

14 Jul 1832 George Backhouse to Thomas Key

T Key

Newcastle July 14th 1832

Sir

The above is shipped for TW Beaumont Esqr. London Lead Works – it is part of 1451 bg. weighed off & charged to you in last half years a/c. the remainder shall be forwarded you next week.

I am Sir Yours etc.

Geo Backhouse

21 Jul 1832 Benjamin Johnson to John Prest & Co

Jn. Prest & Co

July 21st 1832

Gentm

I avail myself of this opportunity of intimating to you that Mr Crawhall having resigned his agency, I have been appointed by Mr Beaumont as his successor, and that your future communication will have to be addressed to me.

I am Gentm your most Obt Sert

Benjm Johnson

WB Lead Office Royal Arcade Newcastle on Tyne

PS. The above is forwarded you

(With Invoice)

Order of Mr Butterfield

21 Jul 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Thomas Key

T Key

July 21st 1832

Dear Sir,

The above quantities finish off the Order weighed off in April last-

At Mr Hodgsons request we shall not ship any more Lead for the Lime house Works until we hear from you that you are actually in want of it, when it shall be immediately attended to

I am Dear Sir yours truly Benjm Johnson

WB Lead Office Royal Arcade Newcastle on Tyne

(With Shipments)

7 Aug 1832 George Backhouse to John Dickinson

Jn Dickinson

Augt 7th 1832

I am willing to contribute on behalf of Mr Beaumont the sum of Three Pounds towards the Wall Mr Simpson wishes to be built, but in so doing, it must be understood, that I by no means undertake to make any Contribution to any future repairs. It is my intention that all Lead in future from all the Mills be brought to Blaydon & to discontinue the Newburn Establishment altogether __ you must therefore give directions to the Carriers & ticket your Lead accordingly. I consider the price paid to Newburn a sufficient price to deliver it at Blaydon, indeed the distance is much the same

Yours truly

B

P.S. Have the goodness to apply to the undermentioned Carriers and Inform them that unless the Lead now in their hands be immediately delivered, say on or before the Inst from the they have to receive at the Pay Day

GB

12st 11st

Jn Robinson	4
Jn Henderson	4
Wm Hogarth ..	1
Jn Heads	9
Jn Johnson ..	3
Thos Nichol	2
Jn Wallace	1

P.S.2nd On the 13th Inst you may commence the dely again & next week I will inform you of the day fixed for the pay

15 Aug 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Rundell & Bridge

Messrs Rundell Bridge & Co

WB lead Office Arcade
Newcastle Augt 15th 1832

Gentm

I forwarded yesterday by Messrs Jackson & Co Waggon. A piece of Silver wt 2345 Ozs to your address when received please to advise & pay the value to Messrs Glynn & Co as usual.

I was surprised to find the last piece sent was deficient in weight & quality. I am satisfied you will find the Cake now sent correct in weight and free from Drops. I avail myself of this opportunity of intimating to you that Mr Craw having resigned his

Agency, I have been appointed by Mr Beaumont as his Successor, & that your future communications will have to be addressed to me

I am Gentm Yr most ObtServt

Benjm Johnson

15 Aug 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Storr & Mortimer

Messrs Storr & Mortimer

WB lead Office Arcade

Newcastle Augt 15 1832

Gentm

I forwarded yesterday to your address by Messrs Jackson & Co Waggon a piece of Silver weight 12251/2 Ozs. When received please to advise thereof & Pay the value to Messrs Glynn & Co. as usual

Mr Crawhall having resigned his Agency Mr Beaumont has appointed me his successor your future communications will have to be addressed to me.

I am gentm Your Obt Servant

Benjm Johnson

22 Sep 1832 George Backhouse to Sigar & Champeny

Messrs Sigar Champnay & Co

Royal Arcade Augt 22 1832

Gentm

I extremely regret, being under the necessity of again applying to you for the small balance (£6-2-5) due to the Exors of the late Mrs Beaumont. I beg, most respectfully to inform you that unless the same be remitted forthwith compulsory means will be had recourse to

I am Gentm your most Obdt Servt

Geo Backhouse

22 Sep 1832 Benjamin Johnson to William Parker

William Parker Esqr

Arcade Newcastle on Tyne Septr 22 1832

Dear Sir

I beg leave to hand you Invoice of Lead you have purchased in Apl last the whole of which is now delivered

I am Dear Sir your Obdt Servt

Benm Johnson

22 Sep 1832 Benjamin Johnson to William Thompson & Co

Messrs William Thompson & Co Arcade Newcastle on Tyne Sepr 22 1832

Dear Sir

I beg leave to hand you Invoice of the 5000 pcs of Lead which have been delivered & to acknowledge the receipt of Three Thousand Pounds to Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co which is carried on your credit

I am Dear Sir your Obdt Servt
Benjm Johnson

24 Sep 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Walker & Parker

Messrs Walker Parker & Co Arcade Newcastle on Tyne Sepr 24th 1832

Sirs

I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd inst covering six Bills value together Sixteen Thousand, Five Hundred & Fourteen Pounds 19s/1d which is carried to your credit in paymt of 21.500 fsof lead & 100 Casks of Litharge

I am Sirs Gm Most Obdt Servt
Benjm Johnson

25 Sep 1832 George Backhouse to Storr & Mortimer

Messrs Storr & Mortimer Royal Arcade Newcastle Septm 25 1832

Gentm

I have to apprise you of a piece of fine Silver weighing Fourteen Hundred & Ninety four Ounces & three quarters, this day forwarded to your address sss Jackson & Co which on receipt have the goodness to pass to the credit of TW Beaumont Esqr at your best price, advising as usual, & paying the proceeds to Glyn & Co to the credit of Mr Beaumonts a/c with Batsons Berry & Co Berwick on Tweed.

I also beg to remind that our terms are payment in twenty Days after the receipt of each piece of Silver remaing Gentm

Your most Obt Servt
Geo Backhouse

5 Oct 1832 Benjamin Johnson to William Thompson & Co

Messrs Wm Thompson & Co Newcastle Octr 5th1832

Sirs

I am favoured with your letter on 2nd Inst and beg to refer to mine of the 22nd Septr handing you invoice of 5000 frs of lead weighed off by direction of your agent Mr I Cookson, Four Hundred & Sixty seven pieces. Refined Lead of the above quantity are awaiting on our Wharf to our great Inconvenience. We have no account of your transaction with Mr Key and must therefor beg of you the loan of 436 p[iece]s Commn Lead as agreed upon with him. We have delivd a large quantity of Comn Lead of late without a comment on its quality.

Our refined Lead of the same description as that delivd to Mrs Cookson has been highly approved of by three extensive white lead manufacturers here.

I am Sir your Obdt Servt
Benj Johnson

17 Oct 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Thomas Key

Thos Key

Newcastle on Tyne October 17th 1832

Dear Sir

I have to acknowledge rectg of your letter so far back as 29th ultm advising of your having paid £1000. to Bp of Drm & £3000 to the credit of TW Beaumont Esqr with Batson & Co for which sums we give you credit. I certainly should have noticed it sooner had I not expected to hear from Mr Hodgson, which I have done this morning under date of the 9th inst.

Mr Hodgsons letter was sent under cover to Mr Beaumont & has made a very circuitous route. We are preparing a general statement of the mining a/cs as they stood on the 10th of Augt 1831 for the Exors of the late Mrs Beaumont to be laid before Mr Lock & Mr Donkin, & will thank you at your earliest convenience to forward me a similar statement of the Limehouse Works as they stood at that date. Mr Hodgson will have communicated with upon it.

I am sorry to say our lead market still contin[ue]s to be flat, but I have no doubt if the large holders for sale keep firm for a short time £13 & £12/10 will be obtained. It is clear Maltbys are out of stock & anxious to purchase. The G H agents have committed a great blunder by selling them two small parcels at £12/10 Refd Lead, at which price no other house would have sold.

