Level near the Hush which will enable us to try it at a very easy expence, and at a considerable lower part of the Strata. We have now every reason to hope that this Trial will be brought to a conclusion shortly; and as we have met with some very fine Specimens of Ore in the Hush we also hope to find a productive Mine in Cutting the Vein

Brockergill Mr Barnes Lord Darlington's Agent having by a written document, guaranteed the Company the Renewal of the Lease of this Mine, and also authorized us to commence the Trial, we have opened out an Old Level, & have commenced the Trial of this Mine, as was proposed in My Letter the 25th April last

R. Stagg

**4 Jul 1814     Robert Stagg**

[Note: This report is almost identical to Stagg's report of 30th June.]

General Report of the Teesdale Mines 4th July 1814

Flakebridge Mine, The Engine shaft, sinking to try the Strata below the Old Workings, has been compleated during the last Quarter The Crosscut to the Vein is now prosecuting, and the Vein is expected to be cut by it in a few Weeks.

Wiregill High Level We are opening out the leading part of the Old Level to enable us to judge of the best mode of Sinking the proposed Shaft; This was necessary for the purpose of obtaining accurate Dialings for the setting on of the Shaft, as well as to ascertain whether the unwatering of the Workings could be effected after the sinking of the Shaft, without the lower Level being brought up; and as these Workings would have been open out at any rate, to cause a circulation of Air in the event of the lower Level being continued, we judge it proper by opening them out now, to prevent the possibility of disappointment in our proposed plan of sinking a Shaft to try the Vein forward in the upper Workings prior to the Continuation of the Level. we expect to compleat the opening out of these Workings very shortly, when we shall be enabled to come to a certain conclusion as to the best future mode of prosecuting this trial, which we are still of opinion will be by sinking the Shaft as proposed last Quarter, provided no obstacle occurs, on our getting in to the Workings in Question, to prevent its practicability.

Wiregill Low Level This continues to be driven under exactly similar circumstances as when the last Quarterly Report was given

Lodgesike This mine is somewhat poorer poorer (sic) than at the letting of the last Quarterly Bargains; the prices, however, the Court will observe, have undergone very little Alteration. We calculate that about 1100 Bings of Ore have been raised, during the last Quarter. The Crosscut undertaken last Quarter, for the purpose of unwatering the upper Workings and thereby getting quit of the Pumps, which have been costing so heavy an annual Sum, has been prosecuted with the utmost vigour, and we are now sinking from the upper workings to meet it, which, when Compleated, will enable us to set aside pumps to the Amount of £400 p[er] Year and also to Air the Low Level. We entertain sanguine hopes of accomplishing these desirable objects during the present Quarter.

Coldberry By the Hush set on last Quarter this Vein has been discovered, and we have in consequence turned the direction of the Level to cut the Vein much earlier than it would have been done by its former Range. and also contracted with a partnership for

£5 to cut it by a Level near the Hush which will enable us to try it at a very easy expence, and at a considerably lower part of the Strata, we have now every reason to hope that this Trial will be brought to a conclusion shortly; & as we have met with very fine Specimens of Ore in the Hush we also hope to find a productive Mine on Cutting the Vein.

Brockergill Mr Barnes, Lord Darlington's Agent, having, by a Written document, guaranteed to the Company the Renewal of the Lease of this Mine, and also authorized us to commence the Trial, we have opened out an Old Level & have commenced the Trial of this Mine as was proposed in my Letter of the 25th April last

R Stagg

**16 Jul 1814 Thomas Dodd**

[Note: A second copy of this report was entered into the book following Stagg's report of 4th July]

The Honble The Govr & Compy

Nenthead July 16th 1814

Sirs

Having viewed the Company's Mines under my Care, on July 1st & 2nd I lett the Sundry Bargains Annexed

Rampgill Mine continues to Raise a considerable quantity of Ore and in many of the Workings at favourable prices, but am sorry to say the leading Forehead continues in a Dead State. Thos Hewitson &c as per list are driving the Forehead with an expectation of better success, from some lively productive parts intersecting the Dead part of the Vein & reviving it again. John Elliott &c are driving a Level in the upper part of the Mine, to prepare the upper Stratums for raising Ore, by occasionally sinking into them Hugh Spotswood & are driving the deep Horse Level in what is called, in the book of Proposals Rampgill Sun Vein

Scaleburnmoss Mine is poor and employs few hands in consequence of the prices now given not being adequate to Raise the Ore in the Old Workings, the principal of the Ore having been cut out Thomas Humble &c are driving the Deep Horse Level in the Solid Limestone, which is prodigious hard.

Small Cleugh Flatts are not materially altered since my last Report; the Ore is vastly good in its Nature, and the Bargains at the lowest prices produce a good deal of it. Joseph Sparks &c are driving the deep Level please to see the last Report, Jacob Blaylock &c are sinking a Sump into the Flatt and will shortly raise Ore – Wm Metcalf &c are driving the Level to prepare the Flatts for Raising the Ore

Broomsberry & Gudhamgillmoss raises small parcels of Ore but is poor John Richardson &c are driving in the Vein in the Great Limestone where we expect to meet with better success.

Middlehope Mine is doing very well, and produces a considerable quantity of good Ore. Wm Brown &c are sinking a Sump from the Upper to the deep Level, both for the convenience of fresh air and proving the Vein in the Little Limestone. John Armstrong &c are sinking a Shaft from the Surface into the upper Level for a current of pure Air, and to prove the Vein in the Stratum near the Surface.

Stanhope Mine is poor and requires the highest prices for raising the Ore. John Vipond &c are driving the Horse Level under the Flatts and is very convenient for them, as all the Ore Raised at this Mine, is Raised from the Flatts

The Garrigill Mines are excessively poor, and the small parcels of Ore raised at them require high prices. Jos Wanless &c are driving the Horse Level at Tynebottom. Thomas Archer &c are rising into the Vein at Browngill. Jos Hall &c are driving the Horse Level & Thomas Cain &c are driving the Horse Level in a different Vein under the great Limestone to Relieve the Mine of Water

Middlecleugh Mines are poor, and as their future success depends upon Small Cleugh deep Level coming up to their relief we therefore barely preserve the Lease, untill that is accomplished Matt: Chester &c are sinking a Sump for fresh Air and to try the Vein in the upper Stratum and the Great Limestone Wm Teasdale &c are driving the Level at Lovelady Shield, which Mine will remain under trial for some time.

Middle Cleugh Cross Vein recently engaged with, is now beginning to raise Ore and is a hopeful trial. Robt Dickinson &c have been driving a Level upon the great Limestone, and are now sinking a sump into the Vein. Geo: Oliver &c are driving a Level in the North end of Middle Cleugh Cross Vein Lease, 800 Yards distance from that part of the Vein in which Robt Dickinson &c are sinking, and a Level will be driven at each end of said Lease, which will effectually win the Cross Vein, and cut several east & West Running Veins that pass the Cross Vein and open an extensive fresh field.

Blackasgill as connected with the above is under Trial, but not so likely for success as Middle Cleugh Cross Vein: Jno Elliott & Co are driving a Horse Level upon the Little Limestone, Coal Sills &c. Jno Vipond &c are sinking a Sump into the Great Limestone in a different part of the Mine.

Hangingshaw is very poor, John Hall &c are opening an Old Level, which will make way for some fresh Trials. The Court I trust will give me Credit for having lett the

Bargains of the Several Mines under My Management on the lowest terms that the Situation of them would possibly admit, and I hope in general they will do well

I am &c &c

Thomas Dodd Senr

**14 Oct 1814 Robert Stagg**

General Report of the Teesdale Mines

14th October 1814

Flakebridge Mine The working of this Mine has been entirely delayed driving last Quarter, by a total want of Water to Work the Engine occasioned by an unprecedented continuance of dry Weather should Rains set in shortly we hope however that the <Prospects> of this trial may be in some measure ascertained before the conclusion of the present Quarter.

High Wiregill. The opening out of the Old Workings has been compleated during last Quarter & we have now commenced the proposed trial of the Vein through the difficulties and uncertainty in which it is at present involved by the intersection of a strong Cross Vein, which we hope to be enabled to accomplish without the expence of sinking a Shaft as we had proposed, and thereby ascertain whether or not, in the further prosecution of this trial, it will be necessary to bring up the Low Level.

Wiregill Low Level, is still continuing to be prosecuted under exactly similar circumstances as the last two Quarters.

Lodgesyke Mine, There is little or no Variation in the state and prospects of this Mine since the last Quarters Report, but if there is any alteration it is considered Rather poorer, Notwithstanding, the Court will observe by the annexed list, a general & considerable Reduction in the prices of Raising Ore, which I was induced to make in order to keep pace in some measure with the present unfavourable aspect of the Lead Trade

Brockergill Mine This trial is continuing to be made in the manner proposed on its commencement

Coldberry Mine I have now to Report that a Partnership to whom a Bargain was let last Quarter to cut the Vein Contiguous to the Hush in which it was discovered, have just touched upon a Vein promising in appearance, and have taken an Ore Bargain in it, but in the present stage of the trial it is impossible to pronounce what may be the Result  
Rt Stagg.

**29 Oct 1814 Thomas Dodd**

The Honble The Govr & Compy

Nenthead October 29th 1814

Sirs

I have made the Quarterly Views of the Companys Mines under my direction – on the 28th & 29th of last Month. I lett the Sundry Bargains, of which a list annexed.

Rampgill Mine is much poorer than for some time past, the leading Forehead in the late successfull Vein having failed, and I am afraid will not revive again. There is a good deal of Ore raised still at this Mine, but the Workings in the back Ground are fast working out. John Elliott &c are driving a Level upon the Little Limestone to try the Vein in the upper Stratum. Robt Irwin &c are driving the deep Horse Level. Thos Hewitson &c are driving the Horse Level in the failing Vein, with an expectation of the Vein recovering and raising Ore again. Emanuel Nattress &c are rising and Abraham Graham &c are sinking from the surface to meet them, for producing Air in the Mine and proving the Vein in the Sundry Stratum which are between

Scaleburnmoss is poor, but will be preserved from loss in future. Thos Humble &c are driving the Horse Level.

SmallCleugh Mine is doing well. The leading Bargains in the List are Raising Ore very well in the Flatts, of the purest quality – the latter part of the Bargains are picking and Raise a small proportion of the Ore. John Hind &c are cutting a cross to the Flatts and will soon raise Ore. Willis Slack &c are driving the deep Level as a drain. Thos Stephenson &c are driving the Level above the Flatts, to prepare the Way for Raising Ore. Jacob Blaylock &c are sinking into the Flatts & will shortly Raise Ore

Broombery & Gudhamgillmoss is poor, but having erected a small Crushing Machine at the Mouth of the Level, will make the Mine Work to greater advantage in future. John Richardson &c are driving in the Great Limestone, to prove the Vein in fresh Ground

At Middlecleugh. Geo: Robinson &c are driving the Horse Level, and will occasionally cut into the Vein in the Great Limestone

At Haginshaw [sic] John Hall &c are Repairing the principal Level

Middlehope Mine is prosperous, and at present raising a great deal of Ore at favorable prices, and the dead Work upon this Mine is trifling. John Dawson &c are driving the Horse Level Westward in the New String John Armstrong &c are driving an upper Horse Level, and will sink from thence into the Deep Level, & prove the Vein in the

upper Stratums, as well as furnish the Mine with fresh Air Wm Brown &c are sinking a sump and will soon Raise Ore

Ireshopeburn Mine has no dead Work, and we merely pick the Bones at 50/- p[er] Bing

Stanhopeburn Mine is much the same as last Report. Jos Collingwood &c are driving the Horse Level

Loveladyshield is under trial Wm Teasdale &c are rising in the Vein, but the appearance is bad.

The Garrigill Mines are extremely poor; and several parts are under trial, barely to support the Leases – till the necessary trials are affected.

At Tynebottom Jos Wanless &c are driving the Horse Level to try the Flatts, which so far continue poor. Isaac Teasdale &c are driving in the Great Limestone in a Cross Vein, where several fair Running Veins are cut, which probably may raise some Ore, and which trials preserve two or three other Leases James Dickinson &c are sinking into the Flatt in a different Vein, where Ore will be got

Browngill Sun Vein is poor Jos. Hall &c are driving the Horse Level

Middlecleugh Cross Vein connected with the Lease of Blackashgill is now beginning to raise Ore, and I am persuaded will do well in future. Richd Thomason &c are driving the Horse Level, which prepares the Vein for Raising Ore. Geo : Oliver &c are driving a Level at the opposite end of the Lease, to try and unwater the Vein

Blackashgill is under trial and must Remain so for some time to come John Vipond &c are driving the Horse Level to try the Vein occasionally in the Great Limestone – and John Elliott &c are driving an upper Level, to search for Ore in the upper Stratums

I have used every exertion in my power in letting these Bargains both for Ore & Dead Work, and trust they will prove successful

I am &c &c

Thomas Dodd Senr.

**31 Dec 1814 Robert Stagg**

[Note: Although dated December 1815, the report's position in the letter book and internal context indicates it must have been written in December 1814, and the date given below is presumably the result of a clerical error made when compiling the summary volume]



General Report of the Teesdale Mines 31st Decr. 1815

Lodgesyke This Mine is very little altered in its prospects since the last Quarterly Report. I have stopped three of the leading, and two of them the best Workings under the high Level, until the low Level is got up, when they will be prosecuted to much greater advantage than they can be from the high Level, from whence they have hitherto been wrought. The Quantity of Ore raised during the present Year at this Mine, will therefore in all probability be lessened considerably; which, however, will be no present disadvantage with the large Stock of Ore now on hand at Stanhope and Eggleston Mills, and will eventually, be a very great saving to the Company by enabling us when the low Level does get up (which I hope will be accomplished in Six or Eight Months) to raise the Ore at these stopped Workings at several Shillings p[er] Bing less than it can be done for in the present state of the Mine

Coldberry In the last Report I stated that we had just then touched upon a Vein promising in appearance, contiguous to the Hush set on some time ago for the purpose of discovery. During last Quarter a Level has been taking up to prove this Vein, which we believe is the same, that has been working at Lodgesyke to so much advantage, and I have great pleasure in Reporting to the Court that as far as so precarious & uncertain thing as a Mine can be pronounced upon, its appearance & prospects are very flattering. It is a Rare thing for a Vein, to be at all productive so near the surface as this is now Working, & yet notwithstanding this Circumstance, it is so Rich that you will see I have let Bargains in it to two Partnerships, at the very price of 25/-s p[er] Bing; which, in the present Stage of the trial is almost unprecedented. This Vein has been sought by other Mine Adventurers on the same Ground, at different periods, and at an enormous expence, without success, and I have therefore the greater satisfaction in Reporting its discovery at a Cost so very trifling to the Company. I have turned the Level set on by Mr Dodd at the commencement of this Lease into the direction to cut the same Vein at the shortest possible distance from whence it is now driving, but do not expect it will Reach it for several Months to come. When it does reach it we shall be enabled by it to make trial of this Vein in the higher Sills.

Brockergill A Level is driving here by which, in a few Months we hope to cut the first Vein, which is one of the objects of this trial and prior to which no judgement can be formed of its result

Low Wiregill. The Sills or Strata have been rising considerably the last few Weeks, in this Level; which is generally an indication of the approach to a Vein, & as it is near to where from our Diallings the Mannergill North Vein ought to Cross the Level we expect to cut it shortly

High Wiregill We are continuing to prosecute the trial of the upper Sills or Strata here, in a few Months, to ascertain whether or not this Vein, after passing through a cross

Vein which intersects it, & by which it has been much broken; will come together again and be worth further trial; which is essentially necessary to enable us to determine on the expediency of bringing up the lower Level

Flakebridge From the extreme hardness of the Stone, in which the Cross Cut is driving at this Mine, we have not yet been enabled to Reach the Vein, but calculate upon accomplishing it in a few Weeks, prior to which no opinion can be formed of its future prospects

The Prices at each Mine have been kept as low as is practicable to afford the Workmen the possibility of making very moderate Wages

R Stagg

**14 Jan 1815 Thomas Dodd**

The Honble The Govr & Compy.

Nenthead January 14th 1815

Sirs

I have viewed the several Mines under my direction and on the 29th & 30th past lett the Bargains a [list] of which is annexed

Rampgill Mine gets poorer, for as the leading Forehead in the late good Vein does not revive the rear or hindermost parts of the Mine become pickings and of course require higher prices. Thos Hewitson &c are driving the Horse Level in the above Vein. Wm Irwin &c are driving the Horse Level in the Sun Vein, and will lay open a great deal of the unexplored part of the Vein, both in the Great Limestone and all the other Stratums from the Surface, where considerable quantities of Ore will be raised after the necessary Dead Work is finished. Emanuel Natrass &c are rising into the Great Limestone in a recently discovered Cross Vein. Robt Houses &c are sinking from the surface to meet the said Rise, to try the success of the Vein, and produce fresh Air in the Mine. Matt Robson &c are driving a Horse Level in a different Vein where there is a probability of meeting with Small Cleugh Flatts, as they extend to the Northward

Scaleburnmoss There is little alteration in since last Report. Thos Humble &c are driving the Horse Level under the Great Limestone, answering the purpose of a drain to the Mine.

Small Cleugh Flatts continue successful, and will work to considerable advantage, and the Ore is still of the very best quality. Jacob Peart &c are cutting a Cross to try, what we call, the High Flatt situated about 3 Fathoms above the successful One in the Limestone. Abraham Graham &c are driving the Horse Level in the Flatt which prepares the same for raising the Ore. Jacob Blaylock &c are sinking a Sump into the

Flatt for an upper Level and will soon Raise Ore. Thos. Stephenson &c are sinking another Sump and will also soon raise Ore Josh. Spark &c are driving the deep Level from the Engine foot to drain all Middle Cleugh Veins

Middlehope Mine continues to do well and raise a good deal of Ore Edward Byers &c are driving the Horse Level. Jno Dawson &c are driving the Horse Level to the Westward. Wm Brown &c are Repairing an Old Level which is in a State of decay John Armstrong &c are driving an upper Level to furnish fresh Air, & try the Vein in the upper Stratums

Stanhope Mine is poor, and little altered since My last Report Josh Collingwood &c are driving the Horse Level in the Flatts where the Ore is Raised

Broomsberry & Gudhamgillmoss is poor and not much altered since last Report. Wm Armstrong &c are sinking a Sump into the Great Limestone to try the Vein

Hangingshaw is very poor, & cannot go on at the prices now given Jno Hall &c are driving the Horse Level to save the Lease from forfeiture

MiddleCleugh Cross Vein is now Raising Ore very well at 30/s p[er] Bing by one partnership (as p[er] List) in the south end of the Vein and more hands will shortly be employed in getting Ore Richd Thomason &c are driving the Horse Level Northward to make way for Raising Ore. The South end of the said Cross Vein will labor long under trial, as these trials cover the Leases of several fair running Veins and cannot be avoided but is a most excellent trial, tho the object is at a considerable distance. Geo Oliver &c are driving the Horse Level Southward & Wm Teasdale &c are repairing an Old Level. George Robinson &c are driving

Middlecleugh Horse Level, which preserves two or three Leases, and will try the Veins as they go on

Blackashgill is under trial, & the appearance not good. John Elliott &c are driving an upper Horse Level & John Vipond &c another one in the Great Limestone to prepare the Vein for trial

Garrigill Mines are poor

At Browngill Sun Vein John Archer &c are driving an upper Horse Level to try several Veins in the upper Stratums

At Browngill Jos Hall &c are driving the Horse Level in the Great Limestone which prepares the Vein for trial and for Raising Ore. James Dickinson &c are driving one of the Levels at Tynebottom and will soon Raise Ore Isaac Teasdale &c are driving a

Level in a different Vein where Ore is now got, & Jos Wanless &c are driving the Deep House Level which tries the Flatts for Ore. I have now to assure the Court that I have lett every thing in the different Mines on the most frugal terms, & have spared no pains nor Study to Render the whole successful.

My Son Simon begs me to say that he humbly requests the Court will accept of his most cordial thanks for the increase of his Salary, and to assure them that he will use every exertion in his power to make himself useful in their Mineral concerns

I am &c &c Thomas Dodd Sen

**1 Apr 1815 Robert Stagg**

Report of the Teesdale Mines 1st April 1815

The prospect and state of the Workings of the several Mines are in no Way materially Altered since the last Quarterly Report which may therefore be considered as the Report of the present Quarter. We fully expected to have cut the Vein at Flakebridge during the Quarter but from the extreme hardness of the Stone in which that trial is making, the Workmen have not been able to make much progress in it, although they have been working at it without intermission. By the dialling we are within a few Yards of the Vein, I trust therefore that we shall now Reach it in a Short time. The prospects of the Coldberry Mine, I am happy to Report, continue to be very flattering as far as the Vein has been worked into. The prices throughout have been kept as low as is practicable, & in particular, for the best parts of the Mines, where, as I have formerly stated, a Reduction is of the greatest Moment.

The Workmens earnings during the last half Year have been very moderate indeed; so much so, that a further Reduction in the Wages cannot be made under any circumstances. Nor indeed can they be continued so low unless the price of provisions is very moderate, as the earnings, during the half Year, according to the best Calculation we can make, will not average more than at the Rate of from £30 to £35 p[er] Year for each Man which is really less than they can live upon.

Rbt. Stagg

**8 Apr 1815 Thomas Dodd**

To Honble The Govr: & Compy

Nenthead. April 8th 1815

Sirs

After a general View of the Companys Mines under My Care and direction, on the 30th & 31 last, I lett the Sundry Bargains a List of which is annexed. Some parts of the Mines look more prosperous and other parts worse since My last list of Bargains was sent to the Court, but I have taken all the pains in My power to lett the whole as low as

the Nature and situation of them would admit and have Reduced the highest prices in every Mine 2s/ p[er] Bing namely from 44 to 42/ and the Dead Work in proportion, which I trust will meet the Courts approbation.

Rampgill Mine employs a vast Number of hands, yet by the principal Workings in the late good Vein getting excavated & much cut out and the leading Forehead not Reviving Renders the whole much poorer than formerly. John Elliott &c are driving an upper Level, to try the Vein in the upper Stratum. Thos Thompson &c are driving one of the Horse Levels. Robert Houps &c are driving a Level in one of the Cross Veins, which is a hopeful trial, as it will cut several East & West Running Veins when it arrives at a certain point. Wm Irwin &c are driving the deep Horse Level and Thomas Hewitson &c are Rising from the Horse Level into the Great Limestone to try the Vein afresh

Scaleburnmoss Mine is much the same as last Report. Thos Humble &c are driving the Horse Level.

