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MS/2039

[Collection of letters 1867-1869 re the acquisition for
the Patent Office Museum by Bennet Woodcroft of Bell's
original reaping machine]

Compiled by Bennet Woodcroft

MS/2039

Collection of letters concerning Bells Reaper, and Bennett Woodcroft's involvement in obtaining specimens for the Patent Office Museum. 35 letters.

Box	Date	Content
/1	-	To the Editor of Engineering [re] The "Franklin" Engine, [and re the "Heslop" engine invented by Messrs Heslop & Co, Lowea Ironworks near Whitehaven]
/2	1867 Jun 14	Copy) [Account] Banbury [to] Samuelson & Co, Agricultural Engineers/B Woodcroft, Patent Office, [re patent meadow mower etc]
/3	1868 Mar 16	The Manse of Carmyllie [to] F P Smith, London/Patrick Bell. ['The first Reaping Machine constructed under my care' is probably at Mr Crosskill's works at Beverley in Yorkshire. Bell would be pleased to present it to the 'Kensington Museum']
/4	1868 Mar 27	(Copy). Manufactory of Wheels & Axles, Carts, Waggons, Agricultural Implements &c, Beverley [to] B Woodcroft/W Crosskill & Sons. [The Rev Patrick Bell's 'original Reaper' was sent back to Scotland in 1852 or 1853]
/5	1868 Apr 17	Patent Office [to] F P Smith/B Woodcroft, [re trip and expenses]
/6	1868 Apr 22	London [to] F P Smith/B Woodcroft, [re visit to Napiers]
/7	1868 Apr 24	Patent Office [to] F P Smith/B Woodcroft, [re expenses]
/8	1868 May 9	London [to] F P Smith/B Woodcroft, [re selling his house]
/9	1868 Jul 30	Patent Office [to] F P Smith/B Woodcroft, [re 'Dr Bell's beautiful model reaper' which 'has arrived quite safe']
/10	1868 Aug	Watford [to] F P Smith/B Woodcroft, [re

20 his health]

/11 1868 Sept 30 London [to] F P Smith/B Woodcroft, [re 'bill for a reaping machine made for me to order' which he is 'willing to exchange for Bell's original machine to be placed in the Patent Office Museum']

/12 1868 Oct 1 Patent Office [to] F P Smith/B Woodcroft, [re a machine for cutting grain and/or grass]

/13 1868 Oct 2 Britannia Works, Banbury [to] B Woodcroft, Patent Office/Samuelson & Co, Agricultural Engineers & Machinists, [re machine for cutting grain and grass]

/14 1868 Oct 27 Inchmichael, Errol, Perthshire [to] Mr Smith/Mary Bell, [re sending the "Original Reaping Machine"]

/15 1868 Oct 27 The Manse of Carmyllie [to] F P Smith/Patrick Bell, [re the way the Museum acquired his Reaping Machine]

/16 1868 Oct 30 Patent Office [to] F P Smith/B Woodcroft, [re reimbursing Mrs Bell at 'the price of a Perthshire reaping machine']

/17 1868 Nov 2 Inchmichael [to] Mr Smith/Mary Bell. [She will accept a machine made by Samuelsons, if it is a 'self delivering one', otherwise £30]

/18 1868 Nov 5 Patent Office [to] F P Smith/B Woodcroft, [asking him to ask Mrs Bell if she wants a 'one or two horse reaper']

/19 1868 Nov 5 London [to] F P Smith/B Woodcroft, [re machine to be made by Samuelsons for Mrs Bell]

/20 1868 Nov 9 Inchmichael [to] Mr Smith/M Bell, [asking for 'a descriptive catalogue of Messrs Samuelson's Reaper so that we may choose one ... it must be a two horse one']

- /21 1868 Nov Patent Office [to] F P Smith/B
12 Woodcroft, [re sending Samuelson
catalogue to Mrs Bell]
- /22 1868 Nov Inchmichael [to] Mr Smith/Mary Bell.
14 [She has despatched the old reaper]
- /23 1868 Nov Inchmichael [to] Mr Smith/M Bell.
18 [Having looked at Samuelson's catalogue
she does not want one of their reaping
machines. She 'will either take one of
Bamlett's or the money']
- /24 1868 Nov Patent Museum [to] F P Smith/B
19 Woodcroft. [He wishes to see 'the old
reaper' the moment it arrives. Mention
also of 'the Harrison relics']
- /25 1868 Nov (Copy). Patent Office Museum, South
26 Kensington [to] Reverend Patrick Bell/F
P Smith, 'Curator', [formally
acknowledging receipt of the 'original
Reaping Machine' 1826, a model of the
same and other items]
- /26 1868 Nov Inchmichael [to F P Smith]/Mary Bell.
27 [She would like a machine by Bamlett's
of York]
- /27 1868 Dec Inchmichael [to] Mr Smith/Mary Bell,
19 [re the Bamlett's machine]
- /28 1868 Dec (Copy). London [to] A C Bamlett/B
23 Woodcroft, [seeking favourable terms
for supply of reaper which is to be
given (to Mrs Bell) in exchange for the
original Bell's reaper]
- /29 1868 Dec Patent Office [to] F P Smith/Wm Marwick
23 Michell, [re Woodcroft's letter to
Bamletts]
- /30 1869 Jan Inchmichael [to] Mr Smith/Geo Bell.
19 [They have not yet received the reaper]
- /31 1869 May Copy. London [to] Mrs Bell/B Woodcroft,
5 [sending condolences on the death of Mr
Bell and asking some questions about
his reaping machine]

- /32 1869 May 5 Copy. Patent Office Museum, South Kensington [to] Mrs Bell, Carmylie/F P Smith, [sending condolences on the loss of her husband, Dr Bell]
- /33 1869 May 21 North British Agriculturalist Office, High Street, Edinburgh to] B Woodcroft/Charles Stevenson, [re looking for articles on Bell's reaping machine]
- /34 1869 Jul 20 Inchmichael [to] Mr Smith/Mary Bell. [They have received the reaper]
- /35 1877 May 2 [To] The Secretary, Science & Art Department/B Woodcroft, [asking that Bell's Reaping Machine be delivered to the Patent Office Museum from the Loan Collection of Scientific Instruments]

Inv.no. 1868-15