I am Dear Sir Yours truly
Benj Johnson

17 Oct 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co

Newcastle on Tyne Octr 17th 1832

Dear Sirs,

Your letter of the 9th Inst came to hand this morning after a most circuitous rout last from Scarbro' I have written to Mr Key relative to the account to be met by him of the Limehouse works to the 10th Augt 1831. The Book you allude to together with the perspective a/c Balance sheets and the actual cost pr fother of Lead smelted in 1831 shall be forwarded pr Coach on Saturday next you state £10 – 10s as the value to be put upon Lead pr Fother and on the Litharge in proportion in the transfer to the Exhors when you were here we thought £11 – 10s the fair value. At which of these prices do you think it ought to be returned. We have nothing doing in the Lead Market here. I still hope to see £13 -f £12/10 obtained if the Lead Co hold firm.

I go up to the Mines next Monday & shall be absent all the week.

I have just heard on good authority that Maltbys have purchased 900 f Lead Slag of the GH at £11-15s this clears them of all their Lead.

I am Dear Sir Your most Obdt Servt

Benj Johnson

25 Oct 1832 Benjamin Johnson to John Stagg

Mr Jn Stagg

Newcastle Octr 25 1832

Dear Sir

In answer to your letter of the 23rd Inst I shall be glad to furnish you with One Thousand p[ie]ce[s] WB Refined Lead at Twelve Pounds ten shillings pr fr of 21 Cwt and any quantity of Common Lead you may require at Twelve Pounds – A 6 Months Credit from Date of Sale – We have no refined Slag on hand at present

I am Dear Sir yr most Obdt Servt

Benj Johnson

It is understood in the sale of Common Lead that One tenth part is Slag

25 Oct 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co

Newcastle on Tyne October 25th 1832

Dear Sirs

I have your letter of the 20th Inst & annexed Messrs Maltbys & Co Contract for 5000 frs WB Lead I observe you have conditioned that I am to draw the Bills, they have generally remitted them by which we save the stamps

Mr Thompson seems determined to pick a quarrel after the whole of his comm Ltlead was shipped & there remained only 467 p[ie]ce[s]sof refd to complete his purchase he wrote to his agent Mr Isc Cookson to ship him that quantity of Comn Lead. Mr

Cookson held my order for the dely of the 5000 p[iece]s and on his application to me for an order for 467 p[iece]s Com Lead I referred him to the original order I had given him. He wrote to Mr Emerson to deliver his keelmen 467 p[iece]s Com Lead & Mr Emerson Knowing that 467 p[iece]s Refd Lead was all that remained to be shipped for Mr Thompson sent that quantity. I have been absent at the mines & have not had an opportunity of seeing Mr Cookson but I understand from Mr Backhouse, that Mr Cookson has intimated to him that Mr Thompson will not take the Lead on its arrival. I cannot conceive how Mr Thompson can for a moment suppose that he has the right to substitute one description of Lead purchased for another. The Lead had been delivered strictly according to the conditions of his contract with the exception of giving him a portion of selected Refd to which he was not entitled by his contract. I hope in all future transactions with him all such quibbling may be avoided by an explicit understanding at the time of sale & regular Contract- I think he must be experimenting on my being green in the trade

I am Gentm Yr most Obdt Servt
Benj Johnson

1 Nov 1832 George Backhouse to John Stagg

Mr Jn Stagg

WB Lead Office, Arcade Newcastle, Nov 1st 1832

Sir

Your ltr of yesterdays date is now before me & in the absence of Mr Johnson I beg to say in reply that the terms quoted to you in his ltr of the 25th Ulto are the lowest that can be accepted for the WB Lead & I am Sir

Your most Obdt Servft
Geo Backhouse

2 Nov 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Geddes & Co

Messrs Geddes & Co

Newcastle on Tyne Nov 2nd 1832

Sirs

Your favour of the 19th Oct addressed to Ths Beaumont covering your Promisary note at 4 Mos value £69-9-6 has been forwarded to me. I beg reference to Mr Backhouse ltr to you on the 18th June 1831 stating our payment to be in cash or Bills upon London due at 6 Mos from date of Purchase. We have never deviated from this arrangement excepting by drawing upon the parties & which we have no objection to do in your case on your allowing the expense of the stamp.

Mr Crawhall having given up his situation under Mr Beaumont your future correspondence may be addressed to me

I am Sirs yr mo obdt Servt
Benj Johnson

2 Nov 1832 Hugh Pattinson to Benjamin Johnson

H L Pattinson to B Johnson Lead Works Blaydon Nov 2nd 1832

Dear Sir

I have already very decidedly expressed my opinion to you that in order to improve the quality of our Lead as well as increase the produce it is necessary to have the Ore well and carefully roasted. I have particularly insisted upon this in my report to Mr Bt & pointed out how very deficient our means of roasting were at Allenheads & Dukesfield Mills especially. I am now returning from the West Country where I have been for the last fortnight and the attention I have I have again bestowed upon the subject has but re[n]dered my co[n]viction Stronger if possible of the necessity there is for providing additional Roasting Furnaces if you wish our smelting to be properly performed so as to yield more Lead from the same quantity of Ore & that Lead of better quality than at present. I am fully aware that we cannot accomplish everything wanted at once but I beg to recommend the immediate erection of another Roasting Furnace at Allenheads Mill the cost of which may be about £50 & if you communicate to me MrBts sanction to this in a week or ten days I should hope to accomplish it by the end of the year. It is possible that I may convert the smelting furnace at Allen Mill into a Roasting Furnace by & by which can be done at a very moderate expense but I shall not do this until I have made a more thorough trial of its economy in Smelting Ore. I cannot say anything as to the increase of Roastg power at Dukesfield Mill at present but will give the matter proper consideration in a little time & then communicate with you again.

I am Dear Sir Yrs truly
H L Pattinson

2 Nov 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Sigar & Champeny

Messrs Sigar Champnay & Co

Newcastle on Tyne Nov 2nd 1832

Sirs

Mr Crawhall having retired from the situation he held under Mr Bt I have succeeded him & beg leave to call your attention to the correspondence which has passed on the small Balnce of £6-2-5 due to the Eors of the late Mrs Beaumont.

I have Mr AKeds letter of 30th Augt before me in which he states that Mr Sigar being from home he will on his return lay Mr Backhouses ltr before him which will have his attention we have no ltr from Mr Sigar since that time & as the Acts are now with the exception of this all closed. I have most particularly to request that you will

favour us with a cheque for the amount. On reading over the correspondence of Mr AKed I observe he states that you always remitted for the freight & charges _ It is true you have generally remitted short for the amount due, but in no proportion to any amt of freight or charges. We have never in any instance sold Lead or Litharge to be delivered otherwise than at Blaydon, nor will we deviate from our established rule _ waiting your reply

I am Sir Yr mo Obdt Servt
Benjm Johnson

2 Nov 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Isaac Spencer & Sons

Messrs J Spencer & Son WB Lead Office Newcastle on Tyne Novr 2nd 1832

Sirs

I beg to refer you to Mr Backhouses ltr of June 16th & to your reply 11th July. You are correct as to a small Discount of 6/8d in your favour upon your last remittance of £20 this will reduce your Balce to £3-0s-6d which you will please to favour us with by cheque next week.

I am Sirs Yr Mo Obdt Servt
Benj Johnson

3 Nov 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London Newcastle Nov 3 rd 1832

Dear Sirs

I have duly recd your ltrs of the 31st Oct & 1st Inst & note your additional sale of 3000 frs of Messrs Maltby Sons & Co. Of the 5000 p[iece]s 300 only remain to be shipped, & a considerable portion of the last sale will no doubt be sent off next week. I am glad you have stipulated to deliver any specific quantity of selected Refnd Lead of course they shall have what we can conveniently spare but the sale of our Ordinary Refd must not be lost sight of nor the supply to our White Lead Manufacturers. Of the 1600 p[iece]s Ref d they received 600 p[ieces] of selected, somewhat above a third, & they must not expect a greater proportion at any time. I hope now receive Mr Pattinsons Report of his Assays & will forward them immediately to you. I have sent Mr Bt a ltr I have received from Mr Pattinson in which he points out the great necessity of erecting a Roasting Furnace at Allenheads Mill & states the expence at £50. I do not think it would be allowing him fair play to object to its erection immediately, as we cannot expect any great improvement in the quality or quantity of our Lead if he is debarred the means of effecting it. I shall forward to you the early part of next week a parcel per Coach containing the monthly cash a/c, a/c of sales State of Refy, & Stock on

Lie? I expect a piece of Silver of about 1200 Ozs from Dukesfield in the course of next week which shall be forwarded as you direct.