Middle Cleugh Mine employs few hands, nor can more be done with prudence until the several Veins of Middle Cleugh be cut by the deep Level from Small Cleugh Engine. Geo Robinson &c are driving the Horse Level

Middle Cleugh Cross Vein (connected with Blackashgill) we have at last under many difficulties got into this Vein, and are now raising Ore vastly well by 22 hands, as the Court will see this List. Probably the Court will remember that this was a favorite trial with me, when I recommended the purchase of it to the Court, and have no doubt but my expectation will be realized. Jacob Peart &c are sinking into the Vein and will soon Raise Ore. John Milburn &c are driving the Horse Level from the North end of the Vein to meet the Workings at Blackashgill, & there being a vast extent of Ground & several fair Running Veins to cut by the Way renders the whole a very agreeable object Wm Teasdale &c are opening & Repairing an Old Level

Blackashgill Lease is under trial but the prospects not good, yet cannot be entirely abandoned on Acct. of the connection between this Mine & Middle Cleugh Cross Vein. John Elliott &c are driving a Level upon the Little Limestone 14 fa[thoms] above the Great Limestone, both to try the upper Stratum and occasionally to sink into the Great Limestone. John Vipond &c are opening an Old Level to prove what has been formerly done (by what is commonly called the Old Man) in order to open a communication between and occasionally to rise from the one & sink into the other for two Levels.

Small Cleugh Mine is doing well in the Flatts, and the Ore of a most extraordinary quality. Wm Cowing &c are repairing a Level. John Hall &c are sinking a sump into the great Limestone to try the Vein. Jos Spark &c are driving the deep Level from

Small Cleugh Engine to Relieve Middle Cleugh Veins & Thos. Stephenson &c are sinking a Sump into the Flatts.

Garrigill Mines There is no material alteration with

Browngill Sun Vein since my Last Report. Robt. Bowman &c are cutting a Cross to the South from the Old Vein, where probably some Ore will be got. Jno Archer &c are driving the Horse Level.

Tynebottom Mines are at present now hopeful, and raising more Ore than for some Years past. Thos Cain &c are driving the Horse Level.

Browngill Mine is poor, and the hands employed only keeps the Lease from forfeiture. Jos Hall &c are driving the Horse Level

Broomsberry & Gudhamgillmoss Mines extremely poor, and the hands employed will keep the Leases. Wm Armstrong &c are sinking a deep Sump into the low Level, to answer the purpose of a drain to the Mine.

Middlehope Mine employs many hands and raises a great deal of Ore, tho' no part of the Mine can be wrought at as low prices as some time past, for fluctuation and change is very common with all Lead Mines. Geo Temperley &c are driving an upper Horse Level to prove the Vein in the upper Stratums. John Armstrong &c are driving a Level in the Great Limestone in a different part of the Mine. John Dawson &c are driving the Horse Level Westward. Wm Brown &c are driving the Horse Level upon the Little Limestone, and Edward Byers &c are driving the Horse Level eastward in the Old Vein

Stanhopeburn Mine remains poor, and very little Altered since my last Report. Jos Collingwood &c are driving the Horse Level to prepare the flatts for Raising Ore.

[Marginal note: 'Accident Boy killed by fallg down the Whimsey Shaft at Rampgill see the Books page 95']

On the 15th February last the Son of a poor Widow in this place, and who was the principal Support of the distressed family was in a moment precipitated down one of the Whimsey Shafts (at Rampgill) 330 Feet and broke to pieces. I hope the Court will pardon me for naming this doleful event, for I know the Court had in some disastrous cases graciously condescended to bestow some small Charity upon the Survivors, this was a fine Boy 17 or 18 Years of Age The Rope had got off the Pulley Wheel which is exactly over the Top of the Shaft, and in his Attempt to put it Right he Slipped his foot & went down.

I am Sirs &c &c

Thomas Dodd Sen.r

**24 Jun 1815 Robert Stagg**

General Report of the Teesdale Mines 24th June 1815

Flakebridge Since the last Quarterly Report we have cut the Vein at this Mine at the depth of the Engine Drift, but am sorry to add its appearance is by no means flattering. It has ore in it altho' none that can be saved. It is necessary now to open a communication between the Upper level and this Engine Drift, by sinking a Sump in the Vein, which will enable us to prove it the whole of the depth between them, say about ten or twelve fathoms, and we are accordingly preparing to bore & sink for this purpose. It will require Six or Eight Months to sink the Sump in question, and altho' the appearance in the situation where the vein is now cut, is unpromising, we do not quite despair of finding a better Mine between the Old Workings and the Engine Drift. I am not however by any means Sanguine as to the Result.

The Trials at Wiregill, Brockersgill, & Mannergill, are proceeding with little or no variation of circumstances

Lodgesyke This mine has been Materially poorer the last Month or Six Weeks and as the prices were kept so low during the three last Quarters, that the Workmens earnings were quite inadequate to the Support of their Families. I have been obliged to increase the prices at the present Bargains to give them a Chance of bringing their Years earnings to average at about from £35 to £40 each Man, which is as little as they can possibly subsist upon It is the opinion of all practical Agents that they can hardly reach this Average with the greatest exertions, unless the Mine improves Materially beyond our expectations during the ensuing Quarter.

Coldberry This Mine is somewhat poorer altho' altho [sic] its prospects are still promising.

R. Stagg.

[The following is in the same hand as the body of the report yet was presumably added by the Lead Company clerk transcribing into the report book:]

further Remarks on Letting the Teesdale Bargains in R Staggs Letter 26 June 1815 Vide Letter Book pages

**18 Jul 1815 Thomas Dodd**

The Honble The Governor & Company

Nenthead July 18th 1815

Sirs

After the Closest inspection and general View of the Company's Mines under my Care on the 26th: 27th & 28th past I lett the Sundry Bargains, a list of which is annexed. The prices being Reduced, and Mines in general poor; naturally reduces the Number of hands, and it is certain, under unfavourable times, it militates much against the interest of Lead Mines to have them crowded & overloaded with Numbers

Rampgill Mine continues to Raise a considerable quantity of Ore, yet it is far short of what it formerly was. Robt Readshaw &c are raising in one of the Cross Veins, & will probably Raise Ore shortly. Wm. Irwin &c are driving the deep Horse Level which is a general convenience to all the Veins, and the only passage for bringing out the Ore & Rubbish. Hugh Spotiswood &c are cutting a Cross from the upper Level about 20 Fathms and will then sink into the deep Level, to ensure a general communication of fresh Air, and to try for Ore in the Stratums between the two Levels. Robt Houps &c are driving an upper Level where we expect to cut a successful Vein; Thomas Hewitson & are driving in the late successful Vein forehead, with an expectation of meeting with Ore again, by the scattered parts of the Vein uniting

Smallcleugh Mine & Flatts are doing well. Matt Vickers &c are driving the Level in the Flatts, as the only waygate for the Workmen to & from their respective Workings and a passage for the Horses & Waggons, to bring the Ore and Rubbish out of the Mine Josh. Spark &c are driving the deep Level, from the Engine to relieve the Middle Cleugh Veins Jno Thompson &c are sinking a Sump from the Horse Level to the Engine Level for the accomodation of fresh Air, & to try the Vein in the Several Stratums.

MiddleCleugh Cross Vein as connected with Blackashgill purchase is raising Ore pretty well. Wm Teasdale &c are opening and Repairing an Old Level. Jon.a Houps &c are sinking a Sump into the Vein and will, I trust shortly raise Ore Jno Milburn &c are driving the Horse Level.

Scaleburnmoss is much the same as last Report, Edward Robson &c are driving the Horse Level. The is little Alteration with

Middle Cleugh since my last Report. Ridley Robson &c are sinking into the Vein, & will soon prove its success. Geo: Robinson &c are driving the Horse Level.

At Hangingshaw Mine Jno Hall &c are driving a Level in the Great Limestone to prove the Vein in the same.



At Goodhamgillmoss & Broomsberry. Wm Armstrong &c are sinking a Sump to produce fresh Air, & try the Vein in the Great Limestone

Middlehope Mine is doing well. Edward Byers &c are driving the Horse Level which is difficult to move, the Limestone Rock being prodigious hard. Wm Brown &c are driving an upper Level in the Vein, to try the same in the upper Stratums, where we expect Ore will be found. Geo Temperly &c are driving an higher Level in the side of the Mountain and by sinking will lay the Vein open in all the different Stratums between the Surface and the deep Horse Level. John Armstrong &c are driving a Level westward, which is a proper mode, & highly necessary for proving the Vein as they go on. We are still picking the remains of the Ore out of

Ireshopeburn Vein which is very poor at 50/- p[er] Bing, but as there is no other expence upon the Mine, it will pay & make some profit

Stanhopeburn Mine is much the same, but the Dead Expence being light will be saved from loss this Year. Jos Collingwood &c are driving the Horse Level. Jno Elliott &c are driving the Horse Level at

Blackashgill upon the Little Limestone, and which will try the Vein in the different Stratums as they proceed, by cutting a Cross to the Vein & Sinking

Browngill Sun Vein is poor and can barely be kept going with the present prices for Raising the Ore, but shall be frugally conducted Robt Bowman &c are cutting a Cross from the Old Vein to a Strong String 15 fa[thoms] to the South, which probably will raise Ore. John Archer &c are driving an upper Horse Level, to prove the Vein and several Strings in the upper Stratums

Tynebottom favourable prospects is at present gone off, & tends to show the fluctuating uncertainty of some Lead Mines. Wm Parmerly &c are driving in the Vein which Recently looked well, with an expectation of the same Reviving Adam Walton &c are driving the Horse Level

Browngill Mine is poor and employs few hands. Thos Cain &c are driving the Horse Level in the Great Limestone to open the Vein for trial. I am informed that two Commissioners and the Secretary from Greenwich Hospital Board will be in this Country next Week

I am Sirs Your most hble Servt.

Thomas Dodd Senr.

**30 Sep 1815 Robert Stagg**

General Report of Teesdale Mines 30th Sepr 1815

The trials at Wiregill, Brockergill, Flakebridge and Mannergill are proceeding with little or no variation of circumstances

Colberry is considerably poorer & less promising, the Ore raised at this Mine we find, on Smelting is of a very poor quality indeed, it is richer in Silver however than the Lodgesyke; I find by the Assays made of that it contains about 10 Oz p[er] Fother

Lodgesyke The leading Workings improve considerably the latter end of quarter, & the prices are accordingly reduced in proportion, as the Court will observe by referring to the annexed list of Bargains, the whole of Which have been let as low as possible, & on the principal fixed, by the Gentlemen of the Deputation.

I have not made a great reduction of pickmen this quarter, but in a Week or two we shall have not less than 50 Men & Boys fewer than we have had during the summer; as I have declined letting any bargains in the Mines to those employed in Washing, & in labourage at the buildings, and crushing Mill; which are nearly completed; and which will throw out of employment the number of hands quoted. Several of the partnerships have taken bargains this quarter in Old parts of the Mine which have been given up befour, in order to prevent being intirely out of work, & Many of them Will, in all probability, be wrought out during the present Quarter, when the Men now working them must leave of course, which I prefer to giving them an absolute dismissal. I find it extremely painful and difficult to dismiss the Workmen under existing circumstances, as there is no other Work to be obtained in Teesdale. I shall however continue to proceed upon the plan fixed; which I am fully convinced will best promote the Companys interest

[Table of bing-rate and fathom-rate bargains is given in the margin. This and subsequent quarterly tables are given in the spreadsheet 'NEIMME LLC/40 Bargains' available to download]

**8 Nov 1815 Thomas Dodd**

The Honourable The Governor & Company

Nenthead November 8th 1815

Sirs

I have just received the Courts of the 2 Inst & the great reason of the Bargains & Report being delayed was the Settling the Mine Accounts as soon as the Bargains was over, with which we have been very busy. I finished the List of Bargains & Reports on

Saturday, and will forward them by Thursdays Post. After carefully examining the Company's Mines in my department, and making the necessary arrangements on the 5th, 6th & 7th October I lett the Sundry Bargains.

Middlehope I have employed 50 Pickmen at from 18 to 25/ p[er] Bing (agreeable to the orders of the Deputation) 36 in the Pickings and 12 in Dead Work. This Mine will do well Featherstone Wilson &c as p[er] List are driving in the Vein, expecting to meet with the intersection of some Strings which cannot fail of Success. John Armstrong &c are rising into the Coal Hazel to prove the Vein in that Stratum & Nathan Race are driving the Horse Level

Stanhopeburn Mine 20 Men are employed in raising Ore at 40/s p[er] Bing & 4 in Dead Work driving the Horse Level &c

Ireshopeburn 6 Men at 48/s p[er] Bing and no other Expencc

Several of the Mines in the Moor are poor, & I have made use of every consideration & all the Mineral Judgement in My power in the letting the Bargains to cover the Numerous Leases, and have lett Bargains to 104 Pickmen at Various prices (under 38) in the leading Workings, keeping in View 14/s p[er] Week and as a great number of the Workmen were likely to be thrown out of employ, instead of 40 Men the Stipulated number to be employed in the Old Pickings from 38 to 42/ I have employed 148, which I trust the Court will pardon the Pickings without additional expence being one of the best sources of profit in Old Wrought Mines And if I am correct in My recollection the Deputation gave way to that, rather than the Men should be unemployed, and would submit to engage at that Price. I have strictly attended to the orders of 60 Men being employed in Dead Work (44 fewer than at Midsummer) and the Reduction of the price per fathom, calculating on the whole 14/ p[er] Week. The Court will find the Number of hands in the List 58 fewer than at Midsummer. I have also reduced the Carriage of Wood & Coals as also the Carriage of all Materials & Stores from Newcastle, and I trust upon the whole, we shall do well. However to accomplish this point the Court may Rely upon my utmost vigilance & care

Rampgill Mine Josa Wallace &c are driving the Horse Level under the Great Limestone, in the Vein so successful in 1814 For twelve Months past the Vein has been without Ore in which situation we have pursued it in the Limestone 50 Fathom at a considerable expence, for I had the strongest reason to beleive that the scattered parts would collect together again, now I am happy to say my expectations are Realized, and the Forehead is working at a moderate price p[er] Bing. Wm Irwin &c are driving a Horse Level in the Sun Vein to prepare the Same for Raising Ore in the Great Limestone. Mattw Thompson &c are sinking a Sump from an upper Level into the Horse Level

Scaleburnmoss Mine which is poor, & every Bargain but on[e] requires the highest price John Richardson &c are driving the Horse Level

Middle Cleugh Cross Vein 34 Pickmen are raising Ore at as low prices as the Mine will admit of, 6 Men only in Dead Work Edwd Fawcett &c are cutting a Cross to a String 5 or 6 fath[om]s West of the Vein & Jno Milburn &c are driving the Horse Level

Middle Cleugh Mine is poor at present but will be Relieved by Small Cleugh deep Level from the Engine. John Waugh &c are driving the Horse Level which is all the Dead Work upon said Vein

Small Cleugh Flatts have been poorer than usual for some time past, the course of the Flatt having been obstructed by an East & West String passing through it; & took the Ore totally away, and left nothing but a Limestone Rock, but by pursuing the String about 20 Yards to the Eastward, we have again come at the Flatt, which Expected, & which will again do well. Robt. Millican &c are sinking a Sump into the Deep Level & Josa. Spark &c are driving the deep Level to the point where the Sump is to come down, which will <Serve> the Mine and relieve Middle Cleugh Mine of Water

Broomsberry & Gudhamgillmoss are still under Trial by 4 Men in Dead Work & 2 for Ore Wm Armstrong &c are sinking into the Vein in the Great Limestone to prove the same in fresh ground.

Browngill Sun Vein is poor Matt Clemitson &c are driving the Horse Level

Browngill & Thortergill Mine is poor John Pattinson &c are driving the Horse Level in the Vein under the Great Limestone which drains & prepares the Mine for Raising Ore

Tynebottom raises a little Ore, & at present only two Men in Dead Work John Elliott &c driving the Level at

Blackashgill & it will require a considerable time to have a satisfactory Trial at this Mine

Lovelady Shield Wm Teasdale &c are sinking a Shaft into the Vein where there is a prospect of meeting with some Ore at the depth of 4 or 5 fath[om]s: for we have a hopeful looking Vein I hope the Court will be convinced in looking over the List, that every nerve is Stretched to keep down the general expence, & which is highly necessary under the present depression of the Lead Market

I am Sirs &c &c

Thomas Dodd Senr.

P.S. We have discovered another hopeful Cross or North & South running Vein in Rampgill since the late Deputation left this Country, which is now Working by the Bing of course I expect Rampgill will do well this Year. As several of the Workmen are out of employ, has the Court any objection that I should employ them at from 38 to 42/ p[er] Bing in the Old Pickings for there are many workings of that description in the Moor. The Court gave no answer in their last respecting the Duty Ore & Candles. My Son will write the Court in a few Days respecting the Instruments necessary for Surveying and planning.

[Table of bing-rate bargains is given in the margin. See spreadsheet 'NEIMME LLC/40 Bargains' which can be downloaded]

### **31 Dec 1815 Robert Stagg**

[Note: Undated but been assigned a date of 31st December 1815 as it records the setting of the Christmas bargains.]

List of Teesdale Christmas Bargains 1815

Report of Teesdale Mines

None of the trials at Flakebridge, Wiregill, Mannergill, & Brockergill, have yet arrived at the objects of them, and they are of course continuing to be prosecuted as usual.

The prospects at Coldberry are not nearly so favourable indeed at present there is hardly any Ore Visible, in this Mine.

At Lodgesyke the leading foreheads are exceedingly poor, as are also the general Workings; but as this Mine is perpetually fluctuating in its prospects and appearance, we trust there may shortly be an improvement in it; and I have let the Bargains rather with a view to what we hope the Mine may shortly become, than in its present goodness. &, the Court will see by the subjoined list that the prices are accordingly kept very low.

There is a Reduction of eleven pickmen this Quarter which are all I could dismiss with propriety; none of the Workings in which the others are employed been wrought out.

I expect to be able to dismiss a Similar Number next quarter, which will Reduce the Workmen as low as I conceive to be advantageous.

The dead Work and every other expenditure are reduced as much as is practicable consistent with the Companys Interest, and with the Regular prosecution of the Mines

**20 Jan 1816 Thomas Dodd**

The Honble the Governor & Company

Nenthead January 20th 1816

Sirs

I have now lett the Christmas Bargains and annexed the List thereof, and should the Court consider to allow me to lett any more Bargains, as represented in My last, to the distressed Workmen, I will send a Supplement next Week. The Court will please to observe that I have reduced the highest price to 38/- and Ireshopeburn, which the late Deputation ordered to be lett at 48/ in consequence of having no Dead Work upon it, I have now Reduced to 45/ and Stanhopeburn to 40/ and the leading Workings as low as possible, and in fact have used every exertion in every branch of My department, to meet the pressure of the present day.

Rampgill Mine is much the same as last Report. Wm Bright &c are sinking into the Horse Level in the great Limestone in the Vein to cause a fresh circulation of Air, and to search for Ore. Jos: Wallace &c are driving the Horse Level, and also Rising into the Limestone in the Vein, and will soon Raise Ore. Robt. Irwin &c are driving a different Horse Level in a North & South Vein which we suppose to be Small Cleugh Vein about a Mile to the North of Small Cleugh, and will by & by try to discover the flatts there. Matt Thompson &c are sinking a Sump into the Level for Air, and to try the Little Limestone & Coal Sills for Ore.

Small Cleugh is improved since last Quarter, and the prices in general more favorable. The Flatt which some time ago was taken off its usual direction upwards of 20 Yards is found again and looks like doing well, and the Ore in its usual quality very good. Featherstone Varty &c are driving the Horse Level. Robt Millican &c are sinking a Sump in the Vein for a supply of fresh Air, and to try for Ore as they go down in the Little Limestone, Coal Sills, & Great Limestone. Josh. Spark &c are driving from the bottom of the Engine, and in the course of the present Quarter will cut the first MiddleCleugh Vein, where I make myself sure we shall meet with Ore. This Level has been a long expensive Job, but will shortly sufficiently refund the Company.

Middle Cleugh is still poor, and employs few hands, but will get reward by the completion of the above trial of Small Cleugh E[n]gine Level. George Robinson &c are driving the Horse Level.

Scaleburnmoss is poor and on account of the Reduced prices, employs few hands. John Richardson &c are driving the Horse Level.

Middle Cleugh Cross Vein employs 30 Men in the Raising of Ore at different prices, and 12 in Dead Work. This Mine is likely for doing well when effectually opened, but till then, will labour under some difficulties. Henry Cowing &c are driving in the Vein, and will soon meet with better success. Robert Dickinson &c are cutting across to a String about 5 fa.[thoms] distant from the Vein, in a parallel situation with it, and we expect success from it. John Milburn &c are driving the Horse Level & Wm Irwin are opening Preparing the old Level, and will soon be done and sink into the Vein.

We are making a further trial at Loveladyshield Thomas Cain &c are driving a Level from the Surface to cut a Vein, and afterwards try it in an upper Sill.

At Tynebottom Adam Walton &c are driving the Horse Level The Mine is poor. Thomas Archer &c are driving a Level at

Browngill Sun Vein and having filled up the stipulated number at the highest prices in the Pickings at other places, of course I have lett no Bargains for Ore in Garrigill, until I am furnished with the Courts sentiments respecting the employing a greater Number in the Pickings, as nothing there can possibly be wrought under the highest price. Thomas Cain Junr. &c are driving a Level in Browngill Vein, to Relieve, and try the Vein in the Great Limestone

At Middlehope, Stanhopeburn, & Ireshopeburn, Mines the Bargains are lett agreeable to Stipulation respecting the number, but the prices for Pickings at all these Mines are Reduced, and in general are doing well. Henry Coulthard &c at Middlehope, are driving the Horse Level Eastward. Featherstone Wilson &c are driving an upper Level and will sink into the lower Workings to accomodate the other parts of the Mine with fresh Air Richard Hutchinson &c are driving in a dead part of the Vein, but will shortly raise Ore. John Armstrong &c are rising into the upper Stratums to try the Vein for Ore & Nathan Race &c are rising into the Great Limestone in the Vein.

At Stanhopeburn Mine the Flatts are in some degree improved and upon which we have little or no expence for Timber, and the Ore is of the better quality. Josh Collingwood &c are driving the Horse Level.

I am much obliged to the Court for their Sympathizing Letter of the 11th Inst.

I am Sirs &c &c

Thomas Dodd Senr.

**27 Jan 1816 Thomas Dodd**

Supplement to above [ie. to report of 20th Jan 1816]

To the Honble The Governor & Company

Nenthead January 27th 1816

Sirs

I have been duly favored with the Courts Letter of the 19 Inst and have during this Week, lett Bargains to 80 Men at 38/ of which here is a List

I am sorry to hear so unfavorable an Account of the Lead Markets; if they continue it will be the destruction of this Country

I am Sirs &c &c

Thomas Dodd Senr.

**25 Mar 1816 Thomas Dodd**

[Note: Undated so has been given the date of Ladyday as indicated in the report's title]

General Report of Mines in Alston moor &c Ladyday 1816

After viewing a part of the Mines myself my Health preventing me, the remaining part was view'd by my Son, & others so that the service suffer'd no loss. I therefore let the Bargains as follows viz

From 18/- to 28/ p Bing	80 Men
28/- to 35/	58
At 35/	120
Dead work	42
Total	300 Men

which is fewer than last quarter by 40. This method may do for some time but not long as some of the Greenwich Hospital Leases stand exposed.

