

*Kentucky Union Land Company.*

*Louisville, Ky.*

*R. C. Ballard, Trustee,  
Capt. Land Bureau.*

January 6th, 1890.

Maj. H. C. McDowell,

Lexington, Ky.

Dear Uncle Henry:

On Saturday I received a letter from Mr. Hendrie, stating that a certain interest in the Sewell's heirs, amounting to 16 acres, was offered to us at \$25. per acre, and he wanted to know as soon as possible as to whether or not we wished to purchase. I saw Mr. Carley that same day in regard to other matters, and among other things, wanted to know upon whom I should draw for cash payments in making these purchases. He then told me what you state, that the McDowell Cannel Coal Co. had not materialized, and that he did not care to buy such small boundaries of land. I think that something on the order of the McDowell Cannel Coal Co. should be gotten up, as I believe firmly that these properties should be bought when offered, as you never will be able to get them all to sell at once. By buying these strips as we can, we can keep any body else from buying, excepting such as you can afford to freeze out, but I shall not bring up this matter before Mr. Carley for the present, as I can plainly see that he has his mind well occupied with other matters, probably much more important. My trip to the mountains has therefore been abandoned; but I wish that, if you can, you would try to so arrange it that matters of this sort could be attended to if possible. The principle of the Dictator Cannel Coal Co. and the intended McDowell Cannel Coal Co. is, I think, the solution of the problem.

With regards to you all, I am,  
Yours, &c.,

*R. C. Ballard Trustee*