

WASC 1944

Faversham correspondence
and Returns
1765-1788

W. H. Jones Esq. Master
General of the Ordnance and Forts
Barrington

The Humble Petition of Charles
Hammel Having-housed Master of Her Majesty's Royal
Sunder Mills at Beversdown

Most Humbly sheweth

That the duty of your Honors Petitioner
is to weight and receive from the Storehouse
all the Ingines salt water to carry it to the
Mills and submerge it to eight and weight
it together with the Brimstone and Charcoal
in proper proportions for all the different
Mills daily to keep a regular Account
thereof for the Satisfaction of the Officers
and to attend every Morning at the Proof of
every Charge delivered out and to take an
Account thereof with such duty your Honors
Petitioner has always done to the Satisfaction
of the Respected Officers at an Allowance
of two Shillings a Day he came as his predecessor
before Mr James Morgan now Master Workmen
had But your Honors Petitioner most
humbly begs leave to observe that there
has of late been received from the Royal
Laboratory at Woolwich many Sorts of
refined Gun-Powder Extracted from
Inconceivable

Powder which not being sent in Whole Cakes and which
for want of a proper Storehouse as your Honors Petiti:^{on}
apprehends to dry it by Air your Honors Petitioner
is obliged to carry the Sall Petre to the Steam Stove
and attend the Drying it and then to carry it back to
the Mill to Pulverize it And your Petitioner is obliged
after the Working hours are over to employ some Hours
in the Evening to make up the Accounts of the Day
for which he has requested The Respective Officers
to make him an additional Allowance but received
for Answer that it was not in their power to relieve
him without your Honors Orders, And as your
Petitioner will have a still further increase of duty
when the New Mills now erecting are compleated.

Your Petitioner therefore most
humbly prays your Honors would please to take
his case to consideration and Order the Respective
Officers to make him such additional Allowance
to his Pay as your Honors in your great Goodness
shall think proper.

And your Honors Petitioner
As in duty bound shall
18 Feb: 7 1783 Ever Pray
Referred to the Respective
Officers at Feversham
to Report G. C.

Gentlemen

Office of Ordnance
18 July 1783

The Master General and
Board are pleased to direct that you
pay Mr. Charles Stewart an Additional
Allowance of one Shilling p^o day as
Mixing House Man at Feversham
from the 1st Instant.

I am

Gentlemen

Your most humble Serv^t.

John Boddington

Respective Officers at Feversham

Gent^m
N^o. 61.

You will please to transmit to me as soon
as possible, the Dimensions of a pair of Runners
and Bed Stone for a Horse Mill - the largest Size

I am Gent^m

Your very humble Servant.

W^m Congreve

Deputy Comptroller.

17th Oct. 1787 -

Gentlemen

Office of Ordnance —
18th Oct. 1787 —

N^o. 62

His Grace the Master General is
pleased to direct that you cause M^r Bar^o Bennell
M^r Cowell, John Goodfellow, and Will^m Easton
to go immediately to M^r Walton's Powder
Mills at Waltham Abbey and on their Arrival
there to follow such Orders and Direction's
as they may receive from Major Congreve —

I am

Gent^m.

Your most obed^t.

Humble Servant

Aug: Rogers

Respective Officers at Faversham — Secy

Royal Powder Mills
Faversham 22. Nov: 1787.

Bartholomew Bennett.

Clerk of the Works at this place humbly prays
an Allowance of his Expences from the above
place to and from Waltham Abbey by the
Order of His Grace the Master Gen: 18 Oct: 1787.

To Post Chaise hire from Ipswich		
to Waltham Abbey and Return		10: 10: 0
126 Miles	at 1/2 p. Mile	1
135 Miles	at 1/2 p. Mile	3: 10: 0
To seven days Travelling - at 10 p. day		5: 0: 0
		<hr/>
		18: 2: 0
		<hr/>
		11: 7: 0

Royal Powder Mills -
Faversham 4. Janry 1788.

A Return of Men Entered for
Waltham Abbey Powder Mills, and who are now employed
at this place to Qualify them for the different Branches
of the Manufactory - Pursuant to the Major Congress
Order the 13. Oct. 1787 - N^o 16.

Robt. Wherrett
In^o. Smith
Cha^o. Globy
Geo. Hicks
Wm. Couchman
Step. Sharp
Tho^o. Doury
Isaac Turner
Wm. Mount
In^o. Turley
In^o. Ward
Edw. Hart
Tho^o. Birch
Tho^o. Holmes
Wm. Knock
Sam^l. Knowler

N^o 16.
Men who are desirous
of going from these
Mills to Waltham -
Abbey.

In^o. Terry
Clark Book

W.S.

F.S.

B.B.

Major Wm. Congreve

To His Grace The Master
General of The Ordnance and The Honble
Board

The Humble Petition of Charles
Stewart Mixing house Man at His Majesty's Royal
Powder Mills at Feversham

Most Humbly sheweth.

