

3.SUMMARY OF 40 LETTERS AND THE FINAL CONVEYANCE.

No. 1 28th. September, 1861. Hutton to Bragg. (the original letter).

Thanked for the offer of linseed - much better price and quality than he can obtain locally - ordered 6 quarters to last until the Spring. Reported that the surveyors had visited again. He had given Addison Bragg's address. Describes route being followed by the surveyors: starting at Bolton Field - coming from a good direction, but he fears the loss of the better land. Promises more detail if required.

No. 2 8th. December, 1861. Hutton to Bragg. (the original letter).

Mr. Dickinson had visited on the 7th. December. A different route from the September one was now proposed and a very much worse one for the farm. It divides the fields. Hutton would try to get a tracing to send later.
(This is still only the planning stage.)

Nearly two year gap in the record, although much correspondence must have taken place. The line would be progressing from Mealsgate. Matters become more urgent as the teams of navvies come into sight, however.

The necessary Parliament Act was passed in 1862.

No. 3 7th. November, 1863. Hutton to Bragg. (the original letter).

Replying to a letter from Bragg dated the 2nd. November, 1863. The plans seem satisfactory, but the road to the house is a problem. Should it be under or over the line? He has met the engineers on site and has outlined his suggestions which they considered would be expensive. Refers to the problem, if the road goes under the line - what of the clearance? As far as he, Hutton, is concerned a level-crossing "will not do at all". Then states that Bragg himself needs to come and see for himself. Concludes by referring to the valuation issue - current practice based on "45 year" valuation - he might do better. Refers to Moore's estate - they should get more than £100-00 per acre. Hutton is very concerned about the best approach to the house.

No. 4 1st December, 1863. Hutton to Bragg. (the original letter).

Replying to Bragg's letter of the 30th. November, 1863. He advises Bragg to use Heskett as his valuer and Carrick for points of law under the Act. Gives both a warm recommendation, especially Heskett, who has a good reputation for negotiating not less than "50 years" valuations. Adds there is no reason for Bragg to come as he can make a good case for severance. The land is some of the best on the Estate. He offers to do what negotiating was necessary with Carrick and Addison. Promises a tracing.