Rampgill Jos. Wallace &c at Rampgill are rising into the Vein in the great Limestone & will raise Ore Mattw Thompson &c are sinking a Sump out of the upper Level to the deep one both for opening the Vein in the little Sills (Little Limestone) Coal Hazels &c) which will raise Ore & also to accommodate the Mine with fresh Air

ScaleburnMoss Mine will raise Ore so as to preserve the same from Loss having only 4 Men in Deadwork. Jno Richardson &c are driving the Horse Level which prepares the Vein for raising the Ore

Middle Cleugh Is also raising Ore in such quantities as to be preserved from loss. Geo Robinson &c are driving the Horse Level & by alternately sinking & rising from said Level the Ore is got.



SmallClough Flatts Tho extensive, yet are harder & poorer than formerly, being principally the Pickings of the sides after the best parts have been taken away. The Ore being of a superior quality makes it appear that more hands are employed in Pickings in this Mine than any others in the Moor SmallCleugh Engine Level having arrived at the first of Middle Cleugh Veins Jos Spark &c are rising out of said Level into the bottoms of Middle Cleugh Vein to bring the Water off & raise the Ore long since left there Mattw Hall &c are sinking a Sump from the Horse Level into the deep Level to drain the Vein & raise Ore. I expect the places which have been lost for a great number of Years by being overpowered by Water contain considerable quantities of Ore & we are in the direct Road for bringing them to light for the success depends in a great measure on the properest mode of going about the Trials

MiddleCleugh X Vein Is not doing well as might from the first appearance yet is a good & hopeful Trial and will prove satisfactory, tho present situation requires a good deal of Dead Expencc which by & bye will get reduced. Wm Irwin &c are sinking into the Vein in the great Limestone and will soon raise Ore Jno Milburn &c are driving the Horse Level from the Northmost Boundary Southward to meet the Horse Level driving from the South end & going Northward Jas Bell &c are cutting aCross to a String laying <4> Fathoms off the Vein to the West & trust will prove successful

Garrigill Mines Are still poor but having little Dead work upon them will eventually do better.

Thos Cain &c at Browngill Sun Vein are driving the Horse Level & Adam Walton &c are driving the Horse Level at Tynebottom

Middlehope Mine continues to do well. Richd. Hutchinson &c are driving the upper Level to prepare the Vein for raising Ore in the upper Stratum & causing fresh Air to circulate through all the Workings of the advanced part of the Mine. Thos Hudson &c are rising out of the Horse Level into the Coal Scills for trying the Vein.

I have as above let Bargains in the Moor to 300 Men and according to the Courts direction I have let Bargains at

Middlehope	82
Stanhope same as Last Quarter	20
Irishopeburn &c	4
	106
In the Moor	300
	406

Just 50 Men reduced in my department which I trust the Court will approve & which I trust they will seriously take into their consideration at Mids[umme]r as several Leases

cannot be covered with so few hands, The Workmen who are out of employment are very much distress'd & would gladly work for the company if they were permitted. I see nothing for them but to apply to their respective Parishes for Support, If the Court think not proper to employ them at 35/- p[er] Bing.

I am no better in my Health am &c Thos Dodd Senr

NB the Courts Letter of the 7th March could have been acknowledged by my writing on the 10th but I hope the Court will excuse for not doing that on the Sabbath day of which my conscience would have accused me.

[Table of bing-rate and fathom-rate bargains follows. See spreadsheet 'NEIMME LLC/40 Bargains' which can be downloaded. It also indicates 'fathoms' which suggest either a target distance to be driven in the next quarter OR the amount driven in the earlier quarter. This is not explained further in the report. Total men is given as follows for Alston Moor and Weardale:]

258 p[er] Bing [rate]  
42 do Fathom [rate]  
96 do Bing [rate]  
10 do Fathom [rate]  
Total 406 Men

### **25 Mar 1816 Robert Stagg**

[Note: Undated so has been given the date of Ladyday.]

Teesdale Bargains Ladyday 1816

Lodgesyke, Coldberry, Brockergill Wiregill & Flakebridge Mines are proceeding without any material change since Christmas report. The Level from which the Workings at Mannergill are prosecuting was given up several Years ago, but from the Report of my Uncle & several of the old Workmen of whom I made enquiries I was not satisfied with the manner in which it had been discontinued & therefore had it reopened during the last Year to extend the trial, and the Level having been driven to the point where the proposed additional trial was wished to be made it was effected during last Quarter, & I have reason to hope that we have regained by it a Mine that will become advantageous as the prospects are now favourable altho' in the present stage of the trial, the best price p[er] Bing is required to be given.

The whole of the leading Workings which could with propriety stand have been stopped agreeably to the directions of the Court and the prices are greatly reduced throughout, as will be perceived by the list of Bargains. The data on which they are let was to allow the Workmen to earn about 12/- p[er] Week each for Working the whole

Week of 6 Days, instead of the usual Miners week of five Shifts of 6 hours each: & it is the opinion of the practical Agents that they can hardly reach that Wage, with the utmost possible exertion unless an unforeseen improvement take place in the state of the workings.

The number of Men reduced by this arrangement amounts to 37 (which is about one fifth of the whole number employed last Quarter) not one of whom can obtain a days' employment in the Country: & the dismissal of so many industrious & excellent workmen under such circumstances, although a necessary measure, has been by far the most painful duty I have ever performed for the Company.

In addition to the reduction in the number & wages of the Pickmen I have also reduced the wagemen (Viz. Smiths and Woodmen) two in number & 2/ each p[er] Week in the wages of those retained.

The dead work is also as much lessened as possible and in short the whole department is now under the most economical arrangements that I have been able to devise after repeated & almost daily revisals of it for several Months past with the express view of reducing the expenditure.

Robt Stagg

**24 Jun 1816 Robert Stagg**

[Note: Thomas Dodd had been responsible for Alston Moor and Weardale before this date but he having died responsibility for these mines, as well as those of Teesdale, had been given to Robert Stagg. This report is undated so has been given a midsummer date.]

General Report of Mines in Alston moor

Midsummer 1816

Rampgill The Cross Vein which raised the chief part of the Ore at the Mine during the last three or four Years has entirely failed at the leading forehead for several Months past & the principal part of the Ore now raising at this Mine is in the higher part of the Sill above the former workings of this Vein & in the pickings of the old Rampgill Vein & there is very little prospect of this Mine producing much Ore for three or four years to come within which period the Level that is driving to unwater the lower part of the Limestone of the Old Vein is expected to reach that part where it is certainly known considerable Mines were left, which could not be wrought for the Water, when there is no doubt this Mine will again become productive & profitable.

Scaleburnmoss The Workings at this Mine are also entirely in old pickings & in parts of the Mine which had been left on first working it & this Mine stands in exactly similar

circumstances as the Rampgill old Vein & there is every reason to believe that in 2 or 3 Years it also will again become profitable

Smallcleugh The workings here have been much poorer than usual during the last Year & still continue so, this however is the most valuable & profitable Mine you have in the Alston Moor District at present both in the quality of the Ore which is very excellent and also with respect to quantity; and there does not appear to be any reason to doubt that it will be continuing Mine for Years to come & one that will work to profit.

Middlecleugh This Mine is just opening out anew by a deep Level which has been driving several Years for the purpose of unwatering that part of the Limestone which could not be wrought by the upper Level on account of the Water & there appears to be every reason to hope that in about a Year Mines may be regained here that will be very valuable & in which in fact, appear to be chief dependance we have to look forward to in this District for the next three or four Years.

Middlecleugh Cross Vein The workings at this Mine are very poor generally, and its future prospects are by no means flattering at the same time it is likely to work with some profit altho but small

The Ore Bargains at the several other Mines are chiefly for old pickings, are not expected to produce much Ore & upon the whole the quantity of Ore raised this Year at these Mines, will evidently be far short of the usual Raising in Aston moor, for we do not expect it will reach 6000 Bings. I have detailed in an accompanying Sheet the intention of the various Dead work trials & have given the best calculation we can make of the time each will require to arrive at its ultimate object; the Court will observe by this detail & the bargain List, that the Number of Men employed in Dead work is very greatly increased, which was rendered absolutely necessary by finding several Leases were uncovered, and liable to forfeiture which could not be maintained in any other manner than by prosecuting the Dead work trials of them: & as the most of them appear to have very fair prospects & had been prosecuted at great expence until they were nearly approaching the objects for which they were originally commenced it would be extremely unwise to discontinue them now, as by thus saving the remaining cost of completing the trials all the heavy expenditure already incurred would be thrown away without a chance of being redeemed whereas, by now continuing them to there several objects, there is every reason to hope that a part at any Rate if not the whole of the past expence may be repaid – although in the interim it will make the concern appear to be very losing one indeed, and the more particularly as to this great increase of Dead work there will also have to be added a very heavy expenditure in putting the whole of this District – both interior & exterior – into that repair which is absolutely necessary to afford any futer [sic] hope of prosecuting these Mines to profit – for it is painful in the extreme to have to Report that it has evidently been the System (and it is acknowledged by Mr Hornsby) for Six or Seven Years back to raise all the Ore

possible & to withhold every possible expenditure with a view to preserve a favorable appearance for the passing Moment & which by allowing the Levels & waygates to run together & to get intirely out of Repair (which it will now cost a very heavy sum to remedy) & by pushing forward the Ore workings, whenever it could be done before the Levels to increase the quantity of raising, although at an enormous increase of price, and thereby leaving these Levels & waygates to be either pushed forward now at a great addition of expence, or force us to continue prosecuting the Mines to extreme disadvantage, will necessarily cause this District to appear to very great loss for two or three years to come. It is however my own opinion after the most accurate investigation that I have been able to make & it is also the Opinion of all the District Agents who have viewed these Mines, that if the Court can resolve upon bearing this loss for two or three Years the Mines will then if we have any tolerable fortune get into a State that will afford the strongest grounds to calculate upon them the working to advantage & of repaying the intermediate sacrifice & even of becoming very profitable should there be a prospect of Lead reaching £23 or £24 p[er] Fother, we are however of joint & unanimous opinion that in the mean time the loss will be a very heavy one indeed unless some unexpected good Mine should be met with as we proceed. At the same time we are all agreed that it will be the Company's best policy to risk this loss for the chance of the future gain, which it holds out; & in fact there appears no alternative but either to decide upon this or to give up the greatest part of the Leases which could not be done without first putting the various Mines into proper repair which would cost nearly as much as completing the trials without affording any possibility of recompense; & as the objects of the chief part of those Leases have not yet been arrived at (as has been already stated) this measure could not, in our opinion, be decided upon with any propriety, in the present Stage of the various trials. I have thus detailed to the best of my belief, the exact situation in which this District stands, and it rests with the Court to decide on the future mode of conducting it, and I can only add that entering upon the Superintendance of it in the extremely deranged state in which I have found it, with the consequent certainty of its being a very losing and unsatisfactory concern for a few Years to come, and uncertainty of future advantage which is necessarily attached to all Mining management has given me more painful anxiety than I ever remember experiencing on any other business occasion whatever

Rob Stagg

**24 Jun 1816 Robert Stagg**

[Note: Undated but given a midsummer date]

General Report of Mines in Teesdale

Midsummer 1816

Lodgesyke Brockergill Wiregill & Flakebrig Mines are no way materially altered since the last quarterly report

Coldberry still continues very poor & unpromising although the appearance at the leading forehead is somewhat improved since last quarter

The prospects of Mannergill continued very flattering for a Week or two after the Lady day Bargains but have since then altered greatly for the worse – we have now however got the leading Foreheads aired by a drift taken up for that purpose & are in consequence enabled to proceed with the trial, which all the District Agents think well worthy of further prosecution & we doubt not but eventually it will lead to an advantageous Mine

The Bargains above 40/- pr Bing are for pickings in parts of the Mines which had been left as being too poor to work & are all therefore entirely speculations on the part of the Men, at the same time there will be a very fair profit to the Company on all the Ore they may meet with besides affording the chance of leading to important discoveries (and to Miners that may be very advantageous) which is a case that has happened repeatedly in all the mining concerns in these Countries; for it is a notorious fact that a great proportion of the good Mines now working, were originally discovered by speculations of this description made by the Men rather than they would be entirely out of work and it cannot but be most gratifying to the feelings of the Court to know that by the measure decided upon by the Gentlemen of the Deputation of allowing greater encouragement for picking the poor parts of the Mines, nearly the whole of their old Workmen have been reemployed, & consequently are relieved from the extreme of distress and will at the same time greatly benefit the concern by their employment. This remark applies to the whole of the Districts. I consider the Mines in Teesdale to be working now to the utmost advantage, as we have entirely got quit of the Pumps, & have likewise got the Waygates & Levels generally into fair repair & as we shall conclude all the extra Charges attendant on removing the washing arrangements &c. during this Year I have no doubt whatever, unless the Mines greatly fail us, that the Teesdale district will raise the Lead next year to allow a fair profit even at the present low price. The whole of the Workings in this & the other Districts were viewed prior to the Bargains by all the District Agents and the Bargains let on their joint opinions; & are all I believe as low as possible; In fact I fear that the Mens average Wages will fall greatly short of our intentions, at the close of the Year, for multitudes of them have not yet earned the amount of their Monthly advances, Viz 30/- p Week [sic, but must surely have meant 30 shillings/ month.]

Rob Stagg

24 Jun 1816 Robert Stagg

[Note: undated so has been given a midsummer date.]

Report of the Weardale Mines Midsummer 1816

Middlehope The prospects of this Mine are very favorable but the chief workings having been pushed forwards upwards of 20 fathoms before the drawing Level from an improper anxiety on the part of Mr Dodd to raise a great quantity of Ore they were all working to great disadvantage, & in consequence the Men have been taken out of them & employed in the old pickings untill the Level gets sufficiently forward to enable us to prosecute these leading Workings to the greatest advantage; which has necessarily occasioned a greater number of Bargains to be let at higher prices this quarter than formerly but although the present appearance is thereby rendered unfavourable the Company will eventually be greatly benefitted by the reduced Rates at which those places now standing will work when fairly opened out & it will be no loss but the contrary, to fall short of raising the usual Quantity of Ore at this Mine untill the Stock is reduced at Stanhope Mill. To give the Court some Idea of the state of the workings discontinued I directed the Agents, in their inspection of the Mine, to view them and Report to me the price at which they would work after the level in question is got up and by small partnerships of 4 Men instead of the large partnerships of 8 or 10 Men recently working them, and their Report is as followes Viz

A Working where 10 Men have been employed at 23/- pr Bg will then work at	15/
Do 10 men @ 25/-	18/
Do 8 do @ 25/-	21/
Do 6 do @ 30/-	25/
Do 6 d @ 23/-	18/

Some part of this enormous difference of price is owing to the improvement of the Mines but they all agree that the altered mode of working this Mine just stated will be a saving upon the average of at least 4/- a Bing, which upon the quantity that will annually be raised from these workings will amount to not less than £400 p[er] Year the Level to relieve these workings is driving as quickly as possible, but, being extremely hard & poor, we have been obliged to give a price p[er] Fathom in addition to the price p[er] Bing, as the Court will see by referring to Edward Byers &c in the list of Bargains. We calculate that in less of than a Year this Level will be so far driven that we shall be able to prosecute the Ore workings now left off to the greatest advantage.

Thomas Headron &c having been working by Mr Dodds directions the greater part of last quarter without a Bargain the work has now therefore been estimated & a Bargain let them for it, they are this quarter employed in rising into an upper Sill in the New Vein which has for a considerable time been unproductive but is now rather

promising & we anticipate that the trial in question will lead to better prospects in this once valuable Vein.

Thomas Gleeson &c are driving to Air this <rise> & also and also to prove the intermediate ground: these trials are expected to be terminated in 6 Months.

The Middle Level on which the whole of the leading workings are dependant for a supply of Air having been discontinued since last Michaelmas & the Top Level intended to communicate with the middle Level having been also standing the same length of time, Joseph Temperly &c have been employed to drive forward the top Level untill it is pushed as far forward as the middle Level forehead & then to sink a Sump into the middle Level to Air it. & from this Sump it is intended to try the Vein in the Slate Sills which are here in a very favourable situation for producing Ore. & from which we anticipate opening out an extended Mine in the upper Strata.

Wm Brown &c are employed to rise from the middle Level to meet the Sump & by doing so they will make a trial of the Vein in the Firestone Sill; it is expected these trials will occupy 6 Months but they are certainly very desirable & when it is considered that without them it would be impossible to work the very excellent Mines now standing in the lower workings without extreme loss & injury, I doubt the Court will at once see the necessity & advantage of pushing them forward as speedily as possible. Upon the whole the prospects of this Mine are extremely promising & when the trials now making are completed the Court may expect very handsome profits to come from it even supposing the present depression of the Lead Trade to continue; it is in fact the Mine which to all present appearance will be by far the most advantageous of any in your concern, as in addition to its Richness the Ore is of excellent quality & it requires comparatively little Wood in working it. & when once got into a proper working state it will then be prosecuted at a slight expence of Dead Work.

Stanhopeburn Mine The leading workings in the flatts is improved in appearance & the Bargain in it has accordingly been let @ 30/ a Bing. The other workings continue poor but there being no expence incurred by prosecuting them beyond the price p[er] Bing given they will yet work to profit. Joseph Vipond &c are sinking a Shaft for the purpose of airing their workings & to enable us to make trial at several Strings which have lately been cut by the Level it is expected that this Shaft will be finished in 5 or 6 Months. Two Ore Bargains have been let @ 35/ a Bing in old workings in an other Vein where little has been done by the Company, as the Ore of this Vein is of superior quality we shall at that price have a fair profit by working it & these two Bargains may be considered a desirable trial for by them we shall without any expence have an opportunity of ascertaining the state in which these old workings have been left & be thus enabled to decide with more precision respecting any further trial of them.

Thomas Wallace &c are driving the deep water Level this level which had been driving many years at an expence of not less than £2500 had been allowed to stand nearly two Years though within a few fathoms of the principal Vein to cut which under the old workings appears to have been the main object in driving it, being fully aware of these circumstances, immediately on entering upon the direction of this Mine I let a



Bargain until Midsummer at 140/- p[er] Fathom as the Court will see in the list of Bargains. I have now, the level having become much harder, being obliged to give 220/ a Fathom. This trial is expected to be completed in 9 Months or a Year. However expencive there seems sufficient grounds for continuing it. For if this object could justify the driving a Level 400 fathoms it must surely be worth completing when so near the Vein and from all the information which can be collected, there is a good reason to hope that the Ore will be raised to repay a part if not the whole of the Money which this trial has cost.

Rob Stagg

## **24 Jun 1816 Robert Stagg**

Detail of the Obj[ec]ts of the Alston moor dead works

Bargains Midsummer 1816

Rampgill

Thomas Hewerson &c are driving South in the Limestone in the Cross Vein that was so productive a Year ago, but which has lately become poor, in order to prove it further forward, as it is entirely whole to the end of the Boundary & is an object that cannot, with any propriety, be discontinued in the present stage of the trial, altho' it is not requisite to hold the Lease.

Matt[he]w Thompson &c are sinking a Sump thro' the great Limestone into the low Level forehead for Air & to try the Sills above the low Level, which are expected to produce Ore – the object of the low Level into which this Sump is sinking is to draw that part of the Limestone in the Rampgill Veins which could not be got to by the former workings on account of Water & it is universally believed that very considerable quantities of Ore will be raised in three or four Years thro' the medium of this Level, & in the interim, it is expected that Ore will be got as it proceeds, after sinking the Sump, which will be completed in 6 or 8 Months, which will more than repay the expence of driving the Level. This Level must of necessity be continued as it is one of the leading hopes of relieving the Nenthead Mines.

Joseph Wallace &c are driving the Level forehead Southward, & are intended to continue it about 7 or 8 fathoms further & then to rise 6 or 7 fathoms into the great Limestone which is absolutely necessary to Air the drift, driving up by Tho[ma]s Hewitson &C & the Mine generally, this it is expected will be accomplished in about 4 or 5 Months.

Emanuel Matris [Nattras] &c are opening out a Level which had been allowed to run together & which has thrown the Water upon Col[onel] Beaumonts Mines at Colecleugh thereby subjecting the Company to an Action for damages, which the Col[onel]s Agents have lately been threatening, it is also necessary to be opened for the

more advantageous picking of the upper Sills. It is expected to be completed in about a Year.

Scaleburnmoss. John Walker &c are cutting up a piece hard ground to bring the Water from the bottom of the Limestone in which it is said a good deal of Ore was left further East & it is also necessary to enable us to work this Mine generally to more advantage we expect to get it effected in about 6 Months.

Old Carrs. Geo[rge] Robinson &c have already cut part of the Carrs Vein & are continuing to cut through her, which will require 4 or 5 fathoms driving & may probably be accomplished in 2 Months & it is expected this Vein will then produce Ore that will more than pay the expence of its further trial

Longcleugh. Rob[ert] Dickenson &c are sinking a Sump in the Level in this Vein for the joint purposes of Airing the Level & of opening out the Sills above it where Ore is expected to be raised. This Sump will require half a Year or more to be completed.

Smallcleugh. Matt[he]w Hall &c are driving a deep Level southward in order to relieve the Middlecleugh Sun vein & 2nd Sun Vein. This Level will reach the Sun Vein in 10 or 11 fathoms driving which will be effected in less than a quarter of a Year & some workings will then be opened, but nothing very extraordinary is expected from this Vein. In driving 40 or 50 fathoms further it will cut the Middlecleugh 2nd Sun vein where it is expected good Mines will be obtained in the bottom part of the Limestone. We calculate that this Level will arrive at the last of its objects in about a Year & our chief hope of raising Ore to employ Nenthead Mill for the next 2 or 3 Years rests on the Mines that we expect to open out by this & the Middlecleugh Level it also covers the following Leases (Viz) Smallcleugh & Veins Longcleugh East End, MiddleCleugh 1st Sun Vein, Middlecleugh Middlecleugh 1st Sun Vein East, Middlecleugh 2nd Sun Vein & Middlecleugh 2nd Sun Vein East. Ant[hony] Brown &c are cutting Cross for the discovery of more flats eastward, by which there is considerable expectation of opening out more extensive Mines & which we expect to prove in 5 or 6 Months.

Middlecleugh. Geo[rge] Herrington &c are driving another branch of the Smallcleugh deep Level to relieve a part of the Limestone in Middlecleugh Vein & at the end of about 40 or 50 fathoms driving from the dip of the Sills it is expected this Level will be in the bottom of the Limestone & may then be calculated to raise Ore in the driving, besides completely unwatering the Limestone, on which a good deal of Ore is said to be left, a few workings have already been opened by it, & others will be opened in driving up the 40 or 50 fathoms above noted, this dead part of the Level it is calculated may be 3 quarters of a Year in getting up.

Middlecleugh Cross Vein. J[ohn] Vipond &c are driving through a piece of ground in this Vein, which is absolutely necessary to Air the Mine & enable as to work it to

advantage, we calculate upon completing it in a Quarter of a Year & expect to raise some Ore as it proceeds.

Blackashgill. J[ohn] Elliott &c are driving the Levels, which is necessary to preserve the Lease & also to continue the trial, which is considered promising as severa[l] Strings have left a parallel Vein about 20 or 30 fathoms before this Level & will join there the Vein that is to try which circumstance affords strong grounds for hoping that this Vein may be enriched when these strings intersect it & should this be the case a lasting & valuable Mine may be the result as the Vein is entirely untouched for several hundred fathoms in this liberty.