I have sent the Silver of late to Messrs Storr & Mortimer & Rundell & Co in about equal quantities.

I am Dear Sirs Yr Obdt Servt Benj Johnson

PS Mr Donkin will write to Mr Griffith the Bishops Law Agent today upon the renewal. Had we not better to try to get two new lines put in? I believe it may be done on more reasonable terms than renewing one now & another at Mr Trevelyans death, which we cannot reasonably expect to be far Distant.

7 Nov 1832 George Backhouse to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co

Newcastle Nov 7th 1832

Gentm

In Mr Johnsons absence I hand you annexed sales for last month, Stockton Lie & Statement of Blaydon Refy to 27th Octr (the latest we are in possession of Mr Emerson having been prevented sending one this week by an usual press of business) but will forward one up to Saturday early next week. under another cover I hand you cash a/c for the past month By Jackson & Co Waggon. This day I have also forwarded to your address at the Bullion Office, B/k of Engld a piece of fine Silver weighing 10045/20 Ozs Carriage Paid, Messrs Maltbys purchase of 18th Ult is already completed & I forward Invoice by this Post. In the course of this week the major part of their second purchase will be shipped.

I am Gentm Yr Mo Obdt Servt
Geo Backhouse

12 Nov 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Sigar & Champeny

Messrs Sigar & Co Beverly

Newcastle Nov 12th 1832

Sirs

I have received in due course your ltr of the 8th Inst & cheque value £3-2-d which is carried to your credit. As I before stated, we never undertake to deliver Litharge or Lead at any other place than at the works at Blaydon, nor will we on any consideration depart from it. You're a/c therefor remains with a balance of £3-2s 5d due to Mr Bt which you will please to settle at your earliest convenience.

I am Sirs Yr most Obdt Servt
Benj Johnson

12 Nov 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Geddes & Co

Messrs Geddes & Co Glasgow

Newcastle Nov 12th 1832

Dear Sirs

I beg leave to Acknowledge the receipt of your ltr of the 5th Inst covering Bill at 50 Days value £60-13s-6d which is carried to your credit. I have debited you're a/c with 18s-6d Interest of the amounts of your two parcels of Litharge (sent Jany 27th and April 16th) from Sept 7th to Dec 28th when your bill falls due.

I am sorry you have put yourselves to the trouble of remitting a Bankers Bill on this occasion, as my observation alluded to our future transactions & not to the past.

I shall be glad to receive your future Order, I now enclose your former remittance.

I am Dear Sirs Yr Mt Obdt Servt

Benj Johnson

PS We have a quantity of Litharge of the finest description now on Hand

13 Nov 1832 George Backhouse to Thomas Key

T Key

Newcastle Nov 13th 1832

Dear Sir

Yours of the 6th Inst came to Hand in due course. I will endeavour in future to furnish you with Sel[ecte]d ref[ine]d l[ea]d of the mark AN WB 1 as much as possible. As to Slag Lead we have not at present on hand as much as will meet our engagements but if you be in immediate want will contrive to furnish with one Keel the quality of which I trust you will approve. We shall have a supply in a short time. We do not make Litharge of a second quality, but can furnish you with an article of the first rate much superior to any other that can be produced in the trade.

I am sorry to say the Lead Market here is so much upon a par with you that I trust the present hostile appearance may create a movement amongst the buyers.

Mr Johnson requests me to inquire your prices for lead pipe each 1In & 1 1/2 In & the weight per yard of each also as it is probable he may have an order to give you.

Your early reply will obliged

Der Sir Yours Truly

Geo Backhouse

17 Nov 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co

Newcastle Novr 17 1832

Dear Sirs

I have paid Mr Sewell the Two Pounds Subscription to the family of the late Mr Koppen. Messrs Maltbys have got the whole of their former flatted? purchase- I have not heard of any sales here or at Stockton.

I am Dr Sirs Yr ms Obdt Servt
Benj Johnson

17 Nov 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Thomas Key

Thos Key

Newcastle Novr 17 1832

My dear Sir

I will thank you to send by the ship for this port 150 feet of 11/8 inch Lead Pipe & 40 feet of 7/8 inch Pipe for the use of Allen Smelt mill.

The Lead Trade here is very flat but sellers holds firm for price at £12 - !0- & £12 – common

I am Dr Sir Yrs Truly
Benj Johnson

20 Nov 1832 George Backhouse to Storr & Mortimer

Messrs Storr & Mortimer

Newcastle Nov 20th 1832

Gentm

By Jackson & Co Wagg as heretofore, I have this day forwarded to your address a piece of fine silver containing Nine Hundred & Sixty five Ozs & three quarters with which on receipt you please credit TWBeaumont Esq at your best price advising as usual.

I observe a piece of Silver standing to your debit on the 25thSeptr last- your attention to this will ablige. Gent Yr mt obt Servt

Geo. Backhouse

23 Nov 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgeson & Co London

Newcastle Nov 23rd 1832

Dear Sirs

I have duly received your letter of the 21st Inst advising me of your having paid £265–6s-10d to the credit of Mr Bt at Messrs Glynn & Co to be accounted for to Messrs Batson Berry & Co also £2 paid on you're A/c to Messrs Lewis.

I am glad the experimentation on the Silver has proved so satisfactory. Mr Wm Parker is under a mistake in stating the value of Litharge at £1 per ton more than Common Lead. Messrs Walkers Parker & Co were always charged by Mr Crawhall £1 per ton above the price of Refd Lead. Mr Wm Parker has made but one purchase of Litharge on his own account which he made of W Bt And it must be to that purchase he alludes when he states to be £1 above common Lead. I believe our Litharge to be excellent & it will maintain its price of £1 above Refd Ld. I have had some inquiries after Lead & I hope in a few days to advise of having sold at £13-10/- & £12 – 6 mon credit.

I hear of no sales here & trifling at Stockton since I last wrote to you. The Hudgill Burn Compy are the only large holders here & they will not be the first to give way in Price. Mr Bt is expected here on Wednesday next.

I am Dr Sir Yr mo Obt Servt Benjm Johnson

PS Mr Hall has obtained an order for the Fifty Casks of Litharge which will be deld tomorrow

27 Nov 1832 George Backhouse to Finlay & Hodgson

MessrsFinlay Hodgson & Co

Newcastle Novr 27th 1832

Gentm

In handing you the annexed statement of our stock of Lead, I have the pleasure to inform you of having yesterday sold 1800 p[ie]ce[s] Refd at £12-10 per fr & Comm £12 per fr (including 1/10 Slag) the greatest part if not the whole of which will be refined, I have also an application today from a Stockton House & anticipate a Sale in that quarter in a few days.

Mr Johnson is at present receiving Rents at Hexham & Mr Beaumont will be at NCastle tomorrow night & goes to Bywell on Thursday

I am Gentm Yr most obdt Servt Geo Backhouse

(Copy sent with Statement of Refinery)

28 Nov 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Copy of Mr Pattinsons Letter to Finlay Hodgson & Co

Lead Works Blaydon Novr 28 1832

Gentm

Mr Johnson handed me your obliging lre of the 1st Inst which attentively considered & upon which I will proceed to give my opinion. The subject is one of great

importance & some difficulty but whatever may be the result of our future experience I feel that I cannot err far at present by delivering my ingenuous sentiments which indeed it is almost needless to say I have always done when speaking or writing upon the subject.

