

PK Box 2136

Anc. Mons.

TITTERSTONE CLEE HILL

SHROPSHIRE

(near Ludlow.)

Letters from

Mr. Baldwin Childs,

Sir Chas. Boughton,

Rev Mr. Joyce.

this vandalism you would be
causing a great boon on many
people in this neighborhood
who from an antiquarian as well
as from a picturesque point
of view look on Titterstone
as a very sacred spot.

I am told that it would in
no way prejudice the workmen's
interest that operations should be
confined to the lower parts of the
hill. There is plenty of stone involved
there. But it is ^{perhaps the easiest better to work the stone off the} ~~loose~~ ^{top}.
Faithfully yours F. W. Wagland Forde.

Private
and Boarston Rectory.
Denbury.
Apr. 23. 1888.

PA Box 2176
1

Dear Sir

Sir John Lubbock has referred
me to you with respect to a
matter on which I wrote to him.
He says he is sure you will do
anything you can in the matter.

One of the most conspicuous
features in this part of the
country is the (Blue) Lee Hill.

The top of it, called Zitterstone,
overlooks Ludlow, and on that
side is very steep and precipitous.
Round the top are the remains
of ancient walls. Some people
think they are Druidical
remains. Others think that
they are the relics of an old
British Encampment*. In
either case the site is a most
interesting one, and ought

* There was a battle just below fought by Octavius
in a valley which is now called Horse Ditch - but the
proper name of it is said to be Oath Ditch.

to be jealously guarded of all lovers
of Antiquities.

Quite recently one of the Stone
Companies in the Dee has begun
to push its operations towards
the top. They have now actually
reached the old walls, and
we believe, carting away the
loose stones which lie easy to
their hand.

If you could do anything
under the new act to check

ans^d

2

P.R. Box 2/76

Boraston Rectory.
Denbury.

Apr. 28. 1888

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter
and information. I am
writing to day to a person who
I think may have influence
with the Lord of the manor
in which Dittosstone is situated.
I am afraid I am not

draughtsman enough to give
you any plan or section of the
spot. But you might be
able to examine it on the
Ordnance Map at Stamford,
or some other Geographer
when you are next in town.

Ludlow is the nearest
Railway station to Ditterstone.
But that means a 5 mile

drive at least, or more, up a
steep hill.

Ingham is a mile from
Ludlow Station. If ever you
are in this neighborhood,
I would gladly drive you
from there.

Yours truly

F. W. W. Price

ans

3

7 Eaton Place

Pk Box 2/76

May 3^d

Dear Gen. Pitt Rivers

A letter has been forwarded to me from you, about some supposed old remains on the Lee Hill - If you would like to see them we shall be very happy to see you at Kipps Park any time after this month and take you there - I have also been asked to write to the

owner Sir Charles Boughton
as you suggest -

truly yr.

Frances C. Baldwin Child

My sister Mrs Seymour
has returned to Knoxville
for a few days previous
to leaving England
for several months.

5

PR 2/76
7 Eaton Place
May 11th

Dear Genl Pitt Rivers
I think I had better
send you Sir Charles
Boughton's letter to me
in answer to mine -
carrying out your sug-
gestion of writing to
the owner when any doubt
or difficulty arose with
regard to "ancient monu-
-ments"

If it is not very difficult

for you to visit the West
of England in June
I still think it
would be a great satisfac-
tion to those who think
mischief is being done
to have your verdict -
and I think the neigh-
bourhood is interesting
and would repay the
trouble of coming -
We shall be very happy
to see you and I think
it would be best to

as Sir Charles suggests
from Downton (if you come)
to the Che Hill -
truly Y^r

Francesal Baldryllide

6

PR Box 2/76

Bowdoin Rectory. Deabury.

Sept. 20. 1888.

Dear Mr. Baldwin Childs,

I am sorry you
will be able to avail ourselves of
your kind invitation to the
Mission to Seaman Father
next Wednesday.

Some of us were at Littlestone
two days ago. They are taking
away the South face of the top post.

Miss Hope Edwards was with us.

A man who works there told me lately that they had come across some of the most perfect building he had ever seen in the course of their demolition.

Do you not think that at all events something might be done to get them to leave a certain portion where the work is peculiarly perfect, that at all events a portion of the wall

might be left as a relic.

