

written at this length in order
that, if you attribute any weight
to what I have said, you may
have time to consider it, before
you give me your final
instructions on Thursday.

I am, dear Sir,
faithfully yours.

Robert S. Frazer

Genl. A. Pitt Rivers F.R.S.
Rushmore.

Salisbury.

(866)
Gillingham, Dorset.
18 November 1884.

Dear Sir, I will be at Rushmore
on Thursday morning, between
11 + 12 o'clock. I would have come
up to day, or tomorrow, but public
engagements prevent my doing
so. I quite think that whatever
damage may have been done to the
roads, the least share, only, is fairly
attributable to your engine; but
I am not quite sure that if the
principle of payment be allowed
at all, I should allow this
consideration to induce me to
throw it overboard. It involves but
a comparatively trifling sum, & it
is extremely difficult to assess the
precise amount of damage actually
done to a few pounds. My own
difficulty would be rather as to the

question of paying, or fighting, simpliciter. If this were an isolated case of paying £20, and there an end, I should certainly advise payment, rather than incur the expense & worry of a somewhat doubtful fight; but I am afraid that every year will bring its claim for extraordinary traffic or excessive weight, & that the £20 now asked for, is merely the forerunner of many similar demands of the kind, and it seems to me that if the 12 or 13 years, during which Traction Engines have been used over these roads, do not constitute a sufficient ground for claim to have them metalled up to the requirements of that traffic, as ordinarily conducted, another

dozen years will be equally fruitless in that direction. This, in the absence of further legislation would constitute one main argument for exemption from extraordinary payment, & would one would think, be almost as good now as ten years hence. The other side, of course, is the immediate considerable expense, combined with the chance of failure. As regards Mr. Hodder, my own impression was that he did his best, but that he was hampered by the difficulty & delicacy of his position, and I feel perfectly convinced, that, constituted as the Bench was on that occasion, no advocate in the world would have obtained a decision in his favor. There