I do not think the quality of our comm Lead is so good as it will become by & by for I conceive it is smelted at too great a heat in the Ore hearth & that a portion of slag Lead is produced at this high temperature which of course mixes with the comm Lead & renders it hard. The obvious care of this is to smelt at a lower heat & the question may naturally be asked why this is not done immediately? One reason is that the ore must be better roasted by which it will smelt at a lower heat. This will be altered progressively as additional furnaces are put up where they are wanted. Another reason is that it is impossible to act suddenly upon large bodies of men or to drive them instantly out of plans they have been accustomed to pursue for years. It must be done gradually and cautiously. Now I am glad to assure you that a regular plan has been adopted for bringing about a great and I believe a salutary change in the management of Mr Bts mills the operation is certain & I trust this change will appear to you by a gradual improvement in the quality of the Lead. I speak now of the common Lead – upon which I needed not to have said so much perhaps for all this you were acquainted with before- indeed you are so good as allude to its being in a state of progressive improvement. I now come to that important part of your lre where you say “it is certain what ever may be the cause “that the WB Refd Lead does not bear the same “character in the market as the WB Comm Lead and that the Selectd Refd only can be used for the manufacture of White Lead” a statement which is quite true but the reason of which I will explain.

The Lead Ore yielded by the different veins in Mr Beaumonts mining districts is not all of the same quality much of it is pure Galena, that is merely a compound of Sulphur & Lead without any other ingredient. From this ore which is by far the greatest portion of the whole the very best Lead can be made & this constitutes our Selectd Refd Lead. Other ores contain besides Sulphur & Lead small portions of other metals chemically combined with them as Copper, Iron, Manganese others, which it is impossible I conceive to prevent uniting with the Lead in Smelting and giving it a peculiar tinge when made into White Lead the only plan we can pursue is to keep these Ores carefully separate but they generally contain a pretty large quantity of silver & therefor we are obliged to refine the lead they yield. I have now been thro all the mines raising Ore in Mr Bts Works for the purpose of examining the ore and I have found the quality of the greater part excellent particularly the Weardale Ores. I conceive that a good deal of the Ore which will produce selected Refd Lead has been suffered to Ordinary Refd Lead as I shall take care to prevent this in future. I trust our quality of Selected refined will be increased. From my present experience I cannot hold out any hope of ever being able to make all our Refd Lead of the best quality that is equal to our selected Refd but I hope by taking care to keep all the pure ores carefully separate & by the adoption of a certain very cheap & simple process that I shall very much lessen the quantity of ordinary Refd in time. The Governor & Co are exposed to the same

inconvenience as we are by their Refd Lead differing in quality although they have not so readily adopted the unfortunate distinction of "Selected" & "Ordinary". Their Nenthead Refd Lead will not make White Lead (and a good deal of this they mix with Slag & sell it as Comm) & their Stanhope Refd Lead answers well for that purpose. The purchasers of their Lead use the different kinds for the purposes each is adapted but the Company agent at Blaydon always delivers to each order a certain quantity of Nenthead & a certain quantity of Stanhope Refd Lead for they will not sell either description separately the parties receive the Lead as delivered dividing it by the marks on each kind.

I am with the highest consideration
Gentm Yr mo Obdt Servt H L Pattinson

10 Dec 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Newcastle Decr 10th 1832

Dear Sirs

I have the pleasure to inform you that Messrs Walkers Parker & Co have this day purchased 5000 p[iece]s Refd Lead at £12-10- 10,000 p[iece]s Common Lead at £12- and 1000 p[iece]s Slag at £11-10- To be delivered 5000 p[iece]s monthly commencing 1st Jany next and to be paid for in Bills as usual 6? Mos from 1st of each month. I was absent the whole of last week at the mines which prevented me replying to your lre of the 1st inst. You omitted to enclose (as stated Messrs Newton Lyon & Co lre or a copy of it. Mr Crawhill sold them a parcel of Hudgill Burn Lead lately part of which has been shipped. They must therefor be well acquainted with the expense of shipping etc The freight to Liverpool from this port varies greatly. In the summer season it is sometimes as low as 12d per ton. at present I do not believe it could be effected at less than 20d. I will obtain from Mr Joseph Crawhall- who ships for Maltbys and some others the shipping agents charges and write you more fully in a few days. In the mean time please to send me a copy of Messrs Newton & Co lre Messrs Malbys are enquiring after Lead – may we not try a little advance on Parkers sale.

I am Dear Sirs Yours most truly Benj Johnson

P.S. On the other side we give you the names of the respective parties who are holders of Lead at Stockton, with their several marks. You will see by referring to our last Stockton List that out of the 63,000 p[iece]s at that place 54,000 are in the hands of parties not likely to sell in a lowering market. We must really try to get an understanding with these the only large holders & I do believe an advance may be effected.

12 Dec 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Isaac Spencer & Sons

Messrs Isaac Spencer & Son York

Newcastle Decr 12th 1832

Sirs

I duly recd your lre of the 29th Novr last with cheque value £1-18s- 8d The discount on your payment of £20 was 6s/8d and not £1 as in your statement. You are well aware that no allowance has at any time been made for freight or any other charge, & that our invariable practice is to deliver our Lead & Litharge at Blaydon subject to all subsequent charges.

Your Balance therefor remains £1-1s10d due to the Exors of the late Mrs Beaumont which I will thank you to settle immediately

I am Sirs Yrmo Obdt Servt
Benj Johnson

12 Dec 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Sigar & Champeny

Messrs Sigar Champeny & Co Beverly

Newcastle Decr 12th 1832

Sirs

I beg reference to my lre of the 12th Nov & request immediate payment of the balance of you're a/c £3-2s-5d due to the Exors of the late Mrs Beaumont

I am Sirs yr Obdt Servt
Benj Johnson

27 Dec 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Newcastle Decr 27th 1832

Dear Sirs

I am favoured with your letter of the 24th inst & enclose you a copy of Mr Taylor's lre to Mr Pattinson & one from Mr Henry – both relating to the stock of Lead and Lead Ore on the Western side of the Island.

I have just had Mr Parker – he offers £12/10- & £13- for 10,000 p[iece]s which I have declined. Mr Beaumont who is here has directed me to offer him that quantity at £13 & £13/10s which I have done. Mr Parker will write to his brother by this days Post & give me an answer on Monday. Of course I shall decline further sales for the present which it is Mr Beaumonts wish that I should do. The Refd Lead sold by Mr Crawhall, or rather stated to have been sold at £12/5s cannot have been Hudgate Burn Refd Lead unless it is Refd Slag. I think it most probably has been some Rotherhope Fell as I know from Mr Crawhall that they have for some time past refused to sell Hudgate Burn Lead under £12-10s

I fear we cannot adopt your suggestion about marking the lrs for the office under cover to Mr Beaumont the mail which takes Mr Bts lrs to Bywell leaves before the Post office delivery and it would consequently delay Mr Bts lrs a day to have them sent to the office. All the abstracts etc shall be forwarded to you as early as possible after the 1st Jany

I am /- BJ

29 Dec 1832 George Backhouse to Thomas Key

T Key

Newcastle Decr 29th 1832

Dear Sir

Above I hand you invoice of 300 p[iece]s Comm Lead which I wish to draw your partic attention to. It was made at Rookhope mill somewhat different from the usual process – we expect you will find it of a much softer quality & we are anxious to receive your report upon it . As you have a balance of Cash on hand I will thank you to pay Finlay & Hodgson £600 to Mr Bts credit, & any further sum you can spare to Mr Bts credit with Batson & Co at Glyns Mr Brackenridge is in want of 85 yds $\frac{3}{4}$ in & 75 yds 1 in Lead pipe for Bretton hall which you will please to forward him at your earliest convenience. We shall ship 300 p[iece]s Slag Lead for you next week which is now weighed off.