That the duty of Your Honors Petitioner
is to weigh and receive from the Storehouse
all the refined Salt Petre to carry it to the
Mills and Pulverize it to sift it and weigh
it together with the Primestone and Charcoal
in proper Proportions for all the different
Mills daily to keep a regular Account
thereof for the Inspection of the Officers
and to attend every Morning at the Proof of
every Charge delivered out and to take an
Account thereof which duty Your Honors
Petitioner has always done to the Satisfaction
of the Respective Officers at an Allowance
of two Shillings a day the same as his Prede-
cessor Mr. James Morgan now Master Worker
had. But Your Honors Petitioner most
humbly begs leave to observe that there
has of late been received from the Royal
Laboratory at Woolwich many Tons of
refined Salt Petre extracted from
Unserviceable

Powder which not being sent in Whole Cakes and which for want of a proper Storehouse as Your Honors Petition^r apprehends to dry it by Air Your Honors Petitioner is obliged to carry the Salt Petre to the Steam Stove and attend the Drying it and then to carry it back to the Mill to Pulverize it And Your Petitioner is obliged after the Working hours are over to employ some Hours in the Evening to make up the Accounts of the Day for which he has requested The Respective Officers to make him an additional Allowance but received for Answer that it was not in their power to relieve him without Your Honors Orders, And as Your Petitioner will have a still further increase of duty when the New Mills now erecting are compleated.

Your Petitioner therefore most humbly prays Your Honors would please to take his case to consideration and Order the Respective Officers to make him such additional Allowance to his Pay as Your Honors in your great Goodness shall think proper.

And Your Honors Petitioner
As in duty bound shall
18 Feb^y 1783
Ever Pray
Referred to the Respective
Officers at Feversham
to Report
G. C.

Gent^{le}

Office of Ordnance
22. March 1765

I received the Board's Commands to acquaint you, in return to your Letter of the 14th instant that they have ordered John Dorman to be sent at Faversham, in the room of Henry Chapman, Storehouse Man deceased to commence when he appears at his Duty

They have likewise ordered the 50 Barrels of Sweepings to be delivered at Mess^{rs} Walton's Magazine at Parking Creek and direct you to transmit an Acc^t. thereof to the Office that the Value may be demanded of them

I have also received their Commands to acquaint you that y^e Dimension of Mess^{rs} Walton's Stones for making Powder are as follows Viz^t

The Runners or Lopers . . . 7 feet high & 19 Inches deep

The Bed Stone or Ledger . . . 7 feet 6 Inches over and 20 Inches deep

You are therefore to report if those Dimensions will answer the present purpose of same

Gent^{le}

Respectful Officers at Faversham Powder Mills

Your most humble Servant
John Roddington

PRO/Supply 5/64

Office of Ordnance
29 May 1766.

Gentlemen,

I am commanded by the Board to acquaint you that the sweepings of Gunpowder is ordered to be delivered to Mess^{rs} Wuttons on the same Terms as before, and that a Warrant is ordered to be made out to the Coopers for Fifty Powder Barrels, as also for 1000 Demanded in your Letter of the 23^d Instant, the Copper Hoops & Rivets for which are ordered to be sent from Greenwich, or the Tower.

I

am
Gentlemen

your
most

humble

servant

John Roddington

Respective Officers at Newsham.

PRO/Supply 5/64

Office of Ordnance
11: December 1764

Gentlemen,

The Board having considered the
Petition of the Artificers and Labourers belonging to
Tewersham Powder Mills, wherein they request that a
further Allowance may be made to Mr. Edward Jacob,
Surgeon, for attending them in Sickness as well as on
Accidents, and that they are willing to augment the same
by a Stoppage out of their Pay; and Mr. Jacob having
signified his Consent provided the Board will be pleased
to make his present Allowance up to One Shilling
and Sixpence *pro diem*; I am commanded to acquaint
you that the Board agree thereto, and have ordered
the said Allowance to commence on the 1 October
1764 and to be charged in the Storekeeper's
Disbursements from Time to Time.

I am, Gentlemen,
your most Obedt. Servt.

John Boddington

Respective Officers at Tewersham Powder Mills.

PRO / Supply 5 / 64

Office of Ordnance
11: December 1767.

Gentlemen,

I am commanded to acquaint you that the Board direct
direct the Storekeeper to pay Mr. Isaac Bull Overseer of
the Works one Shilling p. Mile for Travelling between 3^d Janry
1766 and 19 Feby 1767. as p his Bill inclos'd.
and the same will be allow'd in his Accounts.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your most humble Servt.

John Roddington.

Respective Officers at Teverham Powder Mills.

PRO/Supply 5/64.