Hangingshaw Crop Vein Hugh Readshaw &c are driving a Level to prove the Vein & relieve the Soles under the old Workings & as there are 70 or 80 fathoms of whole ground in which it is said a good deal of Ore is left, it is hoped that Ore may shortly be raised at any rate this trial is absolutely necessary at present to cover the Lease.

Broombury & Scaleburnmoss Cross Vein. Edward Robson &c are driving a very deep Level in the Scaleburnmoss Crop Vein, in order to unwater the lower parts of the great Limestone & the Quarry Hazell in all the Scaleburn & Rampgill Veins & it will be several Years before every object of this Level can be accomplished, but it is expected that Ore may be got in about a Year in the prosecuting of this Level, that will pay the expence of it, & at any rate as this is a trial that embraces several objects & maintains several Leases it cannot be discontinued.

Gudamgill Moss. Rob[ert] Pearson &c are driving a Level in this Vein to open out the old workings where it is said a great deal of Ore is left, & also to get before them to try the Sills that are left whole to the end of the Boundary. It is expected that Ore will shortly be obtained at this Mine, & as the trial is deemed promising this Level must go on otherwise the Lease will be forfeited.

Loveladyshield. J[ohn] Dickenson &c are driving a drift, to cut several untried Veins. One is expected to be cut in 30 or 40 fathoms driving, another in about 30 or 40 fathoms further and about 28 or 30 fathoms further still it is expected a third will be cut & then different objects of this level cannot be arrived at in less than 2 Years, but the trial is judged to be very promising & as a general Grant is presented by it it cannot be discontinued.

Longholehead. Thomas Archer &c are driving a Level for a more convenient way to work the Longholehead & Browngill Veins in the upper Sills, in any whole ground that has been left & it will cut the first Vein in about 6 or 8 Months, after which Ore may be expected to be raised, should the trial be successful, it also covers the Longholehead & Browngill Lease

Bentyfield. Thomas Cain &c are driving a Level to relieve the Vein from Water in order to work the low part of the great Limestone & to get to the fore end of the old workings, which is the chief object of the Trial & at which it is expected to arrive in about 40 fathoms further driving, in the mean time it is opening out pickings that are working to profit which will enable us to accomplish the general & leading objects of the Trial at a slight expence & we expect to arrive at them in about a Year.

Browngill & Thortergill. Jos[ep]h Hall &c are driving a Level to relieve the under part of the Limestone in the Browngill & Browngill Sun Veins also to cut the Thortergill Crop Vein which is there entirely whole & unexpected & in about 40 fathoms further driving what we expect to accomplish within a Year & it is hoped that Ore will be raised. This Level cannot be allowed to stand as it covers the Thortergill Cross Vein Lease.

Garrigillburn Old Groves Cross Vein. W[illia]m Parmley &c are driving in the Limestone in this Vein & at the end of about 30 fathoms it is expected a fair running Vein (Hundybridge Vein) will intersect her, where there is the strongest reason to hope that Ore will be got to advantage as it is the character of this Vein to be productive when in[ter]sected by any fair running Vein & we calculate upon arriving at this Vein in less than half a year when we trust the dead weight of this trial will cease. A small Company are working this Cross Vein to advantage within a few yards of the extremity of the Company's boundary which gives us additional reason to hope for success in the further prosecution of this trial, which must proceed as the Lease will become forfeited without it.

Crossgill. James Dickenson &c are driving a Level to try this Vein in the Scar Limestone which has been very productive in an adjacent liberty, it will require to be driven 80 fathoms to complete the trial, which we hope to effect in about a Year, the Lease is cover'd by this trial.

Tynebottom Sun Vein. Jos[eph] Wandlace &c are driving a Level to make a further trial of the Flatts in this Vein & also to try the Windshaw bridge Cross Vein at the point of intersection with this Vein; The Windshawbridge Cross Vein Lease is covered by this Level which must therefore proceed. The objects of this Trial are expected to be arrived at in a few Months.

Thortergillsyke &c. Jno Archer &c are reopening a level which has been allowed to run together: this Level is required to be kept & left open, it also affords the most advantageous means of working the low Sills of the Browngill & Longholehead Veins & it is allowed by the whole of the Agents, to be the most effectual & advantageous mode of working these extensive Veins & as it also covers the Leases of Thortergill & Thortergill syke which have long been liable to forfeiture. I have employed the above partnership to open it out, which I the more readily determined upon, as it must of

necessity be opened some time & the longer it remains unopened the more expensive it will be to accomplish it, it is therefore the decided Interest of the Company to have it done immediately on the ground of saving only, independant of the advantages which we promise ourselves from it in the more advantageous further working of the Mines recited. We do not expect to complete it in less time than 2 Years nor at an expence below £six or £500

Caplecleugh Cross Vein. Robe[ert] Black &c are driving a low Level to try this & several other Veins, & it will take, according to the best calculation we can make about four Years to arrive at the Cross Vein after which the Level will be driven in the Cross Vein until it arrive at the remaining objects, but after it reaches the Cross Vein, it is confidently expected that Ore will be got that will be very valuable as it proceeds towards the other Veins. This will be one of the longest & most expensive trials in this district, for it cannot be completed in less than 10 or 12 Years & will cost at least £2000 – before it reaches the first Vein & consequently before there is a chance of raising any Ore, but on the other hand the objects of it are also of the greatest magnitude, for the most confident expectation is entertained by all the district Agents & the Workmen in general, that it will open out an extensive & advantageous Mining field at a future day & that it is in fact your chief dependance as a Mining Company in the Alstonmoor district. This level covers the following Leases (Viz) Cowslits, Cowhill, Caplecleugh Cross Vein, Caplecleugh, Caplecleugh North Vein Hangingshaw West End & Caplecleugh Sun Vein, each of which Veins it will eventually open out & of course it requires to be pushed with the greatest vigour.

Rob[ert] Stagg

**24 Sep 1816 Robert Stagg**

General Report Mich[ae]lm[a]s 1816

In the several districts of Alston moor, Teasdale & Weardale, there is no material alteration in the prospects of the various Mines, since the last Quarterly report, to which I therefore refer the Court, as the report of the present Quarter with respect to the views of the several trials.

We are proceeding to put the Mines in Alstonmoor into Repair & in pushing forward such of the Levels & drifts as are essential to the future advantageous working of these Mines as was proposed in the last report; in doing which the Courts instructions to make the expence fall as gradually as is consistent with a due consideration of all circumstances respecting these Mines has been fully attended to, yet, as very much of the expence can not be withheld without a sacrifice nearly beyond the interest of the Sum that will have to be expended in these Repairs, & without the greatest disadvantage (such as the repairs of the Rails in the Levels, nearly the whole of which the district Agents report to be in the most wretched state, & which must be

rem[ed]ied immediately or the draining of the Mines will be totally interrupted & the erection of the two Crushing Mills, which will be a saving in the two or three first Years, equal to the whole cost of them) the heaviest part of the expenditure will necessarily fall upon the Year now commencing.

I have reason however to hope that so many of the dead Trials will arrive at the objects of them during the ensuing Quarter as will enable me at its termination to reduce that part of the weight very considerably, I flatter myself to the extent of Twenty five or Thirty Men and I trust that some part of them will open out better Mines than we have in this district at present: none of which have at all improved since last Quarter nor has any circumstance arisen to cause me to alter any part of the opinion then offered relative to their state and future prospects.

The earnings of the Workmen as far as we can yet judge, have been exceedingly small, the last Year in all the districts; not I believe, exceeding £<sup>o</sup> 30 each, upon an average of the whole concern and the annexed Bargains are expected to average very little higher, but, unless an unlooked for reduction take place in the price of provisions, it will not be possible for the Men to exist on these Wages as a continuing average – indeed the whole of these Countries exhibit at present a sense of poverty & want which is most distressing.

R. Stagg

**24 Sep 1816 Robert Stagg**

Alston moor Report

Rampgill. The Ore Workings at this Mine are entirely confined to the old Pickings which are very poor, but the low Level driving by R Heatherington &c for the purpose of unwatering & opening it out below the old Workings, is expected to be in a part of the Vein that will raise Ore in a few Fathoms driving after which it may be hoped to raise Ore that will more than repay its further prosecution.

Rampgill Sun Vein. It is we expect, a part of this vein which we have discovered since the last Report, that promises to become so advantageous to the Company, as its appearance is most flattering & is entirely whole for a great length & we have no doubt of raising a very considerable quantity of Ore in it during the present Quarter, as the Court will easily judge by the low prices at which the Bargains are let. Matt[hew] Thompson &c are driving a Low Level to open out the Mine to advantage. Jacob Blaylock &c are sinking a Shaft immediately where we have made the discovery in order to ventilate the Mine to prove the whole of the Strata & to prepare the Vein for effectual Working & James Lee &c are cutting a Cross cut from this Shaft to try three other remaining Veins which have been left untried under similar circumstances as the Vein we have just discovered. We expect to reach the furthest of them in about 45 Fathoms driving & the whole of the Agents consider this as a most desirable &

promising trial, as the Veins in Question are entirely whole & in precisely the same situation as the Vein we have found so productive. Geo[rge] Raw &c are cutting a cross to prove this Vein further Eastward.

Rampgill 2a Sun Vein Is raising Ore to advantage without any material Fluctuation since the last Reports.

Scaleburn Tho[mas]s Robinson &c are driving a low Level to open out effectually the lower part of the Mine & it is hoped that it may shortly raise Ore to defray the expence of driving up to the leading objects of it where it is not doubted that advantageous workings will be gained.

SmallCleugh... This Mine is not so productive as usual & the three Deadwork Bargains are let to cut a cross in different parts of the Vein under a conviction that a part of it is left on one side of the present Workings.

Middlecleugh... Continues to raise Ore in the old Pickings that will leave some profit altho' small, as there is no Dead Weight upon it, it is however very poor & we have not much expectation that it will become productive.

D[itto] 1st Sun Vein... has proved much less productive since it was relieved by the low Level than had been calculated upon & the present Deadwork Bargain is for the purpose of proving thro' the whole of the Limestone to ascertain if the lower part of it is more productive, which will be completed in a short time.

D[itto] 2nd Sun Vein... This is one of the objects which I hoped on reaching it might assist in reviving the prospects of the Alston district by a great effort we cut the Vein last Quarter & I am happy to say it, so far, bids fair to realize the expectations entertained of it, as the Court will judge by the low prices at which the Ore Bargains are let. Matt[hew] Elliott &c are sinking a Sump for the effectually unwatering of this Mine which I hope may now be expected to become profitable.

Middlecleugh Cross Vein has become exceedingly poor & the Bargain let in it is to prove it a little distant from the recent Workings.

Longcleugh raises a little Ore but it is poor & requires great prices and as it is a promising Vein R.Dickinson &c are driving the Level with the intention of continuing it thro' a Cross Vein which is not far distant from it, & which it is expected may render this Vein more productive.

Old Carrs... Rob Black &c are driving a low Level to try this Vein (which was formerly so productive) in a new situation & we hope to reach it now in a few Fathoms.

Tynebottom Sun Vein has become much more productive & will raise Ore this Year to leave a fair profit, the level is driving as a necessary appendage to the regular opening out & prosecuting of the Mine.

Tynebottom West of Tyne The Bargains let here is merely to preserve the Lease until we are enabled (after getting off our hands a part of the present heavy at the inevitable dead Weight) to make a more regular trial of it.

Benty field Sun Vein Is poor, but as there is now no dead Weight upon it it will not be a losing concern.

Browngill Sun Vein. The Bargain let here is merely to maintain the Lease without loss, until we complete the opening out of a low Level, by which we hope to regain Mines that will be productive in this Vein as well as in the Browngill & Thortergill Veins.

The trials Cragill, Blackashgill, Garrigill Old Groves, Gudamgill Moss, Broomsberry, Lovelady Shield are continuing as usual, none of them having yet arrived at there [sic] proposed objects.

In concluding this Report of the Alston district I have much satisfaction in adding that its general prospects are very materially improved. On the present Year an extraordinary dead Weight will fall which will sink the profits in a great measure but it is peculiarly gratifying to my feelings that it appears not to have been spent in vain & that we may now reasonably hope for fair profits in this district after the present Year.

Rob[er]t Stagg

#### Weardale Report

Middlehope Mine there is very little alteration since the last reports altho' upon the whole it may be pronounced somewhat poor. We are continuing to push forward the low Level to open out the Mine & enable it to be wrought to the greater advantage; we are still however a considerable distance behind the foremost Workings which are standing until it reaches them, when they will work to much greater advantage than they were doing while they were advanced before the Level. Tho[ma]s Gail &c are driving the Level West in the new Vein for the purpose of further trial in it, and to open out more Ore Workings. Jno[John] Craig & partners are driving the middle Level in the old vein, the object of which is to ventilate the whole Mine by communicating with the low Level, through the medium of Sumps between them, and also to prove the Vein in the intervening Strata. James Rain &c are driving the upper Level in the same Vein to communicate with the middle Level for similar purposes, all of which are essential to the regular & advantageous Working of this Vein. George Gill &c are cutting a Cross to prove a promising String lately discovered.



Stanhopeburn Mine continues to raise Ore at high prices & without much alteration in its general appearance. Joseph Vipond &c are cutting a cross from the forehead of the high Level, to open out the Flats in that situation & by communicating with the back Workings, to ventilate the whole Mine & Geo[rge] Smith &c are driving forward the low Level to prove the Vein further West.

R. Stagg

#### Teesdale Report

Lodgesyke Mine. This Mine is no way materially altered in its prospects since the last reports. Jno[John] Lowes &c are driving the low Level upon which depends the opening out & regular Working of the Mine. Jos[eph] Spark &c are rising from the forehead of the Level to prove the Vein in the lower Sills & as an experiment to ascertain whether it may not be more advantages in some parts of the Vein to cut the whole of it out by the Fathom instead of working it by the Bing. By the mode now trying much Wood will be saved, the Wages will be more equalized, and there will be considerable saving also in the Washing but it remains to be proved by trial which will be most profitable when every thing is taken into the account, the District Agents, however, as well as myself lean to the opinion that from the peculiar nature of the Vein the mode now trying will be found an improvement. In order to ascertain with certainty the preferable manner of working I purpose to have an account kept of the Ore produced in a certain length of the Vein & the expence it costs by the plan now trying & to work an equal length by the usual plan, keeping a similar account of the produce & expence, the Agents noticing particularly from time to time the fluctuations in each length with respect to the quantity of Ore & the ease of Working & thus we shall be enabled to form a conclusion with sufficient practical accuracy.

Coleberry [sic] Is so far improved that we are enabled to prosecute the Level upon which the further trial of the Mine depends at a Bing price, without any expence of dead work & it is looking more promising at this time than it has done since the first discovery of the Vein. Still however we are not sanguine that it will speedily become very profitable altho' we hope the balance may now be in its favour.

The other trials in Teesdale are proceeding towards the ultimate objects of them, with little or no variation of circumstances and the prices both of dead work, and for raising Ore have been kept as low as possible.

R. Stagg

**15 Jan 1817 Joseph Little**

[Note: Undated. It is in the volume between the general and district reports for Michaelmas 1816, but must be of a later date. The mention of washers being placed

underground in the winter in relation to the next quarter's bargains suggests a December date. Those winter reports often bear a January date and 15 Jan 1817 is used here. It is signed by Joseph Little and John Millican in the absence of Stagg. There are then no further reports until September 1817.]

Quarterly report

Weardale District

Middlehope. The general prospects of this Mine are very considerably improved since the last Quarterly report, and we have in consequence been able to let a few Bargains at uncommonly low prices but the old pickings being much exhausted, we have been obliged to give the higher prices to a greater Number of partnerships. No additional Dead work has been let except the sinking of a Shaft, into the Vein, to open out & Air the Workings in that part of the Mine which had Mr Staggs sanction before he left the North.

Stanhopeburn In the appearance or prospects of this Mine no material alteration has taken place, several of the old pickings are raising Ore so as to make the Workmen fair Wages & the Rates are necessarily high yet there will remain a reasonable profit to the Company, upon the Ore so raised, & as the Dead Work will soon be considerably reduced, there appears no reason to doubt that this Mine will work to advantage.

Teesdale District

Lodgesike. There has no alteration of importance taken place during the last Quarter in the appearance or prospects of the leading workings in this Mine the old pickings are however considerably poorer as the great bulk of the Workmen has been so long confined to them that they are nearly exhausted & we believe that the Men now working them will not earn on any average 10/- a Week, at the prices we have given which considering the great quantity of Wood required in this Mine, is all that could be allowed to leave a profit to the Company, we have not employed any additional Workmen but owing to the Washers being placed in the Mine during the Winter, there is an increase of numbers in the Bargain List

Coldberry. The Vien [sic] at this Mine having improved a little we have been enabled to let a Bargain to raise Ore by driving forward the Level. The various trials at the other Mines in Teesdale continue to be prosecuted without any change of circumstances except that some of the Levels being more difficult to work we have been obliged to increase the Rates.

Alston moor District

In the general appearance & prospects of the Mines in this District, no very material alteration has taken place during the last Quarter, tho' upon the whole we consider them as rather improving several of the old Pickings lately open'd have been tolerably productive, and the working of them has afforded employment to great Numbers of your Workmen, who must otherwise have depended on Parochial relief for support. The numerous trials in this district continue to be prosecuted without any change of circumstances, Agreeably to Mr Staggs direction we have reduced the Dead Work as much as possible consistently with the regular prosecution of the various Mines. No new Dead Work or trials have been commenced which had not previously been approved by him.

Joseph Little

John Millican

**24 Sep 1817 Robert Stagg**

[Note: This report appears to be the first after a gap in the sequence of two quarters]

General Report of the Mines Michaelmas 1817

Weardale District

Middlehope. Henry Coulthard &c Jno[John] Watson &c & Tho[ma]s Cail &c are driving the leading Levels which are absolutely necessary in the regular prosecution of the Mines & Isaac Hetherington &c are making the requisite preparations for the immediate erection of the Engine agreed by the Deputation to be erected in this Mine for the working of a part of the Great Limestone. The Quarry Hazel and Four fathom Limestone which are below the present Level and cannot otherwise be wrought we hope to complete the [struck out 'present Level'] Engine in about 6 Months and doubt not but we shall thereby be enabled to open out profitable Mines to which we cannot otherwise have access. We have now got the low Level at the Mine so far pushed forward, that we are enabled to commence working those parts which I stopped on entering upon the Superintendance, the advantage of which the Court will see, by the very low prices at which the Bargains are let in the leading places. The pickings at this Mine are much exhausted, the chief of the Men having been employed in them whilst the Level was driving up to relieve the leading Workings, but these foremost workings are very flattering and I have no doubt of raising the Ore at this Mine now unless some unforeseen failure should take place to much disadvantage.

Ireshopeburn We have commenced the preparation for the Further trial of the Mine by an Engine, as was agreed upon by the deputation, which we hope to complete in 6 or 8 Months

Coldberry. The Trial is also commenced as was agreed upon by the Deputation and the Level is expected in a few Months to reach the Vein.

Stanhopeburn        There is no material alteration since the last Report.

Teesdale District

Lodgesyke. Henry Wall &c and Geo[rge] Beadle &c are driving the upper & low Levels upon which the continued prosecution of the Mine depends. The leading & general Workings at the Mine are considerably poorer than they were last Quarter, and as the several district Agents were of opinion with me that a part of the Vein is lying further to the North than the present Workings extend, I let a Bargain to <T.> Hunt &c to make a Cross cut for the purpose of discovery. Jos[eph] Spark &c are raising Ore by the Fathom as an experiment the grounds of which were explained in the last Report. Altho' the general prospects of this Mine are at present a little unfavourable as has been already stated, yet as this is a Vein or rather an accumulation of Veins which continually fluctuate in their appearance, I hope ere long an alteration may again take place for the better, and in this expectation the prices have been kept lower than the present state of the Mine would otherwise have warranted.

At Coldberry Mine the prospects are more favourable than last Quarter but they are not so flattering as they were a few Weeks ago nor are we yet sanguine that this Vein will ever be very productive, although we expect it may leave a balance in its favour. Jos[eph] Beach &c are sinking to ventilate the Mine to try the Strata above the Level. In the prosecution of this Vein, we now find by its bearing that is not the continuation of the Lodgesyke Vein as we expected it had been, but an entirely new Vein which we have hit upon in searching for the other, which yet remains undiscovered in this Lease. I have therefore employed Rob[er]t Coatsworth &c to cut a Cross from an old Level in search of a Vein which was the chief object in undertaking this Lease & from the alteration in the Strata indicative of the approach to a Vein, which has taken place since the commencement of the Cross cut, we have every reason to expect the discovery will speedily be made.

The other trials of Mannergill, Wiregill, Brockergill and Flakebrig have not arrived at the ultimate objects of them, and are proceeding with little or no variation since the last Report.

Alston moor District

Rampgill. This Mine continues to raise Ore in the old Rakings, some of which are a little more promising than they were last Quarter. The low Levels driving by Rob[er]t Heatherington &c for the purpose specified in the last Report is expensive hard & difficult to drive and therefore proceeds slowly, and has not yet reached that part of the Vein where we calculate upon much Ore being raised, but we entertain no doubt that it will eventually open out successful Mines. Jno[John] Eliot &c are commencing a trial of a Cross Vein (termed Pattersdale Vein) cut by the Rampgill Level, the appearance of which is promising and the district Agents are jointly of opinion, that it abundantly warrants the trial & the more so as a few Fathoms working will prove it. Should the trial prove successful, this Vein affords the prospect of an extensive Mine, as it is yet untouched in the whole of the Nenthead district.

Rampgill Sun Vein. I have much satisfaction in reporting the continued and very flattering prospects of this Vein. Its success so far as we have yet explored it, is equal to my most sanguine wishes, as the Court will perceive by a reference to the very low rates in the Bargain List. Jno[John] Eels &c Matt[he]w Thompson &c and Tho[ma]s Hewitson &c are cutting to open out this Vein more extensively and each of them will arrive at the object of their Dead Work in a few Fathoms driving, and should those trials prove successful, which we have no reason to doubt, they will enable us to command the raising of Ore during the remainder of the Year to the full extents of the smelting powers of Nenthead Mill. James Lee &c are cont[inu]ing the Cross cut for the purposes stated in the last Report.

Rampgill 2a Sun Vein Is poor and we not calculate upon it providing much Ore until the low Level in the Rampgill Vein is considerably further advanced when we shall be enabled by a Crosscut from it to try this Vein in fresh Ground & in the interim I hope to be enabled to hold the Lease by giving good prices for Pickings in it without incurring any Dead expence.

Do X Vein Is extremely poor, and its future prospects are bad.

Small Cleugh Is not materially altered since the last Report. We cut one new Flat, with the Crosscut set on last Quarter which is now the best part of the Mine and Wm[William] Slack &c are continuing this Cross cut, as we expect there may still be more Flats undiscovered. The other Dead Work at this Mine is mostly temporary the one preparing the Level for laying the Rails, and the other to assist the partnership to cut the Flat just discovered in an other part of the Mine, both of which terminate in a few Weeks.