Your statement of a/cs came duly to hand In [P+1?] which carries up the acct to the time of MrsBts death you make the debit Balc of the a/c £27.622-18s8d our a/c against you at that time stands £27.200-11s6d. This difference arises in your not taking credit for a quantity of Lead Ashes. I do not understand how the Balance of Profit & Loss of the 3 previous years amounts to £3,314-2s- 11dis put to the debit of the works at the close of the a/c. The Lead Trade is evidently looking up. I have refused £12-10 & £13 for a quantity & stand firm to £13 & £13-10

2,000 p[iece]s Refd Lead	wt	3,004	–	1	-/
709 p[iece]s Coman Do		975	–	2	-/
1230 p[iece]s slag Do		1,688	-	/	-2/
60 Casks Litharge		360	–	2	- /

Please examine the quantities above stated of Lead & Litharge sent in the last 6 Mos & say what you consider the average price

I am Dear Sir Yrs truly Benj Johnson

P.S. As soon as you have got the transfer of the Stock at Limehouse completed I will thank you to forward me a statement of it. I shall make the circumstances as public as possible as I consider it desirable that the great Lead Houses should be immediately informed of it.

P.S. 2nd As soon as I get the a/cs of shipping Charges you're a/c currt shall be forwarded

GB

29 Dec 1832 Benjamin Johnson to John Stagg

Mr Jn Stagg Stockton

Newcastle Dec 29th 1832

Dear Sir,

In answer to your lre of the 20th Inst our present price for 500 p[iece]s Refd Lead & 500 p[iece]s Comm including (1/10 Slag) will be £13-10s & £13 – usual credit & weight. We are not anxious to make sales at present & I am induced to make you this offer to keep up old connection.

I am Dr Sir Yrs truly Benj Johnson

31 Dec 1832 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Newcastle Decr 31st 1832

Dear Sirs

I have duly recd your lres of the 2th & 29th inst Mr Parker called this morning to decline my offer of 10,000 p[iece]s at £13-10s & £13 which I by no means regret. The delivery could not have taken place before March or April & I have no doubt before that period to see a great improvement in the Lead Market. I have a lre from Mr Key this morning advising of his having to Messrs Coats & Co £1000 on the Bp of Drms a/c. I wrote to him on Saturday last requested him to pay to you the £600 & his remaining Balce to the credit of Batson & Co at Glyns.

If he should not be able to make the payment of the £600 you will please to inform me in your next . Mr Jn Taylor has had the superintendence of the Greenwich Hospital Mines for some years making one or two visits annually to report upon them. I have always understood that he possessed considerable practical knowledge. I do not know what other situations he may hold. The whole of the Greenwich Hospital Agents have been dismissed. In future there is to be but one receiver who is to reside at Hexham and all the subordinate agents are to be greatly reduced in number. This has caused a great sensation here & is attributed to the result of the Election by the Tories. I believe it is solely attributable to the mismanagement & lavish expenditure of the late Agents which has been notorious to every one.

I understand some of the Hudgate Burn Lead has been sent to Carlisle to be shipped for Newton Lyon & Co at Liverpool. The distance of Blagill Mill from Carlisle & Newcastle is about the same & I should think the freight is in favour of Carlisle to Newcastle.

I am Dear Sirs Yrs truly Benj Johnson

10 Jan 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Thomas Hedley

Thos Hedley

Newcastle Jany 10th 1833

Dear Sir

At present we are out of stock of Lead & decline selling in the expectation of a considerable advance in the Market

Your Obdt Servt BJ

10 Jan 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Messrs Grace & Freeman

Newcastle on Tyne Jany 10th 1833

Dear Sirs

The above 300 p[iece]s are shipped on board the Hudgill Capt Curry who sails on Saty next we shall continue to Ship you the qty at the commencement of each month until June, in conformity to your contract with Mr Hodgson

Yr mo Obdt Servt Benj Johnson

13 Jan 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson London

Newcastle on Tyne Jany 13th 1833

Dear Sirs

I have advised Messrs Newton Lyon & Co of our having weighed off 1000 p[iece]s of Lead & that want this order to whom it is to be delivered, I have also stated to them that our credit takes place from the date of sale, or contract, and not from the date of invoice. This point has long been known to them, however ignorant they may wish to make themselves of it.

Now in respect to the date from which our credit should take place. I shall lay it down as a fixed principal here –that all sales under 5000 p[iece]s shall take date from the day of sale and in all larger sales the delivery to be 5000 p[iece]s a month and take the date from the first day of each month, for the 5000 p[iece]s to be deld within the Month. I have sold 100 casks of Litharge to Mr Bulman to go into Wales at £14- 10s six Mos this with 100 casks sold to Messrs Walkers Parker & Co - some time ago- but not delivd – clears all our stock – and as the Furnaces at Blaydon are undergoing repairs, we shall not be able to make any more for ten days or a fortnight. I have shipped Messrs Grace & Co 300 p[iece]s selected Refd on board the Hudgill Capt Curry, & advised them of the same. I[n] respect of Mr Wm Parkers payment for the 5000 frs sold

to him by Mr Beaumont – I think he ought not to object to date the Bill or Bills from the 8th of July last -& for this reason – The Sale was made in April – below the Market price in courtesy on the part of Mr Beaumont. Mr Parker well knows, that until a recent Period, all Payments were from the day of sale whatsoever time elapsed before the delivery – as you are personally acquainted with Mr Parker, & I know all the facts, I wish you would settle the matter with him. A buyer the other day said – all is fair in the Lead trade – at least so they consider it, and wish to act upon it. Mr Key has applied for a Keel of Litharge & one of Refd Lead (selected) As I have stated – we are out of the former, the latter shall be sent – butt I have requested of him to let his agent here apply for it. I have requested of him to inform me if he has arranged with you how his supplies are to be made and prices fixed - & knowing that he is likely to want a large quantity of Slag Lead I have stated to him – as is the case- that we barely make 1/10 to meet our sales of Comm Lead, which makes it of equal value we may also be unable to supply him with the quantity of Selected Refd he may wish to receive unless he can take the usual quantity of ordinary & Comm with it. I have stated the price offered here & refused at £12-10s & £13 __& £13_ & £13-10s as the lowest prices I would accept. & requested him to get these points arraged with you. Should he require any quantity of Lead before any considerable sale should take place & should that sale when it takes place be upon better terms than the last sales – of which I feel very confident – it would not do to charge £12-10 & £12 for any quantity he may purchase in the intermediate time - & as we can dispose of all our Lead at the price of Comm, we must not in future make any sale of Slag below the price of Comm. This I have intimated to Walkers Parker & Co who have hitherto purchased Slag at a separate bargain & lower price. I go to the mines tomorrow and will endeavour to get an a/c of all the stocks at the Mills & deliveries – we are closing our payments for the last year as fast as possible, but in so extended a concern it requires some time to get through it.

I remain Dear Sirs yours truly Benj Johnson

13 Jan 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Thomas Key

T Key

Newcastle Jany 13 1833

Dear Sir

I am in receipt of your Ire of the 8th inst with abstract of accts. The £ 4000 paid to the Bp of Durhm & the £300 paid to Batson & Co on the 29th Sept was carried to the Exhors a/c at your request as you will find on referring to your Ire of that date. The 300 frs Slag were shipped on board the Beaufoot on the 27th Decr the ship however from some cause has not sailed until today – we have had a brisk demand of late for Litharge, and at present quite out of stock, and must remain so for ten days or a fortnight until the Blaydon – which are undergoing repairs – are set to work again. We send you a keel of Seld Refd this week on your sending a order to agent here to apply for it.

Have you arranged with Mr Hodgson how your future supplies are to be furnished & prices fixed? The last offers I have had had, have been £13 & £12-10 for Refd & Com including 1/10 Slag which I have refused to accept, & shall stand firm at £13-10 & £13. With respect to the Slag Lead we barely make a 1/10 to meet our sales of Comm, which makes it of equal value. I mention these points that we may commence with a correct understanding which I am sure when once understood will ever after continue to exist.

Our last 100 Casks of Litharge were sold last week to Mr Bulman for a Welsh house, at £14-10 and I have since been obliged to decline two smaller orders for want of stock at the same price. There is but one opinion here of the Lead trade & that is of an immediate & permanent advance.