Gentlemen

Office of Ordnance
3 February 1764

In Return to your Letter of 29th Ult^o to the
General & by him Communicated to the Board I am
Commanded to Acquaint you that you are not to
Worke up any more Powder Sweepings as Mess^{rs}
Walton have agreed to purchas the same as it ab 117
Shillings p Barrel Containing 100 Net pounds each
You are therefore Order'd to send up by the Powder
Vessel all the said Powder Sweepings Consigned to Mess^{rs}
Thomas & Bouchier Walton, and cause it to be deliver'd
at their Magazine at Barking Creeks Mouth to Mr
Hutchinson Strange their Storekeeper there, and require
the weight thereof to the Board, that an Order may be
made for payment of the Value. Inclosed, I send you Mess^{rs}
Waltons Order to their Storekeeper, Mr. Strange, to receive
the Powder

I am Gent^l

To Mr. Hutchinson Strange
Storekeeper to Mess^{rs} Thomas &
Bouchier Walton, at their Magazine
at Barking Creeks Mouth

Your most Obedient
humble Servant

W. Bogdan

Respective Office at
Faversham powder Mill

Received from the Honour^{ble} Board of Ordnance
Two Hundred Barrels of Gunpowder more or less

3 Feb^r 1764

Tho^s & Bouchier Walton

PRO/Supply 5/64

Royal Powder Mills
Faversham 8. July 1788.

Sir,

You will make use of the following
Proportion of Ingredients in the Gunpowder which
you manufacture at Waltham Abbey until further
Orders.

	Wt.	lb.
Salt Petre	75.	
Sulphur	10.	
Charcoal	15.	
	<u>100.</u>	

You are to Corn your Powder from Cake
and Dust of the Mill Charges Pressed together a sufficient
time to bring it into a firm Body - The Dust which
is produced from Corning this first Powder (called the
first Dust,) after having the fine Grain separated
from it, is also to be Pressed & Horned, & its Dust,
(called the second Dust,) after having the fine Grain
separated therefrom, is to be Pressed & Horned. Great
Care must be taken that both Dusts are Pressed
sufficiently firm to prevent the Powder from being
of a rotten Grain. The remains of Dust after working
the second Dust into Gunpowder is to have the fine
Grain separated from it, & is then to be sent to a Mill
to be Worked one Hour, & a Half - You must be
particularly careful that the several Ingredients are
pulverized as near as possible to the same degree of fine-
ness - They are to be put into a charge Tub in
alternate layers - to be well blended with a Stier, &
then to be passed thro' a fine wire sieve to make

as Intimate a Mixture as possible - Your Charges of Green Composition are never to be worked less than three Hours, exclusive of the time required to load, & unload the Mills, & as much longer as you may find it necessary, from time to time to bring it into a proper state. After the Powder is Corned, it is to be Moderately Glazed, It is then to be Stove Dried with such a degree of Heat, that the Thermometer in the Door of the Stove may not be less than 90 Degrees when the Stove is at the hottest - The Powder is never to be Barrelled up from the Stove until it is sufficiently cool, & has been passed thro' a Powder Screen.

I am, Sir,

Your humble Servant,

D. J.

You will please to observe that if hereafter you should have any Stone Mills erected, or any New Water Mills whose Runners cannot go at the Rate of Six Revolutions in a Minute, as your present Mills are capable of doing, you must never think of working your Charges so short a time as three Hours, but must Work them in Proportion to the weight of such New Runners, & the Velocity with which they move, compared with the weight, & Velocity of your present Runners. I think it necessary to give you this caution - because two hours & a half the time you formerly worked your Charges, was not sufficient to incorporate your Ingredients so as to make a durable Grain.

W. W. Newton, Master Worker at the Royal Powder Mills at Waltham Abbey.

Gent^l

Office of Ordnance
22. March 1765

I received the Board's Commands to acquaint you, in return to your Letter of the 11th instant that they have ordered John Dorman to be posted at Faversham, in the room of Henry Chapman, Storehouse Man deceased to commence when he appears at his Duty

They have likewise ordered the 50 Barrels of Sweepings to be delivered at Mess^{rs} Walton's Magazine at Barking Creek and direct you to transmit an Acc^t thereof to the Office that the Value may be demanded of them

I have also received their Commands to acquaint you that y^e Dimension of Mess^{rs} Walton's Stones for making Powder are as follows Viz^t

The Runners or Lopers . . . 7 feet high & 19 Inches deep

The Bed Stone or Ledger . . . 7 feet 6 Inches over and 20 Inches deep

You are therefore to report if those Dimensions will answer the present purpose & am

Gent^l

Respectful Officers at Faversham Powder Mills

Your most humble Servant
John Roddington

PRO/Supply 5/64

Office of Ordnance
29 May 1766.

Gentlemen,

I am commanded by the Board to acquaint you that the sweepings of Gunpowder is ordered to be delivered to Mess^{rs} Wuttons on the same Terms as before, and that a Warrant is ordered to be made out to the Coopers for Fifty Powder Barrels, as also for 1000 Demanded in your Letter of the 23^d Instant, the Copper Hoops & Rivets for which are ordered to be sent from Greenwich, or the Tower.

I

am
Gentlemen

your
most
humble

Servant

John Boddington

Respective Officers at Newsham
PRO/Supply 5/64

Right Honble & Honble Gentlemen.

I beg leave humbly to lay before your Honours, the Journeys I have made, and to what Place, and on what Service, which has been very expensive, which I humbly submit to your Honours Consideration.

act
r of
entry

1766.