Middlecleugh Continues very poor & the Ore raised is entirely in the Old Pickings. Jno[John] Armstrong &c are driving a Cross from this Level to try a Vein

lying to the North and which in another part of the Mine was very productive. We expect they will cut this Vein in about 14 or 15 Fathoms driving

Do 1st Sun Vein The Dead Work wrought in this Vein last Quarter has been so far successful as to enable the Partnership to take in One Bargain at a high price, and will leave a profit that will more than repay the trial, but the prospects of this Vein are not promising.

Do 2nd Sun Vein. We have here experienced one of the disappointments to which Mining is incident. The prospects of this Vein last Quarter were most flattering, and the several Bargains let in it raised a considerable Quantity of Ore during the early part of the Quarter but since then it has almost entirely failed in the Workings where the Men were then employed, and the present Ore Workings are merely Pickings. This however is one of the best Veins in Alston Moor, and the Dead Work prosecuting here is to open it out whole Ground were the several Agents are very sanguine in the hope that lasting Mines will be found. We shall not however reach the part where much success is expected in less than 100 Fathoms driving but the new Mining Ground that will be thereby opened out affords one of our best chances of extensive Mines in Alston Moor. The Ore raised last Quarter was in a part of the Great Limestone which had not been wrought from the upper Level, and it proved to be much less extensive than was generally expected, and than Mr Dodd calculated upon when the low Level was begun by him. Still the main objects are to prove when we reach the whole Ground alluded to.

Tynebottom Mine was very promising during the early part of last Quarter & raised a very considerable Quantity of Ore, but has lately become much poorer. We do not however despair of a revival in it, as we proceed with the Level and open out fresh Ground.

Crosgill. The trial is just on the point of reaching the first object of it, we have already cut a string attached to the Vein the appearance of which is very promising and leads us to anticipate a successful termination of this trial when we arrive at the principal Vein.

The Bargains at Oldhams East of Nent, Cowslits, Bentyfield, Shortergill & Tyne bottom West of Tyne are merely to preserve the Leases, until we complete the trials which are deemed more promising, and on the Dead Work becoming less heavy. We purpose to make further trials of these Veins. The trials at Middlecleugh Cross Vein Scaleburn CapleCleugh Cross Vein Oldham Longcleugh Loveladyshield, Brownsberry Blackashgill Garrigill Burn, Old Groves & Browngill Sun Vein are proceeding towards their respective objects with no material variation of circumstances since the last Report. At Oldhams Longcleugh Loveladyshield & Garrigillburn old Groves we expect very speedily to cut the Veins for which these Levels are driving, as there is

every reason to calculate upon Grain being at moderate prices during the Winter, I have ventured to make a further reduction of 1 shilling per Week, on all the <Wagements> rates & I have also made an additional reduction in the Bargain rates generally. I have likewise after an other revisal of the Mill & Carriage rates, made some further reductions in these departments, a statement of which I subjoin.

It may be satisfactory to the Court to be informed that from the 30th September 1816 to the 30th Sept[ember] 1817 We have raised about 16,900 Bings of Ore inclusive of Duty. Viz in

Alston moor	about	8,900
Weardale	about	3,500
Teesdale	about	4,500
Total		16,900

and as far as an opinion can be offered in a subject so peculiarly fluctuating as Mining where we daily meet alike with success and disappointments which no calculation could anticipate, we have every reason to expect the success of the Year now commencing will not be less than that of the last. The Court will perceive an increase of Dead Work, this Quarter particularly in Alston moor.

I found after placing all the Men we could without disadvantage in Ore Bargains & in the general trials that we had in the latter district, nearly 100 Men left unemployed. I therefore commenced a few dead Work trials which we purposed to make during the Year (most of which will be terminated in 3 or 4 Months) partly with a view to the employment of a few of the Workmen out of places, & partly to endeavour to open out additional Ore Workings to give us the command of extending the raising of Ore during the latter part of the Year, should an increased quantity be then deemed desirable.

In concluding I have much pleasure in reporting the general good conduct of the Men and industry of the Agents and Workmen during last Year. It is also particularly gratifying to my feelings to be enabled to add that the four parts of the district at large continue very flattering, and are such as with considerably good fortune in the cause of the various and extensive trials in progress warrant the hope that the concern will now afford a fair remuneration for the capital employed in it.

Still however there is that extreme uncertainty attached to all Mining Speculations, which renders it impossible to pronounce with certainty as to their future results and excludes or ought to exclude very sanguine expectations otherwise we have every reason to anticipate success equal to our utmost wishes for severall years hence.

R[ober]t Stagg

**25 Dec 1817 Robert Stagg**

General Report of the Mines Christmas 1817

Weardale District

Middlehope Henry Coulthard &c Tho[ma]s Cail &c and Jno[John] Watson are prosecuting the Levels &c necessary for the opening out and regular working of the Mine. The principal Level driving by Henry Coulthard &c is so uncommonly hard & difficult to drive that notwithstanding the very high price of their Bargain if a material alteration does not take place which there is no reason to calculate upon they will not be able to earn 10/- per week, but however hard & expensive it may be there is no alternative for it must be pushed forward, as it is the only means of opening out the best parts of the Mine. The leading Ore Workings in this Mine are very good & will raise considerable quantities of Ore at low rates and the general prospects here are truly flattering. We hope to complete the Engine during the present Quarter and have no reason to doubt that it will greatly extend our means of raising Ore at this Mine.

Ireshopeburn We expect to complete the Engine erecting at this Mine during this Quarter provided the Weather permits the Workmen to prosecute their Work. We have already sunk a part of the Engine Shaft & have met with Ore that has enabled us to let a few Ore Bargains at prices that will now leave a fair profit and our expectations of regaining preferable Mines thru the medium of this Engine are increased by these favourable indications

Stanhopeburn Is poorer which has rendered necessary a little increase of price but there is no very essential difference in the prospects of this Mine, it never has been & we do not expect it ever will be very rich, at the same time we do not fear that it will now leave a profit that will render it worth prosecuting. Geo[rge] Smith &c are driving the low Level for the trial of the principal Vein, with no essential variation since last Report.

Coldberry The Level is proceeding towards the object of trial

Teesdale District

Lodgesyke. Henry Wall &c and Geo[rge] Bearle &c are driving the two Levels upon which the future working of the Mine depends Jos[eph] Beach &c are sinking a Sump between the upper & the low Level for the joint purposes of ventilation and of completely opening out and working to most advantage the Strata between the two Levels. Jno[John] Hunt &c are continuing the Crosscut for the purpose specified in last Report. W[illiam] Harrup &c are rising from the upper level to meet a Shaft sunk from



the surface for the Ventilation of the Mine & for the effectual trial of the whole Strata between the surface & this Level Jos[eph] Spark &c are continuing the experiment of raising Ore by the Fathom instead of by the Bing as stated in the last report. The Ore workings at this Mine are materially poorer since the Mich[ae]ll[ma]s Bargains which have rendered necessary a considerable advance of the prices generally. We are willing to hope that the Sump sinking by Beach &c and the Rise prosecuting by Harrop &c may open out better workings against Lady day, the present prospects of this Mine however are by no means flattering and we are not without considerable fears from recent indications that we have already passed thro' the best parts of it.

Coldberry. Thomas Hunt &c are driving the Level in the Vien[Vein] first discovered which is poorer than at Mich[ae]ll[ma]s but the prospects are not essentially alter'd. We have no hopes of this Vein becoming Rich, also there is reason to expect that it will raise Ore to cover the expence upon it and any rate it cannot with its present indications be given up. Rob[ert] Coatsworth &c have cut a strong Vein during the Quarter which from its bearing and general appearance we have no doubt is one of that Vein now working at Lodgesyke, and for the discovery of which at Coldberry so many expensive trials have been made at various times by various Mine Adventurers. Its appearance in the situation where we discovered it is by no means flattering but we consider that part of the Strata unfavourable for producing Ore and therefore do not yet despair of finding Mines in the upper Strata when we are enabled to make the trial. We are continuing the Crosscut in the expectation that more Vein may yet be discovered as there are generally at Lodgesyke two or three laying parrell [parallel] to each other at a few Fathoms distance. The other trials of Flakebrig Wiregill Mannergill & Brockergill are proceeding towards their several objects with no material variation of circumstances.

Alston Moor

Ramgill . Rob[er]t Hartherington &c continue driving the Level with no material change since last Report & Jno[John] Elliott &c are proceeding with the trial of the Patterdale Crop Vein as stated in the Mich[ae]ll[ma]s report. The whole of the Ore Bargains are very poor and require the best prices we can give to enable the Men to make Wages

Do Sun Vein. Continues to raise Ore to great advantage and its prospects are equally flattering as last Quarter. Matth[e]w Hall &c are cutting to the Vein from a Shaft considerably east of the present workings and Jon[atho]n Vickers &c are cutting to it from an other Shaft to the West to open out the Mine more extensively that we may have the command of raising an increased quantity of Ore if necessary but these Partnerships will complete their dead work in two or three Weeks. Ja[me]s Lee &c are continuing the Cross cut for the purposes specified in the last report. We expect they

will reach the objects of trial during the Quarter. Matt[he]w Thompson &c are driving the leading Level.

Do 2nd Sun Vein Is no way essentially altered since last report.

Do Cross Vein Is still exceedingly poor. The Bargains let on it are merely to preserve the Lease.

Smallcleugh. The prospects of this Mine are materially improved since last report, the four additional Flats discovered by the Cross cut set on for that purpose at the they are not very rich yet for being so numerous give us every reason to calculate upon this Mine continuing to be very profitable & to raise a very considerable quantity of Ore. Jno[John] Thompson &c are cutting a Cross cut & W[illia]m Slack &c are rising to meet it in order to ventilate the whole Mine which will be completed in Six Weeks. In the various other Mines in the Moor there is no alteration since last report that is entitled to notice. I therefore refer the Court to it as being as correct a statement as can give of the present state of these Mines.

We are pushing the several trials which we deem most promising as rapidly as possible towards their ultimate objects and during their continuance I am Holding the Leases of the Mines which we consider less promising by encouraging the Pickings in them as much as possible.

The Pickings in all the districts are very poor from having been so much wrought during the last two or three Years, I am therefore obliged to give a little more price for them & even at the rates at which these Bargains are let, the Workmen will rarely make more than 10/- or 11/- per Week where the highest prices are given. I am more & more satisfied of the advantage of encouraging the Pickings as much as possible for at 50/- per Bing there is now an abundant profit as the Court will see by the annexed statement, and the trials made by the workmen in this way lead frequently to the discovery of very advantageous Mines besides affording employment to a multitude of Men who would otherwise be destitute of work & of the means of supporting their families.

In concluding this report although the prospects in Teesdale are more gloomy than last Quarter, yet upon the whole there is no reason for altering the hopes expressed in the Mich[ae]lmas report, that the general result would prove very advantageous for Years hence for the improvement in the prospects of Smallcleugh is more than equivalent to the failure in Teesdale, and even in Teesdale we entertain no doubt that very considerable quantities of Ore will be raised for several Years to come although it may require greater prices per Bing.

Statement of the cost of Lead & Fother when deliver'd at Stella which is raised in the Pickings at 50/- per Bing

Cost of raising 5 Bings of Ore (which exclusive of Duty will produce one Fother of Lead) at 50/- per Bing	12 10 --
Wood used in raising do[ditto] per computation say at the very utmost	10 --
Carriage of 4 Bings to the Mill say at 3/- per Bing	12 --
Smelting per Fother being the average cost	1 -- -9
Lead Carriage of Fother on the average say	1 1 --
	15 13 -9
Deduct gain by refining on the average say on a moderate computation which leaves as the total cost	1 5 --
Or Fother of the refined Lead produced from Pickings at 50/- per Bing when delivered at Stella	14 8 -9

**25 Mar 1818 Robert Stagg**

General Report of the Mines Lady Day 1818

Weardale

There is so little alteration in the state of the Mines throughout the three districts that with very few exceptions I have to refer you to the last Quarters Report, as the Report also of the present Quarter.

Middlehope Mine continues to Raise Ore to great advantage & its prospects as we proceed in opening it out to the East are of the most flattering description. The low Level driving for this purpose by Henry Coultherd &c continues excessively hard & difficult to drive altho' it is some better than last Quarter. Geo. Hall & partners are rising to make a communication between the low & middle Level, to ventilate the leading workings & prove the upper Shale. Thos Cail &c and Jno Watson &c are proceeding with the West levels in the New Vein, the prospects of this part of the Mine have long been unfavorable; appearances are now more flattering & give us hopes of regaining Ore Workings in that part shortly; The Engine is so nearly completed that we expect to commence sinking to make to make the proposed trials in a Month or 6 Weeks.

Irehopburn At Ireshopburn we have got the Engine to Work & have commenced sinking the Engine Shaft for the purpose of trials. It is not possible to anticipate with any degree of certainty the result of any Mining trials but there is every reason to expect that we shall obtain Mines here thro' the medium of the Engines that will work

to advantage and altho' we do not expect them to be very rich. The trial at Coldberry is proceeding towards its object.

Stanhope burn continues to raise Ore at high prices. It is poor & we do not expect it will ever be rich but as there is now very little Dead Weight upon it it will pay at the present price of Lead. As the policy of continuing to drive the low Level or indeed of making any other extensive trials in this ground will depend upon obtaining a suitable guarantee from a Mr Rippon I have not thought it prudent to expend any more money in Dead work here untill the Lease is signed & the terms settled & have therefore stopped this Level & all other Dead Work (per tempore).

Teesdale Lady day 1818

Lodgesyke Mine is very considerably poorer so that even at the very high prices which we are compelled to give for raising the Ore at this Mine the Wages of the Men are not expected to exceed 12/ or 13/ per week with the utmost exertion they can make. The Crosscut which we made by Jno Hunt &c last Quarter in order to prove whether a part of the Vein had not left us to the North we have discontinued after having driven it so far as perfectly to satisfy ourselves that the Veins have all come together which we consider the cause of the unfavorable alteration which has recently taken place in the state & prospects of this Mine. The prospect of the Ground yet to be explored to the East is thus rendered unpromising, but still we have no doubt of this Mine producing many thousands Bings of Ore in the part lying between the low & upper Level west of the latter altho at higher prices than when the Mine was rich. Jos Beach &c are rising to open out a part of this Ground which we hope they may complete during the ensuing Quarter when we expect better Workings will be gained than any we now have in this Mine. We have completed the rise prosecuting last Quarter by Harrop &c and are now about to make trial from it of the Strata lying between the Surface & the high Level. Henry Wall &c & Jno Hunt &c are driving the two Levels upon which the regular prosecution of the Mine depends & Geo. Beadle &c are cutting a cross from the upper Level to the Vein to open out a new length of Ore Workings.

The Mine at Coldberry is very poor & is proceeding along with the Trials at Flakebrig Wiregill Mannergill & Brackergill with no material alteration.

Alston Moor

Rampgill. Jno Eliott &c & Robt Herrington &c are proceeding to drive the Levels with no material changes except that they are both much softer and therefore drive at less prices since last Report. The Ore workings at this Mine are merely old pickings which require all the price we can give, We hope however in five or six Months to reach a part of the Vein where better workings are expected with great confidence.

Ramgill Sun Vein continues exceedingly good as the Court will perceive by the very low rates at which the Ore Bargains generally have been let. The Crosscut driving by James Lee & partners we expect will reach its object during the Quarter & Mattw Thompson &c are driving the necessary Level for the working of the Mine.

Smallcleugh is not essentially altered since last Quarter, except that it is uncommonly hard which renders necessary great prices for raising the Ore. If any thing however it is a little poorer.

This Mine notwithstanding will now pay exceedingly well as the Ore is of excellent quality & we have got over the extra dead work that was necessary in the more effectual opening out of the Mine. Jno Hind &c are driving the requisite Level as an appendage to the Mine

Tynebottom continues to raise a good deal of Ore altho it is both hard & poor and therefore requires high prices. The only Dead work here is the Level which opens out the future workings and cannot be done without. The other Ore Bargains in the Moor are all pickings which require the best price we can give. The various trials are proceeding towards their several objects without any change entitled to notice.

I continue during the prosecution of the trials which we have in progress to hold the other Leases by encouraging the Pickings in order to equalize as much as possible the Ore raising, and expenditure without losing sight of the future prospects of the Mines, & as far as we can anticipate we have now every reason to expect a succession & continuance of Mines in this District, that will fully employ the smelting powers of the Mill & leave a fair profit, I calculate this Year upon raising as followes,

In Alstonmoor	9,000 Bings
Weardale	5,000
Teesdale	4,000
Total	18,000 Bings

And I have no doubt notwithstanding the Extra expenditure in Weardale in erecting the Engines, and in Alstonmoor in continuing to complete the Repairs of the Mines & the falling off the Mine at Lodgesyke in Teesdale, that the Years result, when we wind it up will equal or nearly equal the estimate given the Court in the Report of the cost of last Years Lead.

Every added Quarters experience confirms me more & more in the policy we are pursuing in encouraging the Pickings & keeping as low as possible the Rates for raising the Ore in the best parts of the Mines, where the bulk of the Ore is raised & where therefore a small saving per Bing amounts to a large Sum. For the encouragement of the Pickings raises several hundred Bings of Ore which otherwise would never be

taken out of the Mines & upon which there is, even at our highest prices, a very abundant profit to the Company whilst they frequently lead to the discovery of very advantageous Workings and afford employment to multitudes who would otherwise be a burden to the community.

R Stagg

**24 Jun 1818 Robert Stagg**

General Report of the Mines Midsummer 1818

Teesdale

Lodgesyke. Since the last quarters Report I am happy to have to State that a material improvement has taken place in the prospects of this Mine. In order that the Court may the better comprehend its state and prospects I accompany this report with a ground and section plan. The parts of the plan shaded with Indian Ink are those that have been wrought and where nothing but old Pickings are left. In order to encourage the reworking of these parts I have had the whole allotted into lengths, as shown by the perpendicular dotted lines and have let each length, where there appeared to be any chance, to separate Partnerships. These of course required the best price that can be given having been passed over before, and all the Ore having been then taken out of them that was thought worth the Working. By thus encouraging the Pickings a great proportion of Men are kept at work who could not otherwise be employed, whilst a very handsome profit is left to the Company on all the Ore they obtain. The part of this Mine that has been the most productive is comprehended between the two brown dotted lines within which is included what is termed by Miners the best bearing Sill or Strata. This Sill (the Slate Sill as its called here) is gradually dipping deeper and deeper as we proceed Eastward and with it the best Ore is also found to dip downwards, whilst above & below it, altho repeated trials have been made, no Ore of consequence has been met with. Since the last Report Beadle &c completed their Crosscut from the upper Level to the Vein and met with a good Mine. Whilst they were effecting this John Hunt &c drove the upper Level ten fathoms further East and cut into the Vein, where they also met with a good Mine, as the Court will see by the Rates at which these parties have now taken Ore Bargains. Thomas Robson's Working to the West of these, above the high level, is also good. This is a most favorable and unlooked for indication, as the workings above the high Level have been very poor and unpromising during the whole of the last years. The improvement here we attribute to an intersection of the Vein with some Strings from the South. The Rise prosecuting by <Bej> Beach &c to open out the whole ground lying between the high & low Levels is nearly completed and is opening out promising Mines; whilst the leading lengths of the ground immediately above the low level working by Geo. Tarn Geo. Wall, Jos. Parks, Geo. Raine & John Lewis have all been improved since the last Report as they rise up in the

Sill. We therefore hope and expect, with almost certainty, to find productive & advantageous Mines in the high part of this ground, (all of which is yet to explore) lying between the low Level driving by Henry Wall &c and the high Level driving by Mich. House &c whilst from the unlooked for improvement of the Works opening out of the high Level the prospect is also much better of advantageous Mines being opened out as we proceed further Eastward.

We are just completing the laying of the Low Level with Iron Rails up to Beach rise, which rise I mean to use for getting down the waste from all the leading and principal Workings above Level and will enable us to take with the utmost advantage nearly the whole of the ore to the washing place at the low Level where the Crushing Mill is erected and will save the cost of leading it down in Carts after it is drawn out of the high Level. When this Rise is finished the arrangement of the Works in this Mine will be as complete as I know how to make them, the waste will drain out with the utmost saving of labour; and the whole Mine being now divided into lengths each partnership works their own ground to the greatest advantage without any interruption from their neighbours. I am therefore justified in entertaining sanguine hopes of this Mine continuing to work with great advantage for a very considerable time hence as independent of the prospect of opening out new Mines Eastwards, the whole ground situate between the high and low levels (the goodness of which is in a measure reduced to a certainty) is about 140 yards in length and 46 deep which, on a moderate computation may be expected to produce many thousand Bings of Ore and with the existing arrangements, will be wrought to the utmost advantage. The parts shaded and mark x,x,x,x at the foremost shaft, between the surface of the Hill and the highest Level are trials that we have made in the Vein in this part of the Strata, but without any success whatever - and as the workings up to the preceding shafts became too poor to be wrought at any price per Bing, we have very little reason to calculate upon this upper part of the Strata becoming productive, altho' as we proceed with the high Level, it will be desirable to have further trial into it, as the whole ground that we would otherwise leave unexplored is of too great magnitude to pass by without looking into it from time to time.

The Bargain let to Geo Hardy &c at 60/ per Bing is to explore the whole ground lying between the second Shaft from the low Level mouth and Binks Sump, where little or no Ore has hitherto been found. If he succeeds in his trial, which however is not expected, it will open out a great extent of new ground that will be advantageous to the Company, and if he fails it will at any rate be a satisfactory trial made without loss. By a little additional price in cases of this nature Men are induced to make trials that frequently lead to very excellent Mines one existing proof of which is the Rampgill Sun Vein in Alston Moor, now working to an uncommon advantage and which was discovered by a partnership who were led to make the trial from the extra encouragement which I held out to them in this way and without any expectation on the part of either themselves or any Agent of a very successful result. I therefore systematically encourage this spirit of speculation and adventure among the Workmen

as it may and often does do much good to the Company, without the possibility of doing any injury whatever.

Coldberry. The Level driving in the Vein at Coldberry has been very poor and unpromising for several Months past, yet, as it has in it always more or less Ore, it would not be prudent to discontinue this trial, & the more particularly as there is the prospect of the Vein in which the Level is driving being intersected in its course by other Veins, which hold out the double chance of an improvement of this Vein and of the trials of all those to which it may lead. But I have stopped the Level, pro tempore, until we sink from the forehead of it, to make trial of the Sill below it, which Sill it is expected may probably be more productive of Ore. Since the last Report we have cut a Strong Vein in the Cross cut driving by Robt Coatsworth &c, which from its strength, bearing, and general appearance, we believe to be the North Lodgesyke Vein. We have only just cut into it, and cannot therefore pronounce as to its prospects until it is cut through, and a trial made into the Limestone and other Sills lying above the Level; which will require several Months to effect. This however is so powerful and so excellent a Vein, that its discovery and trial in fresh ground, is always most desirable and well worth the expense of making it

The trials at Flakebrigg, Wiregill, Mannergill and Brockergill are proceeding towards their objects with no material change of circumstance

Alston Moor

Rampgill. The Level driving by Robert Hetherington &c has again become exceedingly hard & difficult, which has rendered a very high price necessary John Elliott &c are commencing a Cross cut from the Rampgill Vein to the South, with the view of cutting the Rampgill Sun Vein (now working to so much advantage) considerably further to the East; and also with the intention of continuing it until we cut three other Veins lying still further south. This Cross Cut will be about 100 Fathoms before it reaches its ultimate objects, but, it affords an excellent chance of opening out an entirely new and productive Mining Field at Nenthead, and is considered by every one of your Practical Mining Agents to be well worthy the trial Thomas Thompson &c are opening out a Sump between an upper Level and that driving by Heatherington &c This Sump is necessary to Air the Level, and the same time it will open out the Old pickings between those Levels, which are expected to Work to profit The Ore Workings in this Vein are all Old Pickings that require the best price.