I am Dr Sir Yr Obdt Servt Benj Johnson

P.S. Mr Backhouse has paid the money he recd from Mr Clapham to Mr Batson agreeable to your request.

15 Jan 1833 George Backhouse to Newton & Lyon

Messrs Newton Lyon & Co Liverpool Royal Arcade Newcastle on Tyne
Jany 15th 1833

Gentm

In the absence of Mr Johnson I have to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of yesterdays date covering two Bills value together Eight Hundred & Sixteen Pounds thirteen Shillings & Sixpence which sum is passed to the credit of you're a/c with Thos

W Beaumont Esqr I am Gentm Yr mo Obt Servt
Geo Backhouse

16 Jan 1833 George Backhouse to William Parker

Wm Parker Esqr Newcastle Jany 16th 1833

Sir

Mr Beaumonts agent at Blaydon writes me today, that on making up a/cs for the past year he finds a mistake of 2 - 0 - 2 /- in your parcel of Litharge (50 Casks) deld June last, that he has deducted 13 - 0 - 4 for Fare & ought to have deducted only 10 - 3 - 5 this makes a diff of £1 - 6 - 11 with which I debit your acct trusting you will approve of the same.

I am Sir Yr mo Obt Servt
Geo Backhouse

P.S. By reffering to the Statement of partars you will see how the mistake originated.

20 Jan 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Messrs Grace & Freeman Chelsea

Newcastle on Tyne Jany 20th 1833

Dear Sirs

I duly received your lre of the 15th inst & have now the pleasure to inform you that the 300 p[iece]s Lead of which I advised you were of the best description of Refd Lead, which as no other house I believe can furnish, unless purchased of us, at Mr Keys request we shall ship you 300 p[iece]s more of the same description of Refd Lead in the course of this week of which you shall be duly advised , these are part of Mr Keys sale to you .

You are most fortunate in your Contract with Mr Hodgson as you could not at this time effect the same of the same quality here below £13 – 10 pr Ton if at that price. Indeed it is quite unusual to sell Select Refd without ordinary, comm, & Slag along with it. I was not aware that we had to deliver it at your works. Mr Hodgson in his lre states in the River. All our deliveries with the exception of your house are at our Works at Blaydon a distance of four miles up the river above Newcastle & it must have been an especial favour on the part of Mr Hodgson to have agreed to it. So long as we held the Limehouse works little inconvenience arose. But I fear it may lead – if continued to very considerable. Other Houses may require the same indulgence, which we should most decidedly object to, & I hope your next contract will be that the delivery shall take place at Blaydon & not at your Works.

I am Dr Sirs Yr mo Obt Servt

Benj Johnson

P.S. our last sales of Litharge was at £14 -10- delivered at our Works at Blaydon. At present we are quite out of Stock. But shall be glad to send you any quantity – from one Cask of 6 Cwt to any number of Casks in ten days or a fortnight. We have had an unusual demand for it of late from its superior quality.

31 Jan 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson

Newcastle Jany 31st 1833

Dear Sirs

on my return from the west this mornng I found your letter of the 26th inst, and statement of Messrs Wm Thompson & Co which is correct, & credit them with £1226 – 14s-3d paid Glyn & Co.

Messrs Locke Blackett & Co applied to purchase this mornng but declined at £13 & £13-10. I have not heard of any sales having been effected in this quarter since I last wrote.

B Johnson

2 Feb 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Newcastle Feby 2nd 1833

Dear Sirs

I duly receive your lre of the 31st inst & note your having paid to Glyn & Co for Mr Bts a/c with Batson Berry & Co £274 -5s 2d received from Messrs Grace & Freeman for which sum we give them credit, 300 f[othe]rs refined Lead shipped aboard the Esther for Messrs Grace & Freeman will leave this port on Monday next & I expect to ship 20 Casks of Litharge in ten days. Mr Keys a/c Currt for the Limehouse Works up to the 31st Dec 1832 was sent to him, which he stated to be correct. We can form no opinion of the accuracy of his statemt of stock remaining at the Works at that date. I stated to you in a former lre that we were charged at 21s/.. a Keel or 300 p[iece]s river charges all other pay 25s/.. which rate Mr Key will have to pay in future. I have certainly sold a small quantity – 4 Tons of ordinary Refd Lead at £13-10 and had today two applications to purchase, but cannot obtain more than £12-10 & £13- which I have refused. You will perceive the Stockton is gradually diminishing I send you our Stock on hand on the 31st Decr last & will next week hand you a prospective a/c of our probable produce for he next six months & also a prospective a/c of the Receipts and Payments for that time.

I have no doubt Messrs Grace & Freeman will readily come into our arrangement. Knowing they cannot opbtain Lead to suit their purpose so well from any other quarter. It would not be worth wile to alter the conditions of their last purchase. Mr Fenwick the Bps mine Agent was here on Thursday last to meet Mr Donkin Geo & Mr Crawhall and myself. We came to no agreemt offered him £2000 to renew – one life. He has to consult his Master & will see Mr Donkin in a few days. I fear he will not come below £5000 & would recommend Mr Bt to give him that sum in case the Bp will allow a new life to be put in lieu of Sir Jn Trevellian- I wrote to Mr B[eaumon]t after our interview.

Mr Bt wishes to draw out £10,000 or £15,000 out of the Lead a/c which I have requested him to name to you,

I am Dr Sirs Yr mo truly Benj Johnson

5 Feb 1833 Benjamin Johnson to John Allport

Mr Jn Allport London

WB Lead Office Newcastle Feby 5th 1833

Sir

I will thank you to ship six Hogsheads of the best bone ashes, of the same fineness as the last parcel you sent, provided you can ship them by one of our traders in a week from this date, & advise by return of post to that effect.

Your Obt Servt BJ

5 Feb 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Messrs Grace & Freeman

Newcastle on Tyne Feby 5th 1833

Dear Sirs

The above are shipped on board the Esther Capt Garbutt who sails tomorrow, and are part of the 3000 p[iece]s you purchased of Mr Key. We shall ship 300 p[iece]s more next week and 20 Casks of Litharge. I am Dr Sirs YrMo Obdt Servt

Benj Johnson

(with Invoice of 300 frs)

5 Feb 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Newcastle Feby 5th 1833

Dear Sirs

I have duly recd your lre of the 1st inst advising of your having recd Two Thousand Pounds from Mr Thos Key on Mr Beaumonts a/c, and paid the same to his credit with Batson Berry & Co at Glyns & Co. The Hudgill Co have sold 3000 p[iece]s at £ 13. I have not heard of any other sales.

I am Dr Sirs Yr mo Obdt Servt

Benj Johnson

5 Feb 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Thomas Key

Thos Key Esq London

Newcastle on Tyne Feby 5th 1833

My dear Sir

Mr Brakenridge informs me he has not received the Lead pipes wanted at Bretton Hall of which I advised you under date of Decr 29th. Will you be so good as to write to him & explain why they have not been sent.

Mr Hodgson in his last lre states that you are prevented closing your lead a/c of last year, wanting the river charges here.

The Keel dues are 21s/ pr Keel of 300 p[ieces]scharged to us, but all other parties pay & have paid 25s/. I suppose the large quantity was the means of getting it done at a lower rate than our neighbours. We have to give Mr Josh Crawhall an order for 300 p[iece]s Slag which is shipped today, & will leave the river tomorrow. I shall be able to ship the Litharge next week provided we get to work tomorrow and which expect will be the case.

The Hudgill Co have sold 3000 p[iece]s refd at £13

Yrs truly

Benj Johnson

6 Feb 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Locke & Blackett

Cleveland Ho 6th Feby 1833

Sirs

In reply to you inquiry just received for my price of Refined Lead, I am willing to dispose of two Marks ad of Refd Lead at the same price I last sold, viz £13 pr Stockton fodder payment by Bill at 3 Mos. Waiting your reply

I remain Sirs

Yr Obt Servt

To Messrs Lock Blackett & Co Cleveland

7 Feb 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Campbell & Co

Messrs Campbell & Co

WB Lead office Feby 7th 1833

Sirs

Present price of WB Lead

Refined £13 – 10s

Common & Slag £13 per Fodder

In the proportion of 1/3 refined 2/3 comm including the Slag.

