

W. A. Mc Dowell,
President.

Jno. B. Payne,
Teller.

Appalachian Bank.

Big Stone Gap, Va. March. 5th, 1894.

H. C. Mc. Dowell. Esq.

Lexington Ky.

My Dear Father:

Mr. Taggart is just back from a meeting of the Va. C. & I. Co. and tells me that while in the East, he and some friends of his (other than the Va. C & I. Co) submitted a proposition to Clyde and his associates, that is Inman Scott and Thayer, to lease this Moon coal tract here. He thinks that if he can see you and explain the whole matter to you, telling you who his friends are etc, and then get you to write to Inman and if you can conscientiously (and I have no doubt you can) advise him to trade with Taggart and his friends, that it will go far towards enabling them to get the lease. With this in view, he would like to meet you in Louisville at any time in the near future that is convenient to you and talk this matter over with you. He wants to get you to drop him a line to let him know when it will be convenient for you to meet him in Louisville. If they get this lease they intend to erect at once sufficient coke ovens to supply this plant and to increase the number of ovens as rapidly as the market will justify. Any assistance in this matter that you can give Taggart is of course helping us out here.

In regard to that corner lot we were talking of when I was at home last I asked John Goodloe his lowest cash price on thirty by forty feet on the corner of his lot, and was a little surprised to find that he would not part with it for less than fifteen hundred dollars, and I have therefore dropped the matter for the present.