Janry 3: From Taverham to Waltham Abby 62 Miles, by Order of the Honble the Surveyor General to take a Plan profils & Sections of a Powder Stove, stay'd 2 Days, & return'd to Chatham and made a Plan profils & Section and Estimate for the Approbation of the Honble the Surveyor General & return'd to T^m: the 10: being - 8 day.

April 12: From Taverham to Waltham Abby 62 Miles, By Order of Mr: Engineer Mann, to get the exact Dimensions of the Stove Pan, & the Manner of fixing the same, waited on the Honble the Surveyor General the 15 with a Plan profils Sections and Estimate of a Shed to be annexed to the Stove as propos'd by Mr. Hall, & return'd to Taverham the 17: being 6 day.

1767.

Febry 19: From Taverham to Waltham Abby 62 Miles, By Order of the Honble Surveyor Generl: to examine particularly how the Timbers were plac'd in Mr. Walton's Stoves, waited on the Honble the Surveyor General the 21 for his Approbation of turning an Arch over the Panns, & return'd to Taverham the 25 being 7 Days.

Royal Powder Mills at
Taverham 10: October 1767.

I am, Right Honble & Honble Gent^{rs}:
Your Honours most obed^t: Servant
Isaac Bull.
11: Decr: 1767. Ordered to be paid
1 Shilling & 6 Pence by the Stockeeper
W^m R. Earle.

Honble Board of Ordnance.

PRO/Supply 5/64

Office of Ordnance
11: December 1767.

Gentlemen,

I am commanded to acquaint you that the Board direct
direct the Storekeeper to pay Mr. Isaac Bull Overseer of
the Works one Shilling p. Mile for Travelling between 3^d March
1766 and 19 Feby 1767. as p his Bill inclos'd.
and the same will be allow'd in his Accounts.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your most humble Servt.

John Roddington.

Respective Officers at Teverham Powder Mills.

PRO/Supply 5/64

Office of Ordnance
11. December 1764

Gentlemen,

The Board having considered the
Petition of the Artificers and Labourers belonging to
Tewersham Powder Mills, wherein they request that a
further Allowance may be made to M^r. Edward Jacob,
Surgeon, for attending them in Sickness as well as on
Accidents, and that they are willing to augment the same
by a Stoppage out of their Pay; and M^r. Jacob having
signified his Consent provided the Board will be pleased
to make his present Allowance up to One Shilling
and Sixpence p diem; I am commanded to acquaint
you that the Board agree thereto, and have ordered
the said Allowance to commence on the 1 October
1764 and to be charged in the Storekeepers
Disbursements from Time to Time.

I am, Gentlemen,
your most Obedt Servt.

John Boddington

Respective Officers at Tewersham Powder Mills.

PRO/Supply 5/64

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1764.

1764.

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To His Grace The Master
General of The Ordnance and The Honble
Board

The Humble Petition of Charles
Stewart Mixing house Man at His Majesty's Royal
Powder Mills at Newnham

Most Humbly sheweth.

That the duty of Your Honors Petitioner
is to weigh and receive from the Storehouse
all the refined Salt Petre to carry it to the
Mills and Pulverize it to sift it and weigh
it together with the Primestone, and Charcoal
in proper Proportions for all the different
Mills daily to keep a regular Account
thereof for the Inspection of the Officers
and to attend every Morning at the Proof of
every Charge delivered out and to take an
Account thereof which duty Your Honors
Petitioner has always done to the Satisfaction
of the Respective Officers at an Allowance
of two Shillings a day the same as his Prede-
cessor Mr. James Morgan now Master Worker
had. But Your Honors Petitioner most
humbly begs leave to observe that there
has of late been received from the Royal
Laboratory at Woolwich many Tons of
refined Salt Petre extracted from
Unserviceable

Right Honble & Honble Gentlemen.

I beg leave humbly to lay before Your Honours, the Journeys I have made, and to what Place, and on what Service, which has been very Expensive, which I humbly submit to Your Honours Consideration.

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1766.

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April 12: From Taversham to Waltham Abby 62 Miles, By Order of Mr: Engineer Mann, to get the exact Dimensions of the Stove Pan, & the Manner of fixing the same, waited on the Honble the Surveyor General the 15 with a Plan profils Sections and Estimate of a Shed to be annexed to the Stove as propos'd by Mr. Hall, & return'd to Taversham the 17: being 6 day.

1767.

Febry 19: From Taversham to Waltham Abby 62 Miles, By Order of the Honble Surveyor Gener^l: to examine particularly how the Timbers were plac'd in Mr. Walton's Stoves, waited on the Honble the Surveyor General the 21 for his Approbation of turning an Arch over the Panns, & return'd to Taversham the 25 being 7 Days.

Royal Powder Mills at
Taversham 10: October 1767.

I am, Right Honble & Honble Gent^l;
Your Honours most obed^t: Servant
Isaac Bull.
11: Decr: 1767. Ordered to be paid
1 Shilling & 6d. by the Stockeeper
W^m Earle.