Litharge £14 – 10s pr Ton

Delivered at the works at Blaydon at six months credit from date of sale.

The above are the prices of the day

I am Sirs Yr mo obt Servt Benj Johnson

11 Feb 1833 George Backhouse to Storr & Mortimer

Feby 11/33

Gentm

This day I forward you per Jackson & Co a piece of fine Silver containing 1434 Ozs with the value of which at your best price will thank you to credit the Acco of TWBeaumont Esq & advise as usual.

Your acknowledgement of Rect of a piece of silver sent you on the 29 Ulto is wanting.

I am Sir

Messrs Storr & Mortimer

GB

16 Feb 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Feby 16th 1833

Messrs Finlay & Hodgson

I duly received your letters of the 10th & 11th Inst. I now have your own bankers A/c up to the close of the year. I have requested them to send you a Monthly A/c in future. [?]rw are already in possession of my cash A/cs up to the end of Jany. I also send a prospective acct of Receipts & Payments up to the end of Octr next & a prospective Lead A/c to the end of May by which time the 10,000 Bings smelted by the Hudgill Co will be completed. I have not taken into a/c any payments from Mr Key on A/c of the Limehouse works or on his own A/c which you can best obtain from him. The general annual A/c shall be made out & sent as soon as finished. The Exorships A/c for the Limehouse Works you will receive next week.

The drawing at Allenheads is all let & a portion of the Weardale. I hope in a very short time the whole of the drawing will be let. I will request the Messrs Crawhall to send you a statement of the expected saving by this arrangement over the old system, which will be considerable.

I understand WalkersParker & Co purchased a large qty of the Lead a short time back price or qty at present not known. Believed to be £13 & £12/10. You will observe the dates of payments marked with red ink in the prospective A/cs of Messrs Maltbys agreeable to their contract.

I am sir BJ

20 Feb 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Isaac Cookson

WB Lead Office 20nFeby 1833

Dear Sir

On looking over our stock of lead at Blaydon I find we cannot at present spare more than 1000 p[iece]s of Common Lead - and in offering that qty to Mr Thompson I am now deviating from our usual mode of Sales & must not be considered as a president [sic] for future Sales.

The price for 1000 p[iece]s including one thenth slag will be £13 Six Mos Credit from date of Contract or 21/2 p Cent for Cash

I am Sir BJ

Is Cookson Esqr

20 Feb 1833 Benjamin Johnson to R Blackbird

Dear Sir

Feby 20 / 33

Our present price of Refined Lead is £13-10/- delivd from our works at Blaydon. Six months credit from the date of contract or 21/2 percent disc for cash.

Yrs Sir BJ

R Blackbird Esq

20 Feb 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co

Feby 20 / 33

Dear Sirs,

I have an application from Mr Aldm Thompsons's agent at this place to purchase 2000 p[iece]s Common Lead and altho' I should at any other time refuse to sell Common without the usual portion of Refined. I offered him 1000 p[iece]s at £13 Six Mos Credit hoping to establish the price. This he refuses to give but will communicate with Mr Thompson. I have also had an application from Hull for Ref Lead. I imagine for exportation. All buyers are looking for an advance and generally admit that £13 and £13/10 must be submitted to.

I am Sir BJ

P.S. On referring to your letter of 17 Jany I find you state that you have settled with Mr Parker that the Bills are to be from the 8th July only he wishes for the convenience of his payts to have one Months interest added, so as to make them fall due in March April & May. I considered the whole amount due from the 8 July, which would make two months Interest due on the second Bill and three on the third. If Mr Parker would pay the amount with interest of the three Bills when due into Glynns to Mr Bts credit with Batson's in Cash it would answer our purpose quite as well as drawing Bills upon him. Please to suggest this to him.

20 Feb 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Feby 23 / 33

Dear Sirs,

Above I hand you Inv of 300 p[ie]ce[s] of Refd Lead shipped on board the Hudgill. Lrn the other side a corrected Inv. Of 300 p[ie]ce[s] advised of under date of Feby 5 which was calculated at per fodder & should have been at per ton.

I am dear Sir

BJ

Messrs Grace & Freeman

23 Feb 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co

Newcastle Feby 23 1833

Dear Sir

In answer to your lrs of the 19th & 20th inst I now hand you a copy of abstract of acct of the Limehouse works sent to me by Mr Key in Novr last. Also a balance of acct due from the Limehouse Works 10th Augt 1831 & Acct current since Mr Keys acct is not a distinct acct of Mr Beaumonts liabilities to the legaties so far as the Limehouse Works are concerned. The simple statement of Mr Beaumonts liability on account of those works will be the value of the Stock on Hand, the amount of recoverable debts, Cash in Hand and value of Machinery on the 10th Augt 1831 less by sundry payments then due.

I also send you an Abstract Acct of Stock at the Mines and Mills at that period.

Mrs Beaumont having devised effects sufficient to meet the Payment of the Legacies, & Mr Beaumont having administerd to her Will, & made made himself liable to the Payment. I conceive two Accts must be opened – The one Mr Bt as Exor of Mrs Bt in acct with the Estates and Effects of the Testatrix.

And Mr Bt as above in Acct with the Legatees under the Will. Mr Donkin & myself are preparing a statement of all matters relating to the Payment of the Legacies and a general statement of Mr Bt affairs. In respect to my accts of Monthly payments for July & Novr I beg reference to my lres of Aug 18th and Decr 3rd the dates on which those accts were forwarded from this office, and which are specially indorsed upon the backs of the copies by Mr Backhouse as sent on those days.

Messrs Maltby & Co Payments fall due as stated in the prospective acct I sent you on the 16th inst. By reffering to your copy of their Contract dated Decr 12th 1832 you will find that the payment is to be in their acceptances falling due 8 months from the date of Contract.

The lead sent to Messrs Grace & Freeman has been and will be of the best description of refined Lead, and you can explain to them why I never use the term selected.

No Bills have been drawn on acct of sums due from Messrs Maltby or Mr Wm Parker.

Mr Pattinson has not returned from the Mills, as soon as I have an opportunity of seeing him I will explain the cause of the extra quantity of refined Lead and the

means to be adopted to remedy it. The annual accts are in hand and shall be sent in a few days.

I am Sir BJ

23 Feb 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Richard Shortbridge

Richd Shortridge Esq

WB Lead Office Newcastle Feby 23 1833

Dear Sir

I beg leave to hand you Invoice of 100 Casks of Litharge which you purchased of Mr Backhouse in June last. Our present Stock is of very superior quality and will thank you to send for it at your earliest convenience & favour me with a remittance the amt.

(With estimated weight) I am Etc BJ

27 Feb 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Caleb Wilson

Mr Caleb Wilson Sunderland

WB Lead Office 27 feby 1833

Dear Sir

Messers WmFerry & Co Glass Manufacturers at Carrs Hill, a branch of the Deptford Glass Company have applied to purchase a quantity of Litharge, & have referred me to you as to the credit of their House.

May I beg the favour that you will give me what information you may possess as to their stability as Merchants.

I am Dear Sir BJ

The same to Mr Richardson Bp Wearmo. with alteration of names GB

2 Mar 1833 Benjamin Johnson to William Parker

Wm Parker

2 Mar 1833

Dear Sir,

Above I hand you Invoice of 2000frs WB Lead sold in Decr last, and annex you a Statement of Acco of 5000 p[ie]ce[s] of Lead & 200 Cks of Litharge purchased in April last with one months Int & charges as requested by you & settled by Mr Hodgson. The first payment which falls due on the 8th Inst you will please pay in Cash to Messrs Glyn & Co to the credit of Mr Bt with Bateson & Co & I will draw upon you for the remaining Balce as p Statement.