Rampgill Sun Vein continues to raise Ore to the greatest advantage, as the Court will perceive by the uncommonly low rates at which the leading Bargains are let. All the Bargains above 18/ per Bing are for Old Pickings in the parts of this Vein previously wrought. Matt Thompson &c are rising to try the Vein in fresh ground. James Lee &c have at length cut the Vein for which their Cross cut has been prosecuting and are now



rising to try it in the Limestone. The Vein is abundantly strong, but until we reach the Limestone no opinion can be offered as to the probable result of the trial.

Rampgill 2nd Sun Vein is poor and no way materially altered since the last Report. Rampgill Cross Vein is exceedingly poor, and the Bargains let will be merely to preserve the Lease.

Small Cleugh. This Mine continues to Raise Ore to advantage, and promises to be a lasting & profitable Mine, altho' from its extreme hardness, great prices are required to be giving for Raising the Ore. Jno Hind &c are continuing to drive the Level to prove the Small Cleugh Cross Vein through another Cross Vein, called the great Cross Vein, that has intersected it. This Small Cleugh Cross Vein was formerly uncom-monly Rich and continued to be productive until it came within the influence of the other Cross Vein. since which time it has been nearly quite barren, and until it has again become an independent Vein it is not possible to pronounce whether it is likely to regain its former character, but as it was so very profitable, prior to this intersection the chance of its again becoming productive renders it well worthy of the trial. M & M Dickinson &c are opening out a Shaft in order to Ventilate this Mine.

Scaleburnmoss. This Level driving in the Vein with the view of unwatering the parts of this Mine further Eastwards where Ore is expected to be found that will more than Repay the trial continues to be very hard indeed, yet it has Ore in it even now, the profit in which will nearly cover the cost of driving the Level.

Hanginshaw. The Ore Bargain let here is merely to cover the lease.

Middle Cleugh continues poor, yet, as it has no dead weight upon it as present it will leave a fair profit on the extent to which it is working Middle Cleugh 2nd Sun Vein The low Level driving by Smith Elliott &c towards the whole ground thro' which the Vein runs has become very hard and difficult to drive, and requires in consequence a high price. The upper Level opening out by Ridley Robson &c has led us to a Sun String on which the Ore Bargains are chiefly let, and which, altho' poor will leave a very fair profit, and bids fair to open out several additional workings. The Sum for sinking by Thos Midcalf &c is to ventilate and open out, the Mine, and has been completed since the Bargains were let.

Long Cleugh is poor but continues to raise Ore at high prices, which however as there is now no dead Work, will leave a fair profit.

Tynebottom continues so hard and poor as to require the highest prices, yet as the dead Work upon it is light, this Mine continues to be worked to advantage. The Level driving by Jos. Wardlaw &c is to open out the Mine in fresh ground, and it is essential to its future prosecution.

Thortergill. The Level driving by Wm Rittson &c is a continuation of the White Syke low Level which has been allowed to run together and which we have recently opened out and arched, so as to secure it as a permanent level without further repair. The Vein in which the Level is driving is known at Nenthead by the name of MiddleCleugh, and in Garrigill by the names of Caple Cleugh, Longholehead, Browngill and Thortergill and has at each of these places been most productive and profitable in former times. The object in repairing this Level is to enable us to try the part of this Vein yet lying whole to a very great extent between Caple Cleugh & Longholehead and also to enable us to work the pickings that may have been left in the Old Workings under which we have to pass on our way to Longholehead. This will be a long trial but it is considered universally to be one of the most hopeful chance of Opening out advantageous Mines that we have in Alston Moor, and worth all the other trials we have in Garrigill. We have driven the Level a few fathoms since we reached the Forehead, and, altho' it is in a part of the Strata that is not likely to produce much Ore, yet the appearance of the Vein is very good and the indications more flattering than I had hoped it would be found in this situation. It contains Ore even now that will more than defray the charges of driving the Level, and I have not a doubt will in time open out very profitable Mines. In short I consider this one of the very best chances you have of future Good Mines. The Ore Workings here are all pickings opened out by the reopening of this Level.

The trials of Caple Cleugh Cross Vein, Browngill Sun Vein, Broomberry, Blackashgill, Garrigill burn, Loveladyshield & Crossgill are proceeding with no changes of circumstance entitled to Notice. The Ore Bargains in Carr South End, Cowslitts Cross Vein and Cowhill are merely to preserve the Leases.

Weardale

Middlehope Mine continues to raise Ore to the greatest advantage, and its prospects as we proceed in opening it out Eastwards are most flattering The Level however driving by Henry Coulthard &c on which the future openings out of this mine depend happens to be in a situation so twitched & hard as renders it impossible to push it forward with sufficient rapidity to enable us to place the Workmen in New Lengths as speedily as they work out their old ground, and hence, with the most flattering prospects that can be wished we are in danger of wanting a full supply of Ore from this Mine against another Year as well as of having a proportion of the Men thrown out of employment. We made an experiment during last Quarter of rising a fathom above the Level Forehead with the intention of running the Level up a little of the Sill as that part was found to be softer and better to drive but it is proved to be equally hard as at the present depth of the level, and as it is not practicable to Run up the Level more than the trial we made, there is no alternative but to persevere as it is until we reach softer ground in course of driving. I have under these circumstances increased the

partnership to 8 Men, who relieve each other and are working at extremity from Monday Morning at 1 oclock until Saturday Night at 11 which is all that can be done without working the Mine to disadvantage. We could indeed allow the Ore Workings above Level to be pushed forward before this level; but, this would throw us into the Situation in which I found the Mine on entering upon it, and, altho' we could by this means increase the raising of Ore for a Year or two, we should be doing it at an extreme loss and must eventually stop entirely until the Level again reached the Workings, which would be alike impolitic & expensive. Thos Cail &c are making a trial in the West a new Middlehope Vein where we still hope to regain Mines that will work to profit.

Ireshopeburn. We are continuing to sink the EGINE shafts for the purpose of the intended trial of the lower Strata. The Court will I doubt not be staggered at the extraordinary price of £30 pr Fathom for sinking at this Mine. It is therefore necessary to state that an Engine Shaft being three times as large as a Common Shaft requires a much higher price pr Fathom and that we are sinking through a Sill of about 4 Fathoms thickness of a nature so peculiarly hard that even at this price, the Workmen are not enabled to make the ordinary Wages. Col Beaumont sank thro' the same Sill some time ago when he was obliged to give a still higher price per fathom at which the Miners are not enabled to make more than half Wages. The present Bargain is for two Fathoms only to guard against loss in case of the lower part of the Sill becoming softer which however we do not expect. Altho' the uncommon hardness of this sill makes the trial of sinking thro' it costly, yet we consider it a very favorable indication as sills of its description are generally found to be most favourable for raising Ore.

The trial at Coldberry is proceeding without any material change.

Stanhopeburn continues to raise Ore at high prices and without any change entitled to notice, if anything however it is a little more promising Thos Wallace &c are sinking a shaft which we have commenced for the purpose of ascertaining the exact situation of the Strata in the range of a New Vein, which we consider best worthy of trial, in order that we may be enabled to form an accurate judgement as to the best mode of proceeding to explore effectually this ground at the least expence and with the greatest probability of success. When we have obtained this requisite information I purpose to commence the trial without loss of time as we have now so long a Lease to reap the benefits of whatever may be discovered.

In concluding the Midsummer Report I may be allowed to congratulate the Court upon the general State and prospects of the three Districts; which could hardly be desired to be more flattering each containing very productive Mines, and a Number of promising trials being in progress, several of which are rapidly advancing towards their objects. A proportion of these can hardly fail to prove successful and give us every reason to hope for a succession of advantageous Workings. It is also to me a source of no little

satisfaction that this Year will nearly put the Mines in all the Districts into perfect good repair, and into a State that will enable us, should they continue good to work them in future to the utmost advantage. During the present year we have laid with Iron Rails the very long Levels of Lodgesyke in Teesdale, Middlehope in Weardale, and a great part of the Rampgill in Alston Moor, and I have provided the rails for the remainder of this Level. In addition to these very heavy & expensive improvements, we have erected two powerful Engines at Ireshopeburn & Middlehope & have remodelled the washing places & conveniences in Weardale & Alston Moor; thus completing all the most costly and necessary alterations and repairs.

I have been induced to complete all the improvements this year, wherein much Iron, Castings & Wood were required, from the circumstances of having been fortunate enough to contract for the Years Supply at a very low Rate, immediately before a considerable advance took place in the prices of these Articles and as there is no prospect of again obtaining them on terms so favourable, I determined to make the most of the present Contracts prior to their termination on the 2nd August.

Robert Stagg

**29 Sep 1818 Robert Stagg**

General Report of the Mines Michelmas [sic] 1818

Teesdale

Lodgesyke. It is very gratifying to have to report that the improvement in this Mine as we proceed to open out the grounds laying between the high and low Levels entirely confirm the expectations held out in the Midsummer Report. Its appearance has been so flattering since I entered upon the direction of it, and gives every reason to hope for a considerable increase of Ore in the Teesdale District during the Year now commencing. The Dead Work at this Mine is nearly what is requisite in order to continue opening it out to the utmost advantage

Coldberry. Since last Report we have met with a very promising mine here as the Court will see by the low price of 23/- per bing, at which we have let an Ore bargain. Had not past experience proved the uncertainty of this Vein, I should have entertained sanguine expectations of being about to open out a profitable Mine, but as it is I dare only express a hope that the present indications may be more lasting than on former occasions, and wait its further development before pronouncing upon it with any certainty. The Level driving by Coatsworth &c is what is necessary for the further prosecution of the trial. The Vein discovered at Coldberry is a cross-cut driven by Coatsworth &c as Reported last Quarter, we have no doubt it is the Vein which is

working at Lodgesyke to so much advantage; but I am waiting until proper Surveys, Levels, and plans are taken of its bearing, and situation, to enable me to decide on the most eligible mode of making an effectual trial of it. The other trials in Teesdale are proceeding towards their several objects without any change entitled to notice.

#### Weardale

Middlehope. Although the prospects of this Mine continue most flattering as we proceed yet, as stated in last Report, the level is so unaccountably hard and difficult to drive, that notwithstanding the utmost exertions of eight of the best Miners we have, we find it impossible to move it fast enough to replace the Workmen in new lengths as they work out their Old Ones. Hence we are driven, in spite of our most anxious wishes to keep up the full quantity of Ore raising at this Mine, to place a great proportion of the Men in the Old Pickings, until the level gets advanced far enough to enable us to place them in the whole ground; which I greatly fear will reduce the quantity of Ore in Weardale for the year now commencing and for which unless the Level becomes softer and easier to drive, we have no remedy without Working the Mine to extreme disadvantage by allowing the Ore Workings to be pushed before the Level which would be attended with great expense and loss. The Engine Sump is proceeding to make trial of the Strata below Level and have let a Bargain to John Sanderson &c to sink a Sump adjoining the Engine, for the purpose of rendering the trial more expeditious. We have by this means, in three or four Months to reach that part of the Strata where Ore is expected, and, should it prove successful I hope it may in some degree prevent the anticipated deficiency in this district. The other dead Work at this Mine is what is essential to its regular Working.

Ireshopeburn. The Engine Sump is proceeding towards that part of the Strata where we propose to make the trial of the Vein. and which we hope to reach in four or five Months. The Strata through which it is sinking continues to be excessively hard, and this renders the trial alike slow, and expensive, but as we deem the hardness a favourable indication we hope on reaching the Vein to meet with Mines that will repay the trial.

Stanhopeburn. There is no alteration since last Report that is entitled to notice. It continues to raise Ore that will pay the expense of the trials we are making, and leave a moderate profit, without any indications that lead us to expect much from it. Thos Wallace &c are cutting a Cross to endeavour to discover a new Vein which is considered one of the best objects in this ground; and Geo. Smith &c are driving in another Vein which is deemed the next best trial. These are the two chief Objects that are known in Mr Rippons Estate, and therefore we are losing no time to prove them, in order that there may be abundant Opportunity, during the Lease, of reaping the full advantage, should it or both of them prove successful.

Alston Moor

Rampgill. The Levels driving by Robt. Heatherington &c and Matt Thompson &c and the Crosscuts by John Barron &c and James Stephenson &c are for the purpose of effectually opening out this Vein; and it is hoped they may shortly lead to improved Ore Workings. The Ore Bargains here are entirely Pickings that require the best price.

Rampgill Sun Vein, although still very good, is far from being so promising as at Midsummer, several lengths have been nearly wrought out, and others have become poorer. The Crosscuts and Shafts prosecuting here, are for the purpose of Opening out the Vein in different parts of the Mining Field, and we hope may lead to better Workings and again revive our prospects here. otherwise I fear that this hitherto excellent Mine will shortly fail us.

Small Cleugh continues extremely hard, and therefore requires great prices. Its general appearance since last Report, has become more unfavourable than usual hence we fear the quantity of Ore raised here will be lessened during the ensuing year. The Crosscut driving by Matt Dickenson &c is for the purpose of opening out the Flatts in fresh ground. We hardly hope to complete this trial within the Year, but should we meet with the Flatts good, it will open out a great increase of Ore Workings, and is, at any rate, necessary for the ventilation and more advantageous working of the Mine. The Level driving by Hind &c is continuing for the trial of Small Cleugh Cross Vein as detailed in the Midsummer Report.

Middle Cleugh is no way essentially altered since last Report. The Level driving here is to cut a Vein about 14 Fathoms North, which is expected to produce Ore and is considered a very promising trial.

Middle Cleugh 2nd Sun Vein There is no change here since last Report that is worthy of detail. The Dead Work at this Mine is all for the purpose of opening out the Vein in different situations with a view to increase the chances of raising Ore during the ensuing Year.

Tynebottom continues hard & poor. The Dead Work is for the purpose of opening out Ore Workings in whole ground. The various other trials in Alston Moor are proceeding as usual with no change that can be noticed.

The Court will observe a considerable increase of Dead Work this Quarter, especially in Alston Moor. I have been induced to extend the trials at the commencement of the New Year -partly in order to give employment to the Washers, and to several of the constant Pickmen who must otherwise have been left without any means of Supporting their Families, but especially with a view to increase the chances of raising an extra quantity of Ore during the Year, in compliance with the directions of

the late deputation. No trials however have been undertaken but those which all your Practical Mining Agents deem very promising, and necessary; and which would therefore at any Rate have been entered into, at a future period. Many of these extra trials will be terminated during the present Quarter, and the remainder within Six Months. In fixing these Bargains I may be allowed to assure the Court that no pains have been spared so to arrange the Workings as to afford the best prospect of increasing the [immediate] Ore Raising without injury to the future Working of the Mines And Although at the present Moment, the prospects in the Moor are a little clouded and unpromising, and the hardness of the Middlehope Level sets at defiance all our efforts to open out that Mine more expeditiously; yet with the improved state of the Teesdale Mines, I do not despair if we have our ordinary fortune in the various means using to extend the Ore Workings of meeting the Wishes expressed by the Gentlemen of the deputation, by raising 18 or 19,000 Bings of Ore in the three Districts during the ensuing Year.

The Ore raised in the Year just concluded is a little more than 19,000 Bings being 1000 Bings beyond the estimate which I gave the Court in the Lady Day Bargain Report, and I trust we may be equally successful during the Year now commencing.

My calculation of the Lead we shall be enabled to send to Market from 30 September 1818 to 30 September 1819 is as follows Vizt

Common lead about 5,000 large pieces	
Refined	' ' 46,000 ' '
Slag	' ' 4,000
Total	55,000

and 1000 casks of Litharge of 6 Cwt each. Should the demand for Litharge exceed or fall short of this quantity the Refined Lead will of course be increased or diminished in the same proportion.

The above calculation goes to the extent of the Smelting power of all your Mills, allowing for the occasional and inevitable interruptions of Frosts in Winter day Weather in Summer and casual repairs of the furnaces.

I have taken the liberty of adding this Statement to the Mining Reports for the guidance of the Court in making Sales.

Robert Stagg

**25 Dec 1818 Robert Stagg**

General report of the Mines Christmas 1818

Teesdale

Lodgesyke. I have peculiar pleasure in reporting the continuing and very favourable prospects of this Mine. Unless some totally unlooked for disaster should happen to interrupt its present flourishing state, the Teesdale district may be expected in future to rank high in your mining departments. The dead work is merely what is required to push forwards the Levels, and open out the Mine as we proceed in working it. A great change for the worse which has taken place at Coldberry since the last quarter's report has justified the doubt I then expressed of the continuance of the promising appearance of this Mine. It is so perpetually fluctuating, that no dependance can be placed upon any existing indication. It is still however likely to raise Ore that will leave some profit. The Level driving by Coltsworth &c is in the uncertain Vein, and is indispensable for its further prosecution. The Level driving by George Hardy &c is one that I have begun this quarter for the complete trial of the Vein discovered by a Cross cut, in the Coldberry liberty, immediately prior to the Michelmas Bargains, and which we still have every reason to believe is a continuation of the Vein which is now working with so much advantage at Lodgesyke Twelve or eighteen Months, at [underlined: 'least'], must elapse before we can hope to complete this trial, but we expect that it may open out an advantageous Mine at Coldberry, when it does reach the Vein in the great Limestone, where we purpose to make the trial. The Several other Teesdale trials are proceeding towards their objects with no change that can be noticed.

Weardale

Middlehope Mine is so little altered since last Bargains, that I cannot better describe its present state than by referring the Court to the Mich's Report. The slight change that has taken place since that period is however favourable. The chief level driving by Henry Coulthard &c has become a little softer, which has enabled us to open out an additional length of Ore Workings, at a very low price per Bing and the general appearance of the Mine is rather improved. It is indeed as good as it could almost be wished at the forehead and we have nothing but the excessive and almost unprecedented hardness of the level to complain of. The whole of the Dead Work here is for the Opening out of the Mine speedily & effectually and for this purpose every effort is making that I have been able to devise after repeated consultations with the practical Agents and the most mature deliberation.

Ireshopeburn. So far as the Engine trial has proceeded we have reason to be satisfied with our prospects of regain'g a profitable Mine here. We have scarcely yet touched upon the part of the Vein where much Ore could be expected yet the Court will



perceive that a few Ore Workings have already been opened. We have now hardly a doubt of the success of this trial to the fullest extent of our calculations at its commencement.

Stanhopeburn. The prospects have considerably improved since last Bargains a trial which we made (since the renewal of the Lease) for the discovery of new flats, has proved more successful than I had dared to hope. These new flats are not so very rich nor likely to work at low rates per Bing, yet from their probable extent, I entertain considerable expectations that this Mine may now become fairly profitable for several years hence. I calculate upon raising at Stanhopeburn during this year, nearly One thousand Bings of Ore. We are proceed'g to make the other trials in this Lease as stated in last Report and if they should prove equally fortunate when they reach their several objects Stanhopeburn may become a valuable addition to this Min'g district. Upon the whole the prospects of this district have so much improved, that I am led to entertain better hopes that it may yet, produce Ore, which, with the Teesdale supply will fully employ the Smelting powers of Stanhope Mill during the ensuing year.

Alston Moor

Rampgill. The low levels driving by Robert Heatherington &c and Robt Black &c are progressively opening out poor Workings, that more than repay the expenses of the levels, and as they proceed further east, to where the Vein is known to have been left good, but could not be wrought by the upper Levels on account of Water, there is not a doubt that very profitable mines will be regained. We do not, however, expect to reach this part of the Vein for Several Years, but, in the interim, there are the best grounds to expect that the Ore obtained in driving the Levels will leave a profit

Rampgill Sun Vein is more productive than it was at Michal's but although it will raise a considerable quantity of Ore this Year we fear that its uncommon Richness may not be of long continuance, as it is fast approaching two Strong Cross Veins, the influence of which, on their intersection, we anticipate with uneasy and anxious feelings. It may however pass through them unimpaired or the Cross Veins may themselves be enriched by the junction and become valuable Mines; but we fear more than we hope from the union. John Robinson &c are rising in this Vein nearer to its junction with one of the Cross Veins than the present Ore Workings, in order to prove it in this situation, & to extend this years Ore Raising. Wm Atkinson &c are rising to try the Stratum in a higher situation with the same view; both these trials we expect to complete during the quarter. John Elliott &c are continuing a Cross cut for the purpose of discovery, as detailed in the Midsummer Bargains Report of 1818. They have not yet met with any Veins that are likely to prove advantageous. The Level at

Scaleburnmoss is proceeding to open out this Mine with very little fluctuation upon the whole however the prospects here are somewhat brighter and as we obtain as much

Ore as we proceed, as repays the cost of the level, we continue this trial in full security that if we do not gain much we [underlined: 'can lose nothing'], and we have a fair chance of obtaining a profitable Mine in due time - two or three years however will be required to advance this level to the part of the Vein where much is expected.

Small Cleugh I am sorry to Report is failing excessively. The prospects have become more gloomy each quarter, the Ore workings are no better than the poorest Old Pickings, and unless the Cross Cutts driving by John Barron &c and Matt Dickinson &c prove successful in opening out new flatts in fresh ground, there is too much Reason to fear the total failure of this, hitherto, valuable Mine. The Cross Cut driving by Dickinson &c is that on which we place our chief dependance, but from the hardness of the Limestone in which it is driving, we cannot hope to reach the part where new flatts are expected within a Year.

The Level driving by George Rain &c at Middle Cleugh is proceeding for the trial of a North Vein that is chiefly whole, and is considered likely to produce some Ore we expect this trial will be speedily terminated. The Ore workings at this Mine are entirely pickings. Middle Cleugh 2nd Sun Vein the lowest level driving by Smith Elliott &c is proceeding as rapidly as the extreme hardness of the Stratum admits of, with a view to open out the whole of the Middle Cleugh Veins each of a Strong Cross Vein, beyond which they are all lying entirely untried. We consider this trial to afford one of the very best chances of opening out unworked extensive Mines in Alston Moor. The Level driving by Ridley Robson &c is for the purpose of opening out pickings Westward in the parts of this Mine which owing to much Water it is believed were imperfectly wrought from an upper Level. It is opening out, as we proceed, Ore Workings that very well repay the Cost of the trial. The cross cut by Luke Hall &c is a temporary expense for the purpose of ventilation, and of more advantageously working the pickings opened out by the Level. It will be completed this quarter.

Tynebottom Sun Vein continues exceedingly poor, and is likely to fail entirely. In prosecuting the level by Josh Wardlaw at this Mine we have cut a Cross Vein (Windshawbridge) which has the appearance of raising some Ore, but does not lead us to expect much from it.