Honble Board of Ordnance.

PRO/Supply 5/64

Gentlemen

Office of Ordnance
18 July 1783

The Master General and Board are pleased to direct that you pay Mr. Charles Stewart an Additional Allowance of one Shilling p^{ca} day as Mixing House Man at Feversham from the 1st Instant.

I am

Gentlemen

Your most humble Serv^t.

John Boddington

Respective Officers at Feversham

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PRO/Supply 5/113

My Lord Duke

N. 42 Entered
in Letter Book
Page 141.

Last Night in obedience to Your
Command's delivered your Orders to Col. Spry
relative to the Repairs of the Royal Powder Mills
at this place.

I have this day set Doprings Mill to
Work, but owing to the Lowness of the Water
only two pair of Runners can Work.

The enclosed Report of the Respective
Officers will inform Your Grace how long it
will be before the Horse Mills can be set to
Work upon Gunpowder, & how much Powder can
then be Worked in a day from which Statement
Your Grace will be able to Judge of the expediency
of setting the Merchants Mills to work to
provide Supplies for the Demands which
may be made in case of a War.

N. 43

I beg leave to suggest to Your Grace the
necessity there may be for having all the
Ammunition & Laboratory Stores examined
which are at Portsmouth, by the Chief Firemaster
of the Royal Laboratory, as that Nature of
Stores which belongs to the Proportion of Ordnance
in the Battering Train Store house, certainly
by this time stand in need of airing at least.

I have the Honor to be with the greatest Resp.
to My Lord Duke
Your most Obed.
& faith. Serv^t
W^m Congreve
Dep. Genl.

P.S. Col. Spry has arranged every thing relative to
putting the Royal Powder Mills into Repair
Agreeable to Your Graces Orders, in the best
Manner the time will allow.

I beg to know whether Your Grace would have me
hire any Labourers for the Powder Mills at
Waltham Abbey after these Mills are completed.

24 Sept. 1787

To His Grace the Duke of Richmond Master Gen^l of the Ordn^{ce}

Names -	Pay per Day	How employed
Mr. Sledge	7/6	Dusting Returned Powder
Mr. Bourne		Looks after the Storekeepers House
Mr. West		Attending in the Office
Mr. Blaggett		At the Mixing House
Mr. Wanstall		D. - Corning - D.
Mr. Howell		Warder at the March Works
Mr. Jenkins		Dusting Returned Powder &c.
Mr. Tapley		Grinding Salt Petre
Mr. Houlton		Driving the Tumbrel with Powder
Mr. Higgins		D. - D. - D.
Mr. Wraat		Grinding Charcoal
Mr. Beardsworth		At the Mixing House
Geo. Bourne		Attending the New Horse Mill
Mr. Webb - 2		Moving Salt Petre &c.
Mr. Benstead		Attending the Single Horse Mill
Mr. Jefferies		Moving Salt Petre &c.
Mr. Gouge		Charring Alder Wood
Mr. Perry		Marking Powder Barrels
Mr. Dowdell		Attending the Lower Horse Mill
Mr. Cook		At the Corning House
Mr. Hastings		Dusting Returned Powder
Mr. Tickner		D. - D.
Mr. White		At the Corning House
Mr. Bennett		Attend the Corning House Horses
Mr. Spendiff		Dusting Returned Powder
Mr. Swan		Attending the Single Horse Mill
Mr. Coppin		D. - the Corning House Horses
Mr. Hinds		At the Corning House
Mr. Higgins		Attending the Lower Horse Mill
Mr. Digby		With the Team fetching home Alder Wood
Mr. Goodchild		Attending the New Horse Mill
Mr. Silver		With the Team fetching home Alder Wood
Mr. Coppin		Attending the Stoves
Mr. Carvey		D. - D.
Mr. Divers		At the Corning House
Mr. Davis		Moving Salt Petre &c.
Mr. Smith		Attending the New Horse Mill
Mr. Globy		D. - Lower - D.
Mr. Mays		D. - Single - D.
Mr. Christie	1/-	Superannuated
Mr. Sumpter		F. Sadler

Entered for
Waltham Abbey
Powder Mills

Mr. B. gone to Waltham Abbey
Powder Mills by
Order of His Grace
the Master Genl

The Honble Board of Ordnance

Duplicate sent to His Grace the Master Genl

Royal Powder Mills - Faversham 20. Oct. 1787

PRO/Supply 5/113

A Return of all the Artificers and Labourers at this place, in the Storekeepers Department, shewing each Mans pay and how employed between the 14 & 20 Oct. 1787 / both days included / By Order of His Grace the Master Genl dated 18. Nov. 1785.