I am Sir BJ

2 Mar 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Grace & Freeman

WB Lead Off Newcastle 2 Mar / 33

Dear Sirs

Above I hand you Inv of 20 Csks Lithg & 300 frs Refd Lead. The Shipping charges on the Lith will be forwarded by the firm Mr Hall the Shipping Agt We shall ship 300 p[iece]s next week & 300 p[iece]s the week following. Pt of qty sold you by Mr Key. We shall be glad to recve your further orders for Lith which you will find of very superior quality.

I am Sir BJ

2 Mar 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

2nd Mar 1833

Dear Sirs!

I duly recd your letters of the 27 & 28 Ulto I shall forward per Coach tomorrow my annual acct & Cash & Sales A/c for last Month. I have written to Mr Parker to request he will pay into Glyns & Co to Mr Bts credit with Batson & Co the first payment due the 8th Inst. upon his purchase in Apr last. I shall draw upon him in two Bills at 1 & 2 Mos from 8th Inst. for the Balance & forward them to you for his acceptance. I cannot give you any positive information upon the qty of Com Lead we can make for a few days. Mr Pattinson is now experimenting upon it & you shall have the result as soon as I receive it.

You will no doubt have heard of the Company's Sale of 5000 p[iece]s to Mr Thompson & 5000 p[iece]s to Messrs Maltby at £12/10 & £13. It really is a pity they give way to the Purchasers in this way. One week's firmness on their part wd establish the price at £13 & £13.10/-

I have two parties here holding back until a Sale has been effected at that price, not wishing to be the first to advance the market the Co. selling at that price

I am Sir BJ

7 Mar 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Finlay Hodgson & Co

March 7 / 33

Dear Sirs

I am in rect Of your Ire of the 5th Inst this morning & note your Sale of 1500 p[iece]s of Lead to Walkers at £13 & £13/10 to deliver in Apl May & June. I contracted yesterday with Messrs James & Co of this place for two to four thousand pieces at the same price. Payment in cash Six Months from that date. It will be principally taken in Refd Lead. I want this to be filled up this week.

Mr Pattinson is preparing a report upon the Common Lead. It shall be sent you in a few days. I believe we must endeavour to abstract the silver from the Ref[in]able Lead by a more speedy process & convert a portion of it which the Silver has been so exhausted into Common Lead. Mr Pattinson is going to take out a Patent for the Process on his own account. Mr Beaumont will of course have the benefit of the discovery (under his Agreement with Mr Pattinson) clear of any charge.

Can you favour me with one of mr Walter Hales prospectuses.

I am Sir BJ

9 Mar 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Finlay & Co

Mar 9th / 33

Dear Sirs

I have duly recd yr letter of the 7th Inst a& now inclose two Bills together value £3,011. 14-5 for Mr Parker's acceptance. I wrote Mr Parker another 2nd Inst requestg him to pay £1505.4.7 in Cash yesterday to Glyns & Co to Mr Bts credit with Batson & Co. You will oblige me by ascertaining that he has done so advising me of it & enclosing the accepted Bills.

In respect to the Accts you request to have in advance it is quite out of my power to get them made out before Mr Donkin leaves – say Wednesday or Thursday next. The Accts for the quart Pay[ment]s in Apl next have not been recd from the sevl Agents & will not arrive until the middle or end of next week. These form as you know a great portion of the outlay in working the Mines & Mills for the Year ending Sepr 1832 & it will require some time make out a correct Account such as Mr Bt can lay before his Brs & Srs.

You are in possession of a prospective Acct of the probable quantity of Lead which will be produced to May next, & if necessary you shall have it to Octmas (sic) & knowing how we stand with our Bankers you may come to a pretty accurate calculation what money Mr Bt will be able to withdraw from the Lead a/c this Year. It will of course in in some measure depend upon the price we obtain for Lead. I would assume that Lead will still from the known decrease of Stock. I do not think the price on our Stock of Lead at the close of last Year can be taken below £11-10/-

The premises in Tooley Street being Leasehold are liable to the Payment of the Legacies. The Limehouse Works are not liable as Mr Donkin will explain. I have declined selling more Lead in large quantities until we can more fully ascertain what Common Lead will be produced by Mr Pattinson's new System. I saw it in operation

yesterday and have no doubt of its success. It will greatly improve the quality of our Common Lead & we expect to make it available for the best description of White Lead. As soon as we can send Mr Key a Keel of it, it shall be shipped. I expect in a week or at most ten days.

I am Sir BJ

9 Mar 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Cox, Payser & Co

Cox, Payser & Co Derby

Mar 9 / 33

In reply to your letter of the 6 Inst our present price of WB Litharge is £14/10 per ton dld at our Works at Blaydon. Credit Six Mos from date of Contract.

Refd Lead £13-10/- Common £13 at which avail & delivery I can offer you 3000 frs in the proportion of 1/3 Refd & 2/3 Com & any quantity of Litharge you may want. Our very small stock Lead at present prevents me offering a larger quantity.

I am Sir BJ

P.S. Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co have by no means the exclusive Sale of Mr Beaumonts Lead. Your orders here will be at all times duly attended to.

9 Mar 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Grace & Freeman

Mar 9 / 33

Dr Sirs

Above you have Invoice of 300 frs Ref Lead shipped on board the <Britain Capt Wise> which will sail tomorrow.

I am Sir BJ

13 Mar 1833 Benjamin Johnson to William Hodgson

Wm Hodgson

Mar 13th 1833

I am favd with your letter of 11th March. I am decidedly of the opinion that we had better hold from selling large parcels for the next Month or six weeks - unless we can obtain £14 to deliver in June and July. I think you may fairly state that we shall not be in stock before that time that we do not wish to make prospective sales in the present state of the market. This should be made known to the Lead Co who no doubt will be glad to remedy their late error by keeping up the market. It will take a month or six to give Mr Ps Process a fair trial and on its success depends the increased quantity of our

common lead. Every renewed experiment convinces me the more of its great importance both as to the improvement of the comn Lead in quality, and the application of it for the best description of white lead. The quality of the refd lead will be depreciated, but the quantity will be reduced one half or more.

Messrs Cox Payser & Co have applied to me for the price of Litharge and Lead. I have offered them 3000 frs at £13 and £13-10. Six Mos credit from date of contract and Litharge at £14.10- From the general competition in the Litharge trade I have since been induced to offer it at £14. Mr Parker applied to purchase to purchase last week but declined at £14-10. they are about to coomence manufacturing. Mr P also enquired if I would make them an offer of Lead at £13 and £13.10, which I declined stating our deficiency of stock and objection at present to make prospective sales. I offered Mr P a bet of a new G1 nt that we would sell lead at £14 within three months which he declined. Messrs Cookson are also going to manufacture litharge. I shd like to blight their prospects of progress.

Stockton list sent.

16 Mar 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

[Note: The following letter is hatched out in the original]

Messrs Grace & Freeman

Mar 16 / 33

Dr Sirs

Above I hand you Invoice of Lead Shipped on board the Esther.

I am this morning advised by Messrs Finlay & Hodgson of you having pad them 353-13-6 for 300frs of lead & 20 Casks of Litharge shipped on the 21st & 28 feby deducting 9.3-10 Disc & £4- 8/- Lighterage.

I am aware of your agreement with Mr Key for 3600 frs was that the lead should be delivered at your works at Chelsea – but your contract with Mr Hodgson distinctly states – to be delivered in the River Thames. By this I understand in what is called the Pool. You will oblige me by explaining this point. BJ

16 Mar 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Finlay& Co

Mar 16 / 33

Dr Sirs

I have duly recd your letter of the 14th Inst covering Mr W Parkers' two accepted Bills of Contract for 1500 p[iece]s of Lead sold them on the 8th Inst.

I note your receipt of £353.15.4 from Grace & Freeman & your payment of that sum to Mr Beaumonts Credit with Batson & Co at Glyn & Cos.

Our