Yours v. l.

J. W. Joyce.

7

PR Box 2/76

Edge Park,
Denbury,
Worcestershire.

Sep 21st

Dear General Pitt Rivers

I have received the
enclosed this morning
I think if you could
manage to pay a visit
here and see the Titter
stone Clee Hill - it would
be a great satisfaction
to the people and not un-
interesting to yourself.

truly yr^s

Frances E. Dalrymple

work, & of course can only secure themselves by following the stone wherever it is of good quality, but there is this satisfaction that for every foot of surface ground they take they must to obtain the level of their works, take it from 80 to 100 feet in depth, so that practically it would be impossible to fix the distant age when their work would precede the course of the valley being traced, & this is absolutely the only feature of interest about it.

P.L. Box 2/T6

4

CARTREFLE,
MENAI BRIDGE,
N. WALES.

8 May 88

My dear Mr Baldwin Childs

I am very sorry that we are not going to be in London just directly so that we might have taken the advantage we should have liked to have done of the knowledge of your whereabouts - there is however unfortunately a dairy conference coming off in Lledlow on the 17th, at which we have promised to assist, & to house people who the managers want to have put up, a matter that is left

CARRIAGE
METHUEN BRIDGE,
M. WALTERS

easy for them at a
time when the owners
of most of the large houses
are away.

With regard to the work of
the stone companies, I do not think
there has been or will be much
done to make even an antiquarian
uncomfortable. There are as you
know several remains of stone
circles on the plateau at the top
which are supposed to have been
places of burial, & the whole of these
are surrounded with what has been
no doubt at one time a loose stone

well, but long beyond the memory
of man there has been nothing but
a pile of stones, in some places
entirely gone, but in most others to
be still traced. The total length of
the wall may measure a mile.

You will see a perfectly good map
of the whole in the square of the 6 inch
 Ordnance map (Sheet 72 S.E.) which
shows also the position of the quarries
who may be before long the offenders.

I am afraid it would be difficult
for me to interfere in the working
as the managers have spent several
thousand pounds in developing the

P.L. Box 2/76

I shall be delighted if I am
able at the time General Pitt Rivers
comes to Kyege, to accept your
kind invitation to meet him.

I think however it might be that
the easiest approach to the spot ^{in the hill}
would be by the tramway from
Pittwater the end of which is shown
on the map I have mentioned.

If this shd be so we should be
delighted to have Dawson & me
to you & Baldwin's child & your guest.

To approach the place from Kyege would
involve a walk from the inn or

CARTREFFLE,
MENAI BRIDGE,
N. WALES.

Ludlow & Clebury Road is nearly
two miles - a very delightful run
however, is a little rough.

Lady Broughton wishes me to give
you her love & say how much
she will like my plan if it is
decided upon.

Believe me

Very sincerely,

Edmund Broughton

We go home on Friday

H. M. V. C. 2
WENVI BRIDGE
CVBIBCEFE

Copy
sent off ⁱⁿ child's
Sep. 30th / 88.

Cheltenham Sept 30

as the quarrying is going on rapidly at Tollerdown I think I had better send you a letter at once about it without waiting for the drawing of the masonry which we could not see on account of the ^{mist} ~~fog~~. Certainly a dense fog with rain in such we could not see twenty yards was not a condition of atmosphere that one would have selected for examining a camp on the top of a hill and I doubt whether we should have attempted it if you had not boldly led the way, but I think we saw enough in peeling our way along the line of loose stones and small earthen bank which marked the rampart to make sure that it was a British camp of the usual type following the natural defences & grew up the top of the hill in such a way as to ~~be~~ command its slopes in the best manner. we could see also that like all British camps the side of the wall was perpendicular or rather in an inverse proportion to ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{level}.

