

# Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad Company.

OFFICE OF THE COAL-DEPARTMENT,

WILLIAM R. STORRS,  
GENERAL COAL-AGENT.

Scranton, Pa., Oct 26, 1875

Sam Sloan Esq  
Post Office  
Mus of the 25

Dear Sir  
Roaring Brook Coal Co. - They ask  
the 10% per cent 1<sup>st</sup> April last - Whatever  
we give them is a matter of grace, and  
I advise it because I think it will  
be for our interest in the long run - Since  
they have kept in operation there may  
be no necessity of going back of it at all.  
Our motive is to get more coal, than we  
could otherwise expect - Their losses have  
no doubt been large for two or three  
years - I therefore suggest that we make  
the 10% on all deliveries after July 1<sup>st</sup> last -  
They gave us quarterly ending June 30 - 39,358.13  
tons - Quarterly ending Sept 30 - 34,490.19 tons  
This would be giving them \$3,449.09, and  
the 10% on future workings. They will  
appreciate it should out longer with  
them without it, I think

Yours truly

W. R. Storrs Esq

I would not go back of  
Oct 1st 1875 -

W. R. Storrs Esq

Genl Coal agent D. L. & W. R. R. Co.

Sir:-

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of April last I wrote you with regard to losses sustained by The Roaring Brook Coal Co. in mining coal for your Company under Contract Feb 21 1869; and to the main facts in that communication I wish again to direct your attention and ~~to~~ solicit the favorable consideration of your Company -

The loss sustained by The Roaring Brook Co. has been going on for a period of three years past - during which period the end of each year has shown a loss and a corresponding increase of our debt as a net result of the years business - so that we owe at this time upwards of \$50,000 - one half of which debt has been created by failing to have received a remunerative price for our product, notwithstanding a most careful and economical management on our part. -

There are two sources of loss; - One, being the extreme smallness of our veins of coal - When we built our works, our three veins were about 6 feet each in

thickness — These have grown less and less until they are now not more than 4 feet each, and we have worked one vein which at times yielded less than 3 feet of good Coal.

We venture the opinion that your Company would not lease or improve such veins, knowing them to be of no greater thickness —

But the leasing is made — the works are built — and we are under Contract for the product — all of which has brought us into loss and trouble —

The other cause of loss to us is in being required to work broken-time.

Roaring Brook Mines in order to be self-sustaining at the price we receive, should have full work every secular day of the year — It cost us a loss of \$10,000 to get through last winter, and about the same the winter previous — Our losses have been made mostly in the winter months, and have been sufficient to cover the product of the whole year with an average loss of 8 cents per ton —

There remains upon our property perhaps 300,000 tons of Coal — and which we wish to mine and furnish your Company; but we do not see how we can go on any longer at a certainty of loss — especially

in view of the fact that we are already  
in debt for a greater sum than our improve-  
ments ~~would~~ could be sold for - It  
seems to me that one more Winter of  
half-time work, would kill us dead,  
We ask ~~that~~ you will pay us an  
addition of 10 cents per ton commencing  
1<sup>st</sup> April last, when I first wrote you  
though our losses commenced more than  
two years prior to that -

The point of delivery of our Coal,  
being 3 miles east south of Scranton  
is greatly in its favor - and this fact  
we ask you to take into consideration.

Since the making of our present  
Contract (Feb 1867), we have mined for  
you 1,100,000 tons of Coal, upon every ton  
I trust you have realized a handsome  
profit -

We are in your hands - and hope  
you will give us an early reply -

Very respectfully

J. F. Hunt

For the Roaring Brook Coal Co

Scranton Pa  
Oct 12<sup>th</sup> 1875