Names.	Pay per day	How employed.
Millwright.		
Wm Sutton	3/6	Repairing the Floor Mills &c.
Carpenter.		
Paul Gibbs	2/6	Making Sieve Bins &c.
Mixer of Composition		
Chas Stewart	3/-	Acting as Foreman, & Mixing Composition
Storehouse Man		
Rt. Burr	2/-	Looking after the Storehouses.
Labourers.		
Dan. Weldish	1/6	Turning Salt Petre Earth.
Ja. White		Dusting Returned Powder.
In. Baker		Warder at the Upper Works.
Winf. Brown		Grinding Charcoal.
In. Fox		At the Mixing House.
Sam. Small		Flawing Willow Wood &c.
Dav. Hodges		Attending the Proof House.
In. Hobbs	1/4	D. Operating Mill.
In. Crippen	1/6	Charring Alder Wood.
In. Webb		D. D.
Wm. Saver		Looks after the toll of the Cheques House.
Wm. Pierce		Warder at the New Works.
Chas. Smith		D. at the Lower D.
In. Goodfellow		Acting Foreman at the Corning Houses, and taking care of the Magazine.
Ch. James		At the Corning House &c.
Geo. Parker		Attending the Stores.
In. Natt		D. D.
Ja. Easton		At the Corning House.

Vertical list of names on the right margin: Wm. Sutton, Paul Gibbs, Chas. Stewart, R. Burr, Dan. Weldish, Ja. White, In. Baker, Winf. Brown, In. Fox, Sam. Small, Dav. Hodges, In. Hobbs, In. Crippen, In. Webb, Wm. Saver, Wm. Pierce, Chas. Smith, In. Goodfellow, Ch. James, Geo. Parker, In. Natt, Ja. Easton.

Royal Powder Mills
Taversham 26 Nov^r 1787.

An Account of Articles sent to the
Tower to Edw. Griep Esq^r of the Townshend Sloop, as Patterns
of Stores to go to Waltham Abbey Powder Mills. —

Sieve for Salt Petre and Composition	1 ✓
Sample Pan for Drying Powder in	1 ✓
Proof Pan	1 ✓
Charge Tub - Large.	1 ✓
Charge D ^o Small.	1 ✓
Wooden Bowl	1
Wooden Hand Dish - Large	1.
D ^o — D ^o — Small	1
D ^o — Scoopet.	1 ✓
Copper Loading Saddle	1 ✓
D ^o — Water Pot — Large	1 ✓
D ^o — D ^o Small, the Rose 1/2 Blank & 1/2 with Holes	1 ✓
Signum Vitae Bowl	1 ✓
Copper Oil Pot, to be made with the Spout opposite the Handle	1 ✓
Sieve for Separating Gun Powder	1 ✓

W^m Sumpter

NB. The above Patterns are
to be Returned. —

An Account of all the Powder
 that has been made or repaired at the Royal Powder Mills
 at Faversham from the commencement in July 1759. to the
 31. Dec: 1783 inclusive ————— Viz: —————

In what Years made &c	Powder Whole Barrels		In what Years made &c	Powder Whole Barrels	
	New	Repaired		New	Repaired
1759		1017	Bro: up	26,353	1942
1760	643	610	1772	3062	96
1761	1137	228	1773	2980	"
1762	2065	"	1774	3332	"
1763	2593	"	1775	3316	"
1764	2517	"	1776	3513	"
1765	2064	"	1777	3658	242
1766	2556	"	1778	2413	1657
1767	1383	"	1779	1136	3247
1768	2743	"	1780	3701	28
1769	2773	"	1781	3480	"
1770	2495	"	1782	3580	"
1771	3384	87	1783	3415	"
Carr. up	26,353	1942	Total	63,934	7,212

Royal Powder Mills
 Faversham 6th Jan: 1788.

Wm Sumpter. ————— J^r Sadler. ————— B Bennett.

79/

PRO/Supply 5/113

Royal Powder Mills —
Faversham 6. Janry 1788. —

Sir.

N^o. 5.

Agreeable to your Directions we —
have inclosed on Account of all the —
Gunpowder that has been made or —
Repaired at these Mills from the —
Commencement in 1759 to the 31. Dec: 1783.

We have also transmitted —
an Account of the Quantity of Land in —
the Possession of the Honble Board of —
Ordnance at this place — With respect —
to the number of Years purchase and —
what price ^{per} Acre Land will sell for —
near Faversham — we are to acquaint —
you, that from the best information we —
are able to procure. Arable Land sells from —
^{Sh^o.} 25. to ^{Sh^o.} 38. ^{per} Acre, and Pasture Land —
Good Marsh at ^{Sh^o.} 21. ^{per} Acre. which —
cannot be bought for less than 30 —
Years Purchase

P.S. We are sorry to acquaint you that — We are
In. that one of the Stovermen died —
this Morning. —

Wm Sumpter. J^o. Sadler. Sir
Y^r. most Obed: tble Serv: B. Bennett

Major Wm Congreve

th
at
31
=

Office of Ordnance

20 April 1782

Gentlemen

His Grace the Master General is pleased to direct you to transmit to me by the Bearer for His Grace's Information. _____

„ a particular Description of the Process of
 „ making Gunpowder at Taversham — also of the
 „ manner of Refining the Salt Petre and Sulphur
 „ and of preparing the Charcoal — Mixing and —
 „ Working the Materials. You will likewise send
 by the Bearer Samples of each of the Ingredients
 prepared for Mixing — with a Sample of Gunpowder
 that has passed Proof. — All this must be
 done and the Messenger Return by Monday
 Night.