PK Box 2/76

The ~~through~~ natural strength of the ground being ~~large~~ since
the slope is more gentle on the outside & smaller there it is
steeper, on the west side there is a prospect there was
no wall & on the east side ~~the~~ the slope is least and there
must originally have been the highest receipt it appears
to have been turned probably for building ^{modern} walls or for the same
purpose for duct. The hill is now being quarried, but W. ~~James~~ Fryce,
informant I know the hill so well seems to leave little doubt
that it formerly encircled the whole hill and was probably a
well built wall of dry masonry, ^{all round} altho now to all external
appearance it is only a bank of loose stones. Unfortunately the
peasants in digging into the hill have discovered the very spot
on the south side where the wall is best preserved & since ~~then~~ we
able to take a section of it. In so doing they have ^{cut} away, ~~at~~ by
the accounts of the workmen, 80 feet of the ^{old} wall. ~~now~~ to duct must be
added at least 50 feet more since has already begun to crack &
fall down & since is ^{off on account of} railed ~~of~~ ~~from~~ been dangerous, ~~under~~ ~~the~~

In early March the work they have exposed a section of it
on each side of the ~~quarry~~ ^{quarry} and we are informed they beneath
the loose stones on the surface ~~at the base~~ ^{of the} a well built portion
of the foundations of dry masonry, and the work ~~men~~ ^{men} described
to us from it. The best built work he ever saw and if it
resembles other British walls of the same kind I may well be
so, but we must be careful upon hearing as the fog did not
enable us to see into section across from the other side ^{and} on the
same side, we could not get at it, but flush with the face
of the ~~quarry~~ ^{quarry}. Sir Charles Bory de Saint-Vincent is ^{mistakenly} ~~mistakenly~~
in a letter since I saw of this, in thinking that it will be some
time before they do any serious damage to the camp. They are
actually at the present moment cutting away the front of the
stone wall. Since it is best worth preserving and if any thing
could be done to turn the direction of the quarry so as to leave the
remaining portion of this more perfect than the work it
would be well worth the attention, then concerned about it.

I am asked with forethought would interfere in the matter. I may
say at once that I don't think they would because it would
probably involve compensation and it would not be right to tax the
county ^{to that extent} for such a purpose. But I think that locally, as in Hunter
Probyn's own decisions of matter the wishes of the archaeologists can
arrangement might be made that would ~~have~~ ^{save} the best portion of the
rampart. I may mention that at the "Danes Lench" near Northampton
which is one of the monuments scheduled in the act a nearly similar case
occurred since the ground had ^{been} let to an ^{iron} mining company.
The company having worked up to the rampart were going to destroy it
but the archaeologist & others interested in the work ~~refused~~ ^{refused} ~~agitated~~
& the result was that the ^{company} ~~company~~ very liberally determined to make ^{only} ~~only~~ a
small cutting through the rampart to admit ^{their} ~~the~~ railway & carts & then
worked all the ground inside & out leaving the rampart untroubled
except at the spot where they had cut through. Of course this injured the
cause a good deal as it destroyed the slopes of the ground inside & out
and had determined the position of the rampart. but it ^{was} ~~was~~ better than

destroyed it altogether and if smaller of the same kind could be
done at Tiltinstown it might be the means of preserving a good piece
of the wall, the Suints recommend the quarry level been on
any other level of the hill. I think that if the loose stones on
the top were removed from a piece of the wall say 20 feet or
so to the ~~west~~ east of the top of the quarry where I took the section
it would probably show the built foundation and enable ~~you~~^{you}
to ascertain the ~~the~~ original thickness of the wall. If this were
done it would be necessary to fence it round to preserve it. Perhaps
a high wire fence with spiked wires would be best as it would
enable visitors to see the foundation through it and at
the same time keep them from injuring it. If you ~~think~~^{think} this
letter will be of any service in producing the report of the trustees
I very much beg you to use it as you think best. Again thanking
you for a pleasant visit and for the opportunity of
seeing Tiltinstown and your beautiful plain

I remain
Yours faithfully
A Pitt Rivers.

up with yours - and
desires me to send you
this cheque which he
believes is the amount
you paid -

Chick 9

PR Box 2/76

Kate Park,
Tenbury,
Worcestershire.

Oct 2^d/88

Dear General Pitt Rivers

I think we are all
very much indebted to
you for such an exhaustive
and interesting
account of the Titterton
I will forward it to
Sir Charles Boughton
and let you hear what
he says - I wish he
could have met us ^{there}
The elements certainly

were not kind - and I
am afraid your recol-
lections of Shropshire
will not be bright ones -
I hope however that
you were none the
worse for the long walk
in the fog - which cer-
tainly proved to be much
more of an undertaking
than any of us bargained
for! -
I enclose the "omelet"
my cook is vague as

to the quantities and
seems to have manufac-
-tured it by a happy rule
of thumb - I hope you
will be as successful
in making one you like
With our united kind
remembrances

Sir? yr.