The Ore Workings at all the other Alston Moor Mines are new pickings and those at 60/- per Bing are to induce trials without loss to the Company, where the leases would be otherwise liable to forfeiture, and where we do not think the prospects worthy of a regular dead Work trial.

The various trials which I have omitted to notice are proceeding towards their objects without any material alteration since last Report

Upon the whole the prospects in the Alston district are considerably less flattering this quarter, yet, from the numerous and promising trials in progress in this department, we do not despair of regaining other Mines, in due time, that may fully

make up the deficiencies of those that appear to be failing. Indeed the daily and incalculated fluctuations that occur in Mining, as well favourable and unfavourable, out to preserve us at all times alike from entertaining too sanguine hopes, or becoming unduly depressed. Although the Alston district is a little unpromising at this Moment, yet, I am happy to be able to add, in concluding, that the average prospects (if I may use the expression) of Teesdale, Weardale, and the Moor, were never better, and justify me in expressing a confident hope that the Results of the present Year will not fall below that of the year ending 30th Sept'r 1818.

Robert Stagg

**25 Mar 1819 Robert Stagg**

General Report of the Mines Lady Day 1819

Teesdale

Lodgesyke. Since last quarter's report we have proceeded in opening out this Mine more extensively, and I happy to say with improving prospects of a lasting and very beneficial Mine, as the Court will readily judge by the accompanying Bargain List, which is, I believe, one of the very best that has ever been sent to the Company. We have been driving the lowest Level with the utmost speed ever since I undertook the direction of this Mine, in order to put it upon the present plan of Working, and we have [underlined: 'now only'] got it up to the situation where the experiment could be completely made, and it is peculiarly gratifying to my feelings to report that it is more than realizing my utmost hopes and expectations. The Practical Agents who pass through the Mine are unanimous in their opinion that the improvement is very decided because besides affording the power of very materially increasing or diminishing the Mining of Ore as it may be required, without the slightest disadvantage, the Workmen can by this mode make equal Wages with six or eight Shillings per Bing less price, which on the quantity we now expect to raise at this Mine (say 6 or 7000 Bings per Year) leaves an enormous saving. It will also tend in a great measure to equalize the Wages of the Miners, and to prevent the extravagant earnings of some of the partnerships, whilst others were earning little or nothing.

The leading principle of the improvement is an allotment of a certain plot or square in the vein to each partnership which they cut Round in the first instance, whereby the Agents are enabled to judge with comparative certainty of the prices that ought to be given and, after the first cutting Round of the square, the Miners can work it with infinitely more ease and facility; and when more Ore is required to be raised, we have only to divide the Squares into two or more compartments, which will at once double or treble the raising; or, on the other hand, to throw two or three Squares into One, in order to reduce the raising in an equal degree; whilst in either of these Cases, the Mine will continue to be wrought without the Slightest alteration of principle or the least

disadvantage. I fear without a reference to the plans, and a personal explanation of them, I may not be enabled to convey to the Court a correct idea of my meaning, but upon the visit of the next Deputation, I shall have no difficulty in rendering Myself intelligible to them, and they will have the Opportunity of seeing the plan in <progress> in the Mine itself.

I have made arrangements to work the whole of your Mines in the same manner as we have got the Levels up that are necessary for effecting it.

The Dead Work at this Mine is merely what is indispensable in its regular working.

Coldberry. This is one of the most fluctuating and uncertain Mines in your possession, which renders it impossible to judge by its appearance one month, what it may become the next. Since the Christmas Bargains its prospects, or rather its present indications, are considerably improved, and, were it not for our past experience of its uncertainty, I should pronounce it to be a very hopeful Mine. It is raising Ore, upon the average, that will leave some profit, and, I do not despair, on its becoming intersected by other Veins (several of which it has to meet with in its course) of yet seeing it a flourishing mine. We expect it will Raise about 3 or 400 Bings of Ore this Year. The Level driving by Ralph Natrass &c is in this Vein, and is essential to its future Working. The Level driving by Thomas Tarn &c is for the trial of the Vein at Coldberry which we believe to be a continuation of the Lodgesyke Vein, and which, as stated in the Christmas Report, will not reach that part of it where a proper trial can be made, in less than twelve or eighteen Months.

Hudshopehead. We have discovered a Vein that is strong and very promising in its appearance, by the Hush which the last Deputation will recollect being pointed out to them as having been set on for the purpose of general discovery in that new part of this mineral ground Josh. Pearson &c are cutting across to prove this Vein in a part of the Strata which will afford an opportunity of forming a better judgment of it. Should this Vein on trial, prove productive, it will open out an entirely new Field, as it is whole and hitherto untried & unknown for several Miles in length, the whole of which is included within the Boundaries of the [general grant], for which a proposal was given to the Earl of Darlington, by Order of the last Deputation

The other trials in Teesdale are proceeding as usual towards the objects for which they were commenced. Each of these Levels, I expect, will reach their destination about the same time, (and we hope in twelve or fifteen months) when, if we have ordinary fortune, this district will become the most extensive and flourishing part of your concerns and may be expected to be the most profitable and lasting; as each of the Levels will lay open a large extent of new ground, which when successful, is always the most lucrative, Indeed should only one of the trials in there turn out favourably, we cannot fail to open a New Field that may be expected to hold out during the Lives of all those who have any part, at present in the concern

Weardale District

Middlehope. The Level driving by Henry Coulthard &c upon which entirely depends the Opening out of the Mine, continues excessively hard although it is a little better than at Christmas. The inevitable consequence is that notwithstanding the workings continue to be very good as we proceed, it is utterly impossible to push on the Level with speed enough to furnish new Squares to the partnerships as quickly as they work out those that are previously opened and therefore a considerable diminution in the Years Ore raising at this Mine, must, of necessity, follow in spite of our utmost efforts to prevent it. This is however the less to be regretted as we shall raise at the other Mines in this district, and at the Teesdale Mines, as much Ore during the Year as will fully employ the Mills until the commencement of the next washing Season. The only effect therefore of this insuperable difficulty will be to lessen the apparent profit of this Mine for the Year, by the dead work and general charges bearing a greater proportion than usual to the quantity of Ore Raised.

The Engine trial has proved much more tedious and protracted than was expected on its commencement, for, in sinking to the four fathom Limestone (the object of which was chiefly <not> on foot) we have had to pass through a succession of hard sills [underlined: 'only'], instead of the plate that is usually found above this Limestone. But although this circumstance has lengthened the trial, and increased the cost of it, we rejoice that it has happened, as it doubles our chances of obtaining valuable Mines when the trial is accomplished.

We have also been a good deal retarded lately by the unusual dryness of the Season, which has caused a defective supply of Water to work the pumps. But unless this continues, we hope to succeed in completing this Engine trial during the present Summer, and, on its termination there is no doubt entertained that Workings will be opened that will repay the expence incurred. The other dead Work at this Mine is merely what cannot be avoided without ultimate disadvantage in its future prosecution.

At Ireshopeburn we have completed the Engine Shaft, and are now cutting across from the bottom of it to make trial of the Vein in the lower Sills, for which the Egin was created. We expect to reach the Vein in a few fathoms driving, prior to which no opinion can be given of the probable result of this trial. But there appears to be every reason to hope that a fresh and lasting Mine may be thereby regained, that will raise Ore to repay all the Cost incurred and leave a fair profit. The Ore raising at this Mine is from the old Workings which have been already opened out.

The Coldberry trial is proceeding as usual.

Stanhopeburn. No material change has taken place since the last Report, except that we have discovered a Vein which we believe to be one of those for which we have been

seeking, but as we have only just touched upon it, no opinion can yet be offered, as to what may be expected from it

Alston Moor District

Rampgill. We are continuing as we proceed with the Levels driving by Robt Black &c and Robert Hetherington &c to open out poor workings that will leave some profit, and as the levels are advancing towards the part of the Vein, which was Richer in the upper Sills, we expect daily to obtain more profitable Mines. The joint Bargain of dead Work, and Ore Raising by John Bell &c, is to open out a Square above the leading Level, for the united purposes of ventilation and of making trial of this ground and the Sump opening out on Contract by Luke Hall &c is for the same purpose. Both will terminate in a few weeks.

Rampgill Sun Vein. John Elliott &c are sinking from the Crosscut which they have been driving to prove, in the little Limestone, a Vein which has been discovered by the Crosscut since the Christmas Report, and which we believe to be a continuation of this Sun Vein. John Madgen &c are Rising to try the upper Sills in the same Vein. This Mine has altered greatly for the worse since last Report; and as it is approaching a Cross Vein at each end, we entertain considerable apprehensions lest the junction when it takes place, should prove fatal to it, but it may have the opposite tendency, and give us additional Mines by enriching the Cross Veins themselves, but we are by no means sanguine in this expectation. John Robson &c and Thomas Stephenson &c are driving the opposite ends of this Vein towards the Cross Veins in question, in order to make trial of them. Should they prove unsuccessful we shall not have much more to hope from this part of this hitherto very advantageous Mine.

The Rise put upon this Vein last quarter by J Robinson &c proved very successful and produced the Ore Working now let to Thomas Midcalf &c at 11s/ per Bing

Scaleburnmoss. The Level continues to proceed as usual towards its ultimate objects. Since last Report however we have discovered a new flat lying a longside of this Vein, and near the Forehead of the Level which, although very hard and far from rich, is likely to raise a good deal of Ore at high prices as we proceed. It is in this Flat where John Eels &c are working. They are not yet however sufficiently advanced to allow a decided opinion to be formed of what may be expected from it.

At Small Cleugh a very slight change has taken place since last Report, and that is, I am sorry to say, unfavourable. The Cross cut driving last quarter by J Barron &c has been completed, but has failed to produce any better workings. The present Bargains are no better than the poorest pickings, and, even at the high prices given, the Miners have lately made very poor Wages. The Cross cut driving by Matthew Dickinson &c is to discover the flats in new ground at a considerable distance from the present Workings; to facilitate the drawing of the Work by throwing off a long Level; and to ventilate the

whole Mine. If on its reaching the situation of the flats, it does not discover them in a better state than where they are now working, the prospects of this Old & very profitable Mine will be bad [sic] indeed. But as there is no visible Reason for the failure of this Mine, (no crossing nor other impediment having been met with) we are willing to hope that its recent poverty may arise only from a [temporary] contraction or [twitch] (the Miners term) of the flat, and that it may yet open out again and become as productive as formerly. - indeed fluctuations of this Nature, favourable as well as unfavourable, are so common in mining, that it is impossible to anticipate what it may take place within a month in any Mine

Middle Cleugh. There is no change entitled to notice since last quarter. The Level Driving by Geo. Raw &c has not yet reached the Vein, for the trial of which it was commenced, and the whole of the Ore Bargains at this Mine are new Pickings

Middle Cleugh 2nd Sun Vein. Thomas Armstrong &c are driving the deep water Level for the purpose of trying all the Middle Cleugh Veins in whole ground further east than they have hitherto been wrought. This is esteemed to be [one] of our best chances of opening out extensive Mines in the Moor, as each of these Veins is lying whole from where the trial is expected to be made, for a very great extent. The Level is approaching just towards the point of trial. Thos Indian &c are driving an upper Level to communicate with this Level, for the joint purposes of ventilation and of trying the Sills between them. John Armstrong &c are driving a Level in the same Vein Westward, and are Raising Ore, and opening out Ore Workings as the Level proceeds, that will repay the expence of this trial. Ridley Robson &c are cutting across from this Level to a string lying off this Vein - this will be done in a Week or two.

Carrs South End. Robert Barron &c are driving a Level to try this Vein and also, the Long Cleugh Vein; the latter of which they are expected to Cut during the quarter. The Ore raising here is entirely pickings.

Gudhamgill. The Bargains are in Old Pickings which are so poor that Wages cannot be made even at 60s/ per Bing, which price is given to cover the Lease until we get rid of part of the dead Weight with which this District is burthened.

Tynebottom. The bearing Sill (the Tynebottom Limestone) has by its dip, got below our Level, so that without the aid of Pumps of an Engine, little or nothing can be done here. The trial by pumps is so costly and imperfect that we are all agreed it would not be advisable to make it. Your Alston Moor Practical Agents are strongly in favour of erecting an Engine, but as this also would be attended with a very heavy expense, and can only be warranted in cases where no other means can be used, where the favourable result of the trial is almost certain, and where the objects are of considerable magnitude and as I cannot yet satisfy myself on all these points I am collecting all the information in My power, for the purpose of submitting it to the consideration of the

next deputation, until which time I propose to hold the Lease by encouraging picking Bargains

In prosecuting the Tynebottom trial we have discovered a cross Vein which we believe to be the Windshawbridge Vein) that is very promising in its appearance, and is likely to lead us to a Mine that will leave some profit, as there is no dead weight upon it.

The various other trials in this District are proceeding towards their several objects without any change that is deserving of notice. The Ore Bargains at all the Mines which have not been detailed are mere pickings, and those at the highest prices are to hold the Leases without dead Work. The dead Work that is absolutely necessary in this District to cover such a multitude of Leases, and to prosecute the various trials upon which alone we have to depend for future success, falls peculiarly heavy upon the Ore that is now Raising, the greater part of which is literally forced by the high prices, and the necessity the Men feel themselves under of making some trials themselves with this encouragement, rather than being without employment.

Several of the trials are approaching fast to an end, and I hope may lead us to better Mines, and they are all such as, in the present stage of them, could not, with any propriety, be relinquished. But with the present state of these Mines, and a falling Lead Market, the [immediate] prospect of this District is rendered very gloomy and unpromising, and this Years result, will, I fear, be by no means favourable; as the Mines have generally become unusually poor. Still, however, we do not despair of regaining in a little time, better Mines, and of again witnessing this District in a flourishing State, as several of the trials in progress can hardly fail to be productive of much Ore.

The Millstone that weighs down the profits of this District is the almost endless Leases we are forced to maintain, and the equally endless extent of Levels that have to be upheld; which necessarily create an unavoidable & great expenditure at all times but which is peculiarly felt when the Mines happen to become poor. In every instance of Renewing the Leases of the Greenwich Hospital, I have contended for an extension of Boundary. I have thus already succeeded in greatly curtailing the Number of Leases, and at this moment I am corresponding with the Receivers of the Hospital with a view to a further curtailment in the renewal of several Leases which are now expiring. I do not expect that they will grant all the indulgence in this way that I have solicited, but I have reason to hope that they will be induced to throw two or three Leases into one in each case where there are several Leases of lengths in the same Vein

In concluding although the present prospect in the Moor is decidedly bad & although in Weardale we shall this year, from the causes stated in that Report fall considerably short of last Years Ore Raising, yet as the prospects in Teesdale have undergone a favourable change to an extent still greater than that of an unfavourable nature which has taken place in the other Districts, and, as the trials in progress in all the Districts give us reason to hope that better and more extensive Mines may speedily be opened, I do not think there is any reason to be much discouraged and the more especially as in Mining these fluctuations do & will continually take place



I could at this moment render the Mines, even in [Alston Moor] very profitable by dropping the greater part of the dead trials, which, however, I would by no means advise as that could not be done without sacrificing their future prospects; & the more especially, as there is not one Level now driving which I would not think deserving of prosecution as a Mining Speculation were we not raising a Bing of Ore in the whole concern

Robert Stagg

**26 Jul 1819 Robert Stagg**

General report of the Mines Midsummer 1819

Since the last Quarters report so little change has taken place in the state of the Mines in any of the Districts, that I might almost refer the Court to it for the Report of the present quarter

Teesdale District

Lodgesyke Mine continues to be as promising and excellent as I could desire it to be, and if there be any changes since Lady Day it is on the favourable side, as the accompanying list of that Mine will abundantly testify.

The Dead Work of Thos Bussey &c Wm Harris &c and Nathan Raw &c is what is indispensable in opening out the Mine and that by John Gedling &c John <Tu...h> &c and Charles Raine &c is for driving a New Level for the purpose of getting rid of a part of the Old Level, which requires so much Wood to support it that I have judged it better, with the present prospects of a lasting Mine (Amounting almost to a certainty) to drive a New Level at once than to continue upholding the Old One at so serious expense The Cost this new Level will be about £600. I will explain more particularly to the Gentlemen of the Deputation the Grounds on which I have ventured to undertake it

Coldberry. The Prospects are likewise a little improved. We have just cut a New Vein in driving in the Old Vein, and I hope the intersection may have a favourable tendency, but cannot yet form any certain judgment, of what effects it may produce. The Dead Work here is merely

Driving the two Levels for the purposes stated in last Report.

Mannergill. The prospects have also undergone a very favourable alteration since Lady Day We have at length got a trial made in the Vein for which we have been so long driving, and have every reason to hope that this Mine will become another Lodgesyke, as soon as we can effect, the sinking of a Sump about 20 Fathoms, for the trial of the

Cut part of the Strata, which has not yet been reached. Thos Redfern &c are cutting across preparatory to sinking this Sump which I shall lose no time in pushing through. I am not a little anxious to prove this part of the Strata, for should it realize the hopes entertained of it, it will give us the Command of rais'g almost any quantity of Ore the Court may wish. Thomas Lee &c are raising Ore at 30/- per Bing in the part of Vein already proved.

Wiregill, Flakebrigg and Hudshopehead the trials are proceeding without any alteration. I calculate that we shall raise in Teesdale this Quarter fully 2000 Bings of Ore and we have every ground to hope that we shall be enabled to exceed this quantity in future quarters, should it be considered by the Court to do so. This District is very decidedly the best in your Concern & its future prospects are most flattering

Weardale District

Stanhopeburn. There is no alteration since last Quarter that can be noticed. The New Vein which we had cut at Lady Day, we are making trial of in a part of the Strata which we think more favourable than that where the first discovery was made, but in the present stage of the trial no opinion of the Results can be offered. We are continuing to search for another Vein which we have not yet met with. I entertain considerable expectations of this Mine becoming valuable on the completions of the trials in progress and in the mean time Ore is raising that will leave a very fair profit

Middlehope continues to be very good in leading lengths, but the extraordinary hardness of the level baffles our utmost efforts to open out new places for the Workmen as speedily as they cut out their former lengths. The greater part are therefore confined to the Old pickings which are much exhausted. We have so far accomplished the objects of the Engine trial since last Quarter that we have Cut the Vein under the Quarry Hazel, (about 20 fathoms below the level) and have every reason to hope for a Natural extension of Ore Raising at this Mine, as soon as we can drive the drifts necessary for Opening the New ground which the Engine gives us the Command of.

Coldberry trial is proceeding as usual.

Ireshopeburn we have had an interruption by the failure of a part of the Engine which is now under Repair. We expect however to Resume Operations at this Mine in a Week. No other Change has taken place since last Report.

Alston Moor District

Rampgill continues to Raise Ore in the Old ground opening out by the Levels driving by Robt Heatherington &c & Robt Black &c and although poor, this Mine will leave

some profit. The Levels are now fast approaching the part of the Vein where better workings are expected. John Bell &c & Luke Hall &c are sinking & Rising to prove the Strata above the Levels and to ventilate the Mine. No change has taken place in the state of this Mine since last Report

Rampgill Sun Vein continues yet to Raise Ore to great advantage in the New lengths, but as stated in last Report, we are near Cross Veins at both ends of this Vein, and are awaiting the junction of them with considerable apprehension; This junction may however prove a benefit instead of a disadvantage. Yet as the contrary very frequently takes place, we dread that such may be the effect upon this hitherto very excellent Mine The Dead Work at this Mine is precisely the same as last quarter, and the only change that has taken place here since is the discovery of a new Flatt attached to this Vein which is now working at 22/- per Bing by Matt Hall &c which has considerable improved the prospects of this Mine, for should this Flat be found to carry as a [distinct Flat Vein] after it leaves the Sun Vein (of which we do not despair) it may become very valuable

Scaleburn. The Flat discovered last quarter continues very promising. It is uncommonly hard which renders a high price necessary, but there is every reason to expect that it will become a Mine that will work to considerable profit

Small Cleugh no change whatever has taken place since last Report. The Dead Work by Jon Irwin &c is to prove whether any part of the Flats are left between the present workings and the Vein from which they arise; the other dead work by Matthew Dickinson &c is for the purposes noticed in the Lady Day Report.

Middle Cleugh 2nd Sun Vein The Level driving by Thos Armstrong &c has just cut the great Cross Vein, beyond which this second Sun Vein is expected to be wrought to advantage, Thos Indian &c are driving to meet and to sink to this Level, which we expect they may accomplish in about twelve Months, after which we are all very sanguine in the hope that we shall have open an entirely new and extensive mining Field as [all] the Middle Cleugh Veins are whole to the end of the Boundary and can hardly fail to raise a great quantity of Ore

No change has taken place at any of the other Mines in Alston Moor since last report that is entitled to notice. The prospects of this District have been improved since Lady Day by the discovery of the new Flat at Rampgill Sun Vein but with this exception No other alteration has taken place beyond the advance that has been made towards completing the various and extensive trials in progress; and, in concluding, I can only repeat the Opinion expressed in the Lady Day Report, that although the Moor is at the present moment far from being in a flourishing state, Yet, there is no Reason to be discouraged; the [extraordinary] improvement in the present state, and flattering prospects of the Teesdale District being more than a counterbalance to the

unfavourable temporary state of the District. For [temporary] I entertain great hopes it will prove to be, as the various trials in which we are engaged can hardly fail to make ample amends on their reaching their destination for the present depression in the Moor. It may be proper to remark that not one of the trials has yet arrived at the objects upon which, on commencing the Superintendance of this District, I grounded My hopes of lasting and profitable Mines being gained - and until which time, as I stated to the Gentlemen of the Deputation who then Visited the Works. I did not calculate upon this District producing [any profits]. Nor could any profits arise had we not, fortunately, and most casually met with the Rampsgill Sun Vein which with the encouragement given to the Pickings, has given rise to all the gain that has thus far been made in this District

On a Review of the existing state and future prospects of the whole of the Districts I have never had reason to be better satisfied than at the present moments, and I entertain more sanguine hopes than I am accustomed to indulge on slight grounds of witnessing the Concern in a very prosperous state for several Years hence should Life be spared to me. There is indeed that extreme uncertainty & fluctuation in Mining which continually baffle all Calculation, and forbids us from pronouncing with certainty what may be the Result of any trial, however promising; but, from the Multitude of trials in progress which are nearly approaching their objects, and from the very favourable existing state of those which have already reached them, I think I am justified in expressing this confident expectation of the continuing prosperity of the concern at large

July 26th 1819

Robert Stagg

**29 Sep 1819 Robert Stagg**

[Note: thill is another term for 'underclay', beds that show signs of once having contained plant roots, and are typically unstable]

General report of the Mines Michelmas 1819

In the Teesdale District the general prospects continue to be most flattering and even improve, as we proceed in opening out the Mines Lodgesyke is excellent, and is now Working in regular lengths to the greatest advantage Coldberry has also greater appearance of becoming a valuable Mine than it ever had before. In driving the Trial Level, we have Cut a Cross Vein which appears likely to be of service; but in the Confusion of the junction, through which we cannot get until the Shaft for ventilation is completed no decided opinion can be formed. We have likewise every reason to expect that we have regained a Mine at Mannergill which will be very valuable, as soon as it can be properly opened out, by the Sump now sinking for that purpose. At

[underlined: 'Hudshopehead'] we have sunk upon the New Vein discovered by the hushing, and met with good Ore, but could not get down for the Water to make an effectual trial; but, as we saw enough to fully warrant the taking up a Level, I have had one begun this quarter, which will cut the vein in driving about fifty fathoms, and in about One Hundred Fathoms, will reach a part of the Ground where a satisfactory trial can be made We all entertain considerable expectations that this Level will lead us to a valuable Mine and should it prove so, as the vein is [underlined: 'entirely new'] and therefore whole throughout your Mining Fields in this District, (which is several Miles in extent) it may open out very extensive Mines. But until the trial is completed, notwithstanding the present flattering prospects, no decided judgment can be formed; and it may after all, be of no value whatever. As daily experience proves that no certain dependence can be placed upon any present Mining indication either favourable or unfavourable, as they are subject to fluctuations and casualties over which there can be no control, and which baffle all calculation, were it not for these considerations I should without hesitation report that the Teesdale District could not fail to be highly valuable for a long series of years As it is, I can only say that its present state and prospects are as good as could be reasonably desired, I sincerely hope and wish that the Mines may be as lasting as they are now excellent.