I am

Gentlemen

Your most Obedient
 humble Servant

John Roddington

Respective Officers at Taversham.

Royal Powder Mills
Faversham 17 May 1791

My Lord Duke
and
Honble Gent.

N^o 91

We humbly beg leave to acquaint you that this morning at 5 o'clock - N^o 1 Lower Floor Mill blew up just at the Instant the Charge had worked its full Time & the Millman was about to take it from off the Bedstone - but it providentially did no other Damage than Blowing off the Roof of the Mill.

The Cause of this Accident was the Horses starting forwards after the Millman had collected the Charge in readiness to take it off the Bedstone; by which means the Runner came in Contact and occasioned the Explosion.

In order to prevent a similar Accident we have directed the Millmen in future to loose the Horses Traces from the Mills at the time of Unloading.

We have in order to prevent His Majesty's Service from suffering any Delay, requested the Commanding Royal Engineer to repair the small Damage the above Mill has sustained from this Explosion - which we humbly hope will meet your Approbation.

We are

Yc. Yc. Yc.

W. J. S.

A. H.

B. B.

His Grace the Master Genl

And Honble Board of Ordnance

Royal Powder Mills
Tavernham 3 Feby 1792.

Sir

No 17

We beg leave to acquaint you that this morning about 5 o'clock N^o 3 & 4 pair of Runners at Horse and Chart mill blew up a few minutes before the usual time of unloading them, which were at work on Cylinder Charcoal, by which accident the mill has received considerable damage being totally unroofed and the Sides and ends of that part of the Mill blown out, but providentially the millman escaped with no further injury than a slight contusion on his leg by the fall of a Plank, we imagine it was occasioned from the Smeff being blown over the Leadern Cistern in which the Lamp stands by the violence of the wind as on examining the mill a hole was discovered in the bottom of the place that contains the lamp burnt quite through. — The Clerk of the works will repair the damage as soon as possible and in order to prevent the like happening again we purpose to have the places which contain the lamps lined entirely with lead. We further beg to acquaint you that we have as usual advised the Hon^{ble} Board of the above Circumstance and the Steps we intend taking in consequence.

Major Congreve

Comptroller

We are

Sir

With Respect

208080

W.S.

F.H.

B.B.

My Lord Duke
&
Honble Gent^{rs}

PRO/Supply 5/115

Royal Powder Mills
Faversham 3 Feby 1792.

N^o 16

We most respectfully beg leave to inform your Grace & the Honble Board that this morning about 5 o'clock N^o 3 & 4 pairs of Runners at horse and Chart mill blew up a few minutes previous to the usual time of taking off the Charges, by which accident the Mill has received considerable damage, but the millman escaped with no further Injury than a slight bruise on his Leg by the fall of a Plank.

Upon examining the mill after the Explosion we discovered a hole in the Bottom of the place that contains the Lamp, burnt through; which leads us to think, it was occasioned by the Snuff thereof being blown over the leaden Cistern in which the Lamp stands, by the violence of the wind.

We have therefore thought proper to request the Clerk of the works to repair the mill to prevent the Service being retarded as little as possible; and in order to avoid a similar accident in future, the places wherein the lamps stand, to lighten the mills, will be lined entirely at the bottom with lead which we humbly hope will meet your Approbation.

We are

My Lord Duke & Honble Gent^{rs}

With the utmost respect

Your very obedient humble
Servants

His Grace the Master General
&
Honble Board of Ordnance

W. H.

H. H.

B. B.

36

George R.

Whereas the Commissioners of Our Treasury have laid before us an Establishment formed and transmitted to them by you the Principal Officers of Our Ordnance with the Approbation of you the Master General thereof and which contains a List of the several Officers with their respective Salaries and Allowances proposed as necessary for carrying on the Gunpowder and other Works at Our Mills at Feversham Ospringe and Darlington in Our County of Kent lately purchased by us of Benjamin Pryce Esquire and his Trustees and Demised unto us and Our Successors by a Deed of Conveyance bearing date the 16th day of May 1759 Inrolled in Our High Court of Chancery: And We in regard that it is represented unto us by Our said Commissioners that the Effectually carrying on the said Works will be of great advantage and Service to the Publick are graciously pleased to give Our Royal Approbation and Allowance of the said Establishment which is as followeth, that is to say

	£	s	d
To a Storkeeper at the yearly Salary of	100.	—	—
To a Master Worker at the yearly Salary of	90.	—	—
To a Clerk of the Cheque at 3 ^s per day being yearly	54.	15.	—
To an Extra Clerk at 2 ^s per day being yearly	36.	10.	—
To Two Carpenters at 12 ^s per Week each being yearly	62.	8.	—
To an Hoy Master at 12 ^s per Week being yearly	31.	4.	—
To his Mate at 9 ^s per Week being yearly	23.	8.	—
	<hr/>		
	£398.	5.	—

Our Will and Pleasure is that the said Establishment shall in all things be strictly and duly observed and followed, and that

You

179-10-181

D.K.

You cause Payments to be accordingly made, from time to time of the Salaries and Allowances thereby appointed to the several Officers therein described commencing from their respective Entrancies upon their said Employments and to be paid during their continuances therein By Bills to be made, forth in the Method of your Office and Assigned for Payment out of any Monies in the hands of the Treasurer of Our Ordnance And We do direct that all such Payments as shall be made in respect of the said Salaries and Allowances for the present Year shall be inserted in the Estimate to be presented by you to Parliament of the Extraordinary Expences for Land Services performed in your Office and not provided for by Parliament in the said Year, And that all such Payments in any succeeding Year shall be inserted in the like Estimates of the same Year wherein they shall be made. And for so doing this shall be to you and all others that are or may be concerned herein a sufficient Warrant. Given at Our Court at Saint James's this 17th day of November 1759 in the Thirty Third Year of Our Reign.

To Our Right Trusty & Welbelov'd
Councillor John Lord Visco. Ligonier
Master General & to John Marquis
of Granby Lieutenant General
and the rest of the Principal
Officers of Our Board of Ordnance

By His Majesty's Command

Holles Newcastle
R. Nugent
North

Establishment of Officers for carrying on the Powder Works at
W. Feversham

George R.

Whereas We are given to Understand by the Commissioners of Our Treasury that in pursuance of an Agreement made by Our Order and on Our behalf by Charles late Duke of Marlborough as Master General of Our Ordnance with Mr. Benjamin Price for Our Purchasing of him certain Powder Mills at or near Feversham in Our County of Kent for the Use and Service of Our Ordnance, proper Deeds of Conveyance of the said Premises to Us or to Our Use, have been prepared with the Approbation of Our Attorney and of Our Solicitor General and are ready to be executed by the said Benjamin Price and his Trustees upon Payment to be made to them of the Sum of Five thousand six hundred eighty two pounds one shilling and seven pence being the Money agreed by the said late Duke to be given by Us for the said Premises. Our Will and Pleasure is that you forthwith cause a Bill to be made forth in the Method of your Office for the said Sum of Five thousand six hundred eighty two pounds one shilling and seven Pence payable to the said Benjamin Price. Which said Bill is to be assigned by you for Payment out of any Monies in the hands of the Treasurer of Our Ordnance, and to be inserted in the Estimates by you to be Presented to Parliament of the extraordinary Expence of Services performed by your Office for Land Service and not provided for by Parliament in this present year 1759

And for.

And for so doing this shall be to You and all
 others herein concerned as sufficient Warrant. Given at
 Our Court at Kensington this 11th day of May 1759 in the 32^d Year
 of Our Reigns. —

To Our Right Trusty & Welbelov'd
 Councillor George Sackville Esq^r
 commonly called Lord George Sackville
 Lieutenant General of Our Ordnance
 and to the other Principal Officers
 of Our said Ordnance. —

By His Majesty's Command
 Holles Newcastle
 H. B. Legges
 R. Nugent

Ed:WH

Board of Ordnance £ 5682, 1, 7 to purchase Powder Mills
 near Feversham.

264

George R.

Whereas the Sum of One Thousand two hundred Pounds became due at Michaelmas last unto Benjamin Pryce Esq. Our Superintendant in carrying on Gunpowders and other Works at certain Mills in the Parishes of Feversham Ospringe and Darlington in Our County of Kent purchased by Us of him and his Trustee, the said sum being for two Years then ended; for and upon the clear yearly Rent or Sum of Six hundred Pounds reserved and payable unto him free from all Taxes and Deductions whatsoever /during his Life/ for the said Mills and other things by him and his Trustee demised unto Us and Our Successors in and by a Deed of Conveyance bearing date the 16.th day of May 1759 and Inrolled in Our High Court of Chancery. Our Will and Pleasure is that You forthwith cause a Bill to be made forth in the method of your Office for the said sum of One thousand two hundred pounds payable to the said Benjamin Pryce clear and free from all Taxes and Deductions whatsoever as aforesaid and without Account. Which said Bill is to be assigned by You for Payment out of any Monies in the Hands of the Treasurer of Our Ordnance and to be inserted in the Estimate by You to be Presented to Parliament of the extraordinary Expences of Services performed by Your Office for Land Service and not provided for by Parliament in the present Year 1759. And for so

Benjamin Pryce Esq. £1200 for 2 Years Rent
for Powder Mills at Feversham &c.

Doing

Doing this shall be to you and all others herein concerned a sufficient Warrant; Given at Our Court at Saint James's this 17th day of November 1759 in the 33^d Year of Our Reign.

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Our
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then
and

To Our Right Trusty & Wellbelov'd
John Marquis of Granby Lieut:
General of Our Ordnance, and
to the other Principal Officers
of Our said Ordnance

By His Majesty's Command
Hollis Newcastle
J. Grenville
North



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