James Baldwin Child

Mr. Child has just
discovered when he
wanted to pay for our
Wagonette that the
bill had been mixed

Card 10

PA Box 2176
Boston Rectory . Fenburg .

Oct 2. 1888 .

My dear Sir

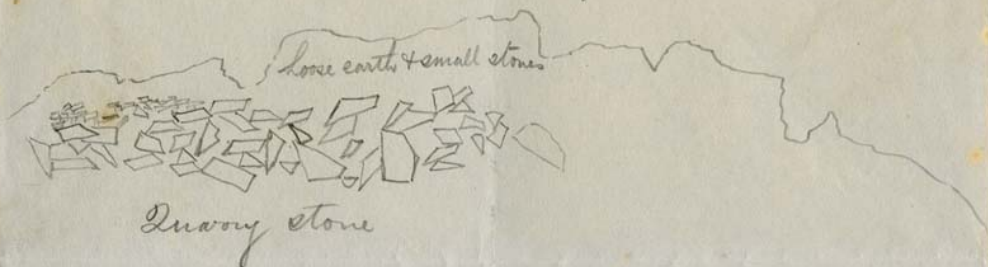
I fear this sketch is useless.
The man is an educated man, tho'
a great lot, and I thought he
would be able to turn out something
more finished.

Faithfully yours

F. L. Joyce.

I trust you were not the worse for
your long day here.

Top of Quarry.



The spaces between the stones appear to be filled up with loose earth, no small pieces of stones used. The greater portion of the foundation has fallen down. The stones used are almost all of the same size.

PK Box 2/76
Blee Hill
Ludlow
1st Oct 1888.

Rev^d Sir,

I trust the accompanying sketch will prove to be what you require. I took it from the top left hand corner of the quarry, and traced the foundation of the wall as far as I could see. I have endeavoured to show the formation of the stones and the position in which they are laid as correctly as I can.

Your obedient servant
Renace

Rev^d F. Joyce
Boraston

Dittonville
Clee Hill

11 Box 2/76
Lyre Park,
Tenbury,
Worcestershire.

Aug. 9th

Dear Genl. Pitt Rivers

Will it suit you
to come and pay us a
visit and the Clee
Hill - sometime this
month - next week
or the week after? -
I shall certainly (both for
your sake and mine)
try to make the accept
a little easier this time

than it was last - and
I hope the sun will
shine upon us -
I enclose an Extract
from a Shrewsbury
Paper - which I
think may interest
you. I should like to
have it back -

truly

Francis (Baldwyn) Gilde

"Crown Place" is the Inn we
stopped at

Are Mrs
Balwin
Chitt

PR Box 2/76
Kyre Park
Denbury
March 7

My dear General

I have received the enclosed from the President of the Shropshire Archaeological Society - Do you think it would be possible for you to pay us a visit again this next summer? - if so the Club could arrange their visit doubtless to suit you. You certainly did not visit our country under very favorable conditions and I think you would find

much that you might
care to see if you had
a few days leisure -
With W. Childe's kind
remembrances truly yr's

Francis Baldwin Childe

You shall have another
Omelet! and some tea!

P.R. Box 2/76 Stokely

Graven Stone

5 March 90

Dear Mr. Childs

I am very much obliged by your sending me Genl Pitt Rivers' letter & have submitted it to one of our most active members & he fully coincides with me that the matter should be specially taken up by the Club, & good photographs secured before any further injury has been done to the camp.

Is it at all likely that the General would be interested

to pay it another visit,
& possibly, under more fa-
vourable circumstances than
the last. If this could be
brought about, there would
be little difficulty in arrang-
ing for the club to meet
again, & they would be thankful
for any suggestions he might
make.

I take the liberty, if you
will allow me, to keep Genl
Pitt Rivers letter until our
annual meeting, which will
take place shortly, as I have

no doubt it would greatly
interest several of our members

Believe me

Yrs sincerely

W. L. Mackay