In Weardale no very material change has taken place since the Midsummer Report. The fore end of Middlehope where the new ground is opening above the Level as it proceeds towards the Company's Boundary, has become very poor, which is materially affecting the [underlined: 'immediate Ore'] raising at this Mine; but we see no reason to doubt that it will again improve as we proceed, as this is a Vein that has always been liable to these changes and we are therefore more [underlined: 'disturbed'] at the [underlined: 'certainty'] of reaching the extremity of your Boundary in this Vein in four or five Years, than of any expectation of its ceasing to be a profitable Mine whilst we have it; although it may not very probably, be so valuable again as it has been; for there is an immense weight of thill where we have now to work which generally operates unfavourably on Veins that are not of immense strength. But then, on the other hand, we have more good reason to hope that the Engine trial may gain us valuable Mines in the Strata [underlined: 'below Level'], for we have since the bargains accomplished a partial trial of the Vein in that situation, and its appearance is very good, Should this trial succeed to the extent of our hopes and expectations, it will give us an entirely new field, that will hold out during the whole of our lives; but, as it will require a considerable time to push away the Levels from the Eging Sumps; that are required to open out the lower Strata, it is probable there may be a considerable falling Off this Year in the Ore raising at Middlehope

At [underlined: 'Stanhopeburn'] no change worthy of notice has occurred since Midsummer. We have completed the Engine Sump At [underlined: 'Ireshopeburn'] and are now engaged in Cutting to the Vein from the bottom of the Sump, and expect to reach it during the Quarter. We are also prosecuting a Level in the Vein, taken from

about the Middle of the Sump and, so far as we have proceeded, the indications are favourable and, altho' we do not expect this Vein will ever be very Rich, we confidently hope that it will abundantly repay the expense incurred in the trial. It is probable that there may be a diminution of the quantity of Ore raised in this District during the ensuing Year; and even perhaps in the Year following on Account of the time required to fully open out these trials, nevertheless the prospects of lasting and extensive Mines are considerably improved

[Alston Moor]

The state of the [Alston District] has been much amended since the last Report, by the discovery of the New Veins out at Middlecleugh, and Old Carrs; both of which are likely to be valuable and raise considerable quantities of Ore on being opened out their present indications are indeed highly flattering yet, as we have only just touched upon them, and have therefore had but a slight opportunity of judging whether they are likely to become lastingly good, too sanguine expectations ought not to be entertained respecting them, for they are not like Lodgesyke in Teesdale, reduced to near a certainty of being good Mines for Years hence. It must therefore be understood that my Report of these Mines is confined to their [existing state] where we have just discovered them, and that I Offer no opinion as to their continuance lest it should lead to disappointment. The Rampgill Sun Vein is just working within the ground already opened, and as has been remarked in the last Report, we are not free from apprehensions lest, on its junction with two Cross Veins to which it is rapidly approaching it should be rendered unproductive. No other material change has taken place in the Moor since Midsummer. But as the trials already made are likely to prove successful, and as several others are rapidly advancing towards their objects, of which we entertain a better opinion than we had of those already reached, I am far from despairing of yet witnessing this District in a very flourishing State. My great object has been to explore whole and untried ground, where, if we have success, Mines of considerable magnitude will be opened and where, also, there is always most profit. If, therefore one only of the trials in ten should succeed, the speculation can hardly fail to be advantageous

The Court will perceive by the lists that a greater number of Men than ordinary are employed in dead Work

In order to give employment to the Washers in Winter and to open out Ore Workings as extensively as possible for the ensuing Year, I always make a point of reserving a Number of Small trials (that must be made at some point) for this Season when the Want of work would be so severely felt - which will explain the circumstances and I am happy to say, that we have not in consequence a Man unemployed; and it will, I feel assured, be satisfactory to the Court to know, that at this moment of general agitation, I am not aware that we have a dissatisfied or a disaffected Man in the Concern As this is the first time that an estimate has been given of the Ore raised at the Mines the preceding Quarter, it may be proper to explain to the Court that

these estimates ought to be received as little more than mere guesses at the quantity; as it is utterly impossible to approach very nearly to the truth [underlined: 'generally'] in computing Ore in an unwashed State, and therefore mixed with several times its own bulk of Stone, Spar, Sand &c &c

Robert Stagg

**25 Dec 1819 Robert Stagg**

General report of Mines Christmas 1819

Teesdale

Lodgesyke This mine continues to be exceedingly productive and valuable. It has undergone no material change since the last Report

Coldberry Since last Quarter the Shafts then sinking for trial of the upper sills have been completed, & the prospects of this Mine have been thereby materially improved the present appearance is more promising than at any former period - Yet still, I am not sanguine in my expectations of this Vein becoming very valuable.

Mannergill Since last Quarter the trial Sump has been completed & we are now engaged in cutting from it to prove the Vein in the different parts of the Strata - The present indications are not so favourable as we had hoped they would prove but, we entertain considerable expectations that we shall yet meet with a productive Mine as we proceed with the trial

Wiregill Since last Quarter we have regained an Ore Working by the Rise in the Wiregill Vein which although not rich is likely to continue raising Ore as we proceed We have also at length reached the point where trial has to be made of the Lodgesyke Vein in this Ground & have accordingly commenced sinking a Shaft for that purpose - This long and expensive trial is therefore on the point of being completed, & we hope may be the means of very greatly extending the productive Mines of the Teesdale District. The Present indications are good as every String we have yet cut is filled with Ore. The Shaft has to be sunk upwards of Sixty Fathoms & cannot be finished in less than a Year, but we expect it to pass thro' the Vein in about fifteen Fathoms sinking when a more decided opinion can be formed of the probable result of this trial

The General Prospects of the Teesdale District continue fully to Warrant the favourable Report which I made of them last Quarter. We estimate that the Teesdale Mines will raise this Year ending 30th Sept 1820 about 9000 Bings of Ore

Weardale

Middlehope The Leading Workings at this Mine have been gradually become poorer for several Quarters, and are now nearly without Ore, and as we have only a comparatively short distance to drive to the end of the Company's Boundary I have judged it prudent to put a Stop to the low Level which continues to be excessively hard until, we prove whether in the further prosecution of the foremost Ore workings, we are likely to regain a Mine that will justify us in incurring this heavy expense. I have been the more readily inclined to adopt this plan, as we can now, without material inconvenience, prosecute the Ore Workings to the end of your boundary without the further continuance of the Level, and I believe a considerable Cost in extra labour in getting out the Work, than would be incurred by the prosecution of the Level. The Engine trial has been exceedingly interrupted since last Quarter by the severity of the Frost & consequently want of Water, so that a complete trial has not yet been made of the under Strata, but as far as we have proceeded there is every Reason to believe that the results will be advantageous & satisfactory. From the present general poverty of this Mine the Ore raising in the Weardale District can scarcely fail to fall materially short this Year, yet I see no reason to despair of still regaining a Valuable Mine at Middlehope since without any apparent cause it has always been liable to these unaccountable changes both of a favourable and unfavourable nature

Stanhopeburn This Mine has undergone no change since last Report that can be noticed

Ireshopeburn This trial continues to be prosecuted without any material alteration since Michelmas. We have not reached the Vein from the foot of the Engine, nor do we yet see any reason to alter the Opinion which we have thus far entertained, of this trial leading in the end, to Mines that will leave a fair profit.

In the existing state of the Mines in the Weardale District, we cannot estimate this Years Ore raising at more than 2500 or at the utmost 3000 Bings.

A very material improvement has just taken place in the leading Workings of Middlehope Mine which has now the appearance of becoming again productive

Alston Moor

Rampgill We are now opening out Workings at this Mine that will pay extremely well as the Court will perceive by the list

Rampgill Sun Vein This Mine although not so productive as formerly continues to Raise Ore to considerable advantage but, as stated in former Reports, we are very nearly approaching to cross Veins, and entertain considerable fear that they may prove very injurious to this valuable Mine, whilst they may on the other hand, not only enrich



this Vein, but give us good Mines in the Cross Veins themselves - should the former unhappily take place, the present Year will Work out the most productive part of this Vein. The Level driving by Jonas Irwin is to cut this Vein in whole ground after it has passed through the Cross Veins, & will completely prove their effect upon it. I look with much anxiety to the termination of this trial for the Vein has for a considerable time past been the only Mine of much value in Alston Moor

Scaleburn This Level continues to open out poor workings that pay the Cost of the Level, & will enable us we hope, to reach the Ultimate objects of this trial without loss -

Scaleburn Cross Vein This is a new working opened out by the rise made last Quarter from the Broomsberry Level which altho' not rich is likely to raise some Ore with profit

Smallcleugh Flatts This Mine that was so long valuable continues to raise a little Ore, but is extremely poor & hard, & is one more proof of the uncertain nature of Mines, since there is no visible reason for the change that has taken place in it. Unless the trial making by Dickenson &c to discover these Flatts in new ground should prove successful there is not much more to be hoped from this Mine, Although as it is not attended with any dead Work it may Raise a little Ore with profit for Several Years

Middlecleugh This Level ort to have cut the Vein for which it has been driving sometime ago, &, as we have cut some strings in the Situation where we expected the Vein to be, we begin to fear that it has lost its strength, and flown into Strings which is not an uncommon case. Under this impression I have let the present bargain to drive only two Fathoms with the intention of discontinuing all further trial of this place should we not in that space meet with more promising indications

Middlecleugh Sun Vein Fourteen Men are raising Ore in this New Vein, which in the last Report, I stated we had discovered & by the low Rate of 18/- per Bing the Court will perceive that it continues to be very productive I am sorry however to have to add that the apprehension then expressed lest it should not continue a distinct vein has been verified by the Cross Cuts set on to open out the Workings & which have shown that this Vein joins the Old Middle Cleugh Vein about 30 Fathoms from where it is now Working hence, although we expect to Raise a very considerable quantity of Ore in this length we have no hope of its continuing beyond that distance to be of much Value. This therefore is another of those endless disappointments & mortifications to which we are daily subject in Mining

Long Cleugh This Mine continues to Raise a little Ore at high prices, but, is not likely soon to become very Rich

Carr's South End. This Mine which in last Report I stated to have been just discovered, continues to bid fair to raise a considerable quantity of Ore. The present bargains are to

drive through the low part of the ground which is the least productive, but, when it is cut through we shall be enabled to Work the Mine to the greatest advantage.

Gudhamgill These bargains are pickings let merely to preserve the Lease

Blackersgill Raising Ore in pickings to preserve the Lease until I can have the Surveys completed when we shall decide upon the further plan of trial

Browngill This Level is opening out poor Workings as we proceed that will nearly defray the Cost of making the trial

Browngill Sun Vein This trial has been pushed as far as it is judged proper, I have therefore let this bargain to prove the Strata above the level

Windshawbridge Cutting a cross cut to unwater this Mine which has Ore in it that will then Work to advantage. This Cross Cut will be completed during the present Quarter

Caple Cleugh Driving in the Vein on trial with very promising indications

Caple Cleugh Cross Vein We have at length reached a part of the Vein for which this long Level has been driving. The Level is below the part of the Strata where Ore is usually found but the appearance of the Vein is very promising and leads us to entertain considerable expectation that this trial, when completed, may lead to Valuable & lasting Mines, For in addition to having this Cross Vein entirely whole for many hundred Fathoms, we shall cut several other excellent Veins in prosecuting the trial of the Cross Vein each of which is also whole in the great Limestone, which is considered to be the best part of the Strata for bearing Ore. This is one of the trials upon which I rest my hopes of again rendering the Alston District valuable, but although we have cut a part of the Vein, a considerable time will be required before we can fully open out and complete the trial

Tynebottom Sun Vein Since last Quarter we have completed the erection of the Engine which I reported to preparing for the Working of this Mine & have nearly sunk as deep as is required to commence Raising Ore, and I am happy to state that in sinking this Engine Shaft we have cut through the best Ore that has yet been seen at Tynebottom, we therefore fully expect to regain a profitable Mine immediately by this trial

There is upon the whole very little alteration in the prospects of the Alston Moor District since last Report. The Mines there are by no means in a flourishing state, & the almost endless Levels that have to be upheld & kept in repair added to the immense extent of dead Work that must constantly be prosecuted to maintain the Numerous Leases create an unavoidable charge on this Department which Renders it next to impossible whilst we hold the whole of these Mines on the existing terms to Render this District sufficiently profitable. I shall therefore be prepared to submit to the next

deputation the propriety of either declining to work a proportion of the Mines that are considered least promising, or to require of the Hospital more liberal terms. In the meantime it will be my care to keep the expenditure as low as possible for I have been everything but satisfied with the last Years result of this District. Yet I cannot attach any blame to the management of Mr Millican as District Agent nor to the Wages <masters> bargain Work, but, as I have just observed it is the fault of the terms on which we hold the Leases & the extent of small Mines which have to be maintained & which without other extraordinary Mines, will I am persuaded, always sink the proper profits of the District; whilst it causes more trouble, & anxiety, & requires more Capital than the whole of your other Mining Concerns. In fixing these bargains, I have kept down the Dead Work as much as can be done with any propriety & the prices for Raising Ore are lower than I fear will allow the Miners to make proper Wages. But the inevitable expenditure is so heavy that I could not feel that I was doing justice to the Company in allowing the Rates to be more liberal in the existing State of the Trade

I estimate that the Alston District may raise this Year from 6500 to 7000 Bings of Ore which if added to say 2500 Bgs in Weardale and 9000 in Teesdale will make the total raising about 18,000 Bings or it may reach 19000.

The average State of the Mines is therefore fully as good at this moment as it has ever been, nor is there at present the slightest reason to doubt the continuance of their prosperity.

Robert Stagg

#### **24 Jun 1820 Robert Stagg**

[Note: Actual date within June not given but assigned 24th here as Midsummer's day. There appears to be no report for Lady Day 1820.]

#### General Report of Mines &c June 1820

##### Teesdale

Coldberry Mine This Mine has continued to improve in its prospects since last quarter, and is now raising Ore to considerable advantage as the Court will perceive by the above rates

Mannergill This Mine continues to raise Ore in the Upper Strata to great advantage as far as it is yet opened out, but the trial of the Lower Strata respecting the result of which we were all so sanguine in our expectations has entirely failed; we are therefore, at present, confining the Working of this Mine to the Upper part of the Vein where it is productive & profitable

Wiregill The prospects at this Mine continue to be very flattering as we proceed, but the trial is not yet sufficiently advanced to allow a decided opinion to be formed of its results

Lodgesyke This Mine continues to Raise Ore to great advantage as the subjoined list will abundantly testify but since last quarter a Cross Vein as intercepted this Vein in the leading forehead which has thrown down (about 7 Fathoms below its regular situation) the part of the Strata that has hitherto been most productive in Ore; it has also scattered and completely confused the Vein, and is rendering it unproductive in the part where the junction is; which we fear may a little diminish the Ore raising for this quarter - What the effect of this intersection may be upon the future State of this hitherto most excellent Vein, it is impossible to anticipate until it is proved by driving through it, but we always dread any interruption of a Vein so excellent, since it can scarcely be expected to be improved and it is liable to be greatly injured thereby. With this exception there has no very material change taken place in the Mines of the Teesdale District since the last Quarterly Report.

Weardale

Middlehope The only material change that has taken place at this Mine since last quarter, is that we have at length effected a sufficient trial of the Vein opened out in the lower Strata by the Engine to prove the success of this speculation, for we are now raising Ore in that part of the Vein, that will in little more than a Year repay the Whole expense of the trial

This Vein in the part of the Strata that used to be so productive continues to be exceedingly poor as we proceed in opening it out <Eastward> and the Ore Raising will therefore be diminished in proportion, but as we have now accomplished the high dead expenditure required at this Mine, it is working (and, I hope, may continue to Work) to considerable profit notwithstanding the diminution of Ore

Ireshopeburn It is with peculiar satisfaction that I report the improving prospects of the Engine trial at this Mine we have now no doubt of having thereby regained a Mine that will not only repay the expense of this heavy trial, but will continue to be afterwards profitable for several Years. This quarter will terminate the chief part of the dead expense of the trial, & we hope to be prepared to commence the New Year by raising Ore to a considerable extent.

Stanhopeburn No change has taken place at this Mine since last Report that is entitled to notice

Alston Moor

Rampgill No material alteration has taken place in the State of this Mine since the last Report

Rampgill Sun Vein We have not yet cut the cross Veins which intersect this Mine within a short distance from the present leading Workings, and the only change that has occurred since last Report is a material improvement in the State of the Working driving by Matt Lattimour &c that is approaching the Cross Veins from which the chances are greatly increased not only of the Sun Vein passing through the Cross Veins without being injured but also of enriching the Cross Veins and rendering [underlined: 'them'] valuable – Still however the Result may prove unfavourable and therefore I dare not indulge very sanguine expectations respecting it but we expect to come to the proof during the present quarter

Rampgill 2 Sun Vein No change has occurred since Christmas

Scaleburn Cross Vein This Mine continues to Raise Ore with advantage but has undergone no particular change during last quarter

Smallcleugh This formerly excellent Mine becomes harder & poorer every quarter and is now no better than the Worst of the Old pickings. Yet as this falling off is without any visible cause, we do not yet still despair of a revival of these flatts when the trial Cross Cut reaches them in fresh ground at a distance from the present Workings

Middlecleugh This is the Vein discovered half a Year ago, and is continuing to Raise Ore to the greatest advantage, without requiring any dead expense in the prosecution of it - and it is only to be regretted it that its length has been proved to be so limited [sic]

Carrs South End We continue to raise Ore with advantage in the limited Workings lately opened here

Middlecleugh Sun Vein This level has become hard and difficult to drive in the extreme, but as it is close upon a Cross Vein we hope a change for the better may speedily take place in other respects no alteration of importance has occurred here since Christmas

Long Cleugh Raising Ore with some advantage altho' the workings are poor

Caple Cleugh Cross Vein At this Mine for the trials of which so long a level was driven, a very important improvement has taken place since last quarter, which leads us all to entertain sanguine expectations of obtaining Workings when the trial is completed, &

the Mine fully opened out that will be very valuable. I have all along in common with the District Agents considered this as one of our Main hopes of Reviving the Alston District on account of the great extent of Whole ground & of the objects before us as well as of the nature of the Vein which when productive has generally been of immense Value, and so far as we have yet proceeded since the Vein was Cut, our expectations have been increased by the indications that we have met with. The two Bargains let to Hetherington & Teesdale are for raising Ore; & the joint Fathom & Bing Rate is to prevent the necessity of giving a large Ore price expecting as we do that the Mine will improve on opening out.

Tynebottom Sun Vein Since last Report the Engine Sump has been completed, & Workings have been Opened that bid fair to become very profitable as the Court will judge by the above lists and we hope that we have there regained a Mine that may be of value for a considerable time hence

In concluding this Report (which I have made as brief as possible in the expectation of being enabled shortly to enter into a more detailed personal explanation with the next Deputation) I shall only further remark (and I do it with great satisfaction) that although our Ore Raising for the Year in progress is not likely to exceed the calculation formerly given, or may even fall short of that amount, yet, the prospects of lasting & beneficial Mines in Alston Moor & Weardale have materially improved since last Report, & in Teesdale there is no reason to doubt the continuance of very valuable Workings notwithstanding the present (but I hope [temporary]) confusion at the forend of Lodgesyke - It is also gratifying to my feelings to be enabled to add that the [extraordinary] expenditure which has necessarily been incurred in putting the Mines and Works into a proper State for carrying on the future Operations to advantage; will be terminated; or very nearly so, during this Year in [all] the departments of your Concern - so that I am willing to hope that were the Mines even to fall Short next Year of their usual productiveness (of which however I entertain no present apprehension) the profit arising therefrom may at last keep pace with that of recent Years whilst the labour & anxiety attendant on the conducting the concern are likely to be greatly lessened.

Robert Stagg

**30 Nov 1820 Robert Stagg**

[Note: Date given within Rampgill Sun Vein report below. No bargains list given.]

General Report of Mines &c Nov. 1820

Alston Moor

Rampgill Mine No change deserving of notice has occurred at this Mine since last Report. The Level driving by Jno Milburn &c continues, as it proceeds to open out poor Ore Workings, but which however as there is now little other expense upon this Mine, is leaving a tolerable profit.

Rampgill Sun Vein since the letting the Partnership (M Bull &c) contrary to all expectations has met with a small string that is exceedingly rich; at this moment (Nov. 30) it is about 2 feet wide of nearly solid Ore, but we scarcely expect that it will continue to be of much value for any great length.

This Vein continues to raise Ore to great advantage altho' much poorer than usual. But as many of the best lengths are nearly exhausted, a considerable diminution must necessarily take place in the quantity of Ore obtained at this Mine the ensuing Year, unless the trial making by the Cross Cuts, or that which is approaching the Cross Veins (both of which are expected to reach their objects within a few months) should prove successful.

Rampgill 2 Sun Vein this is only a poor picking which requires a great price

Scaleburn Mine At this Mine we continue to open out very poor workings, that enable us to drive the Level towards its ultimate destination at little or no loss

Scaleburn Cross Vein Driving the Level which continues to open out poor soles & pickings, the profit on which will, we hope, defray the expense of continuing this low Level up to the objects for which it was begun, but from which it is yet distant upwards of 100 fathoms

Smallcleugh Mine Having at length reached the part where the flatts ought to be found in fresh ground, the Sump sinking by Allinson &c is to endeavour to discover them The Ore workings here are so poor that they will scarcely work at any price per Bing

Smallcleugh Cross Vein This Cross Cut is to try a flatt that has been discovered near this Vein & will be completed in a few weeks. The Ore Workings at this Mine are very poor pickings that require the utmost price that can be given

Hangingshaw Mine This Bargain is let to hold the Lease without loss

Middlecleugh Mine All these workings are in Old Pickings which have not been looked into for many Years past, and the Workmen have only been induced to make trial of them now to prevent themselves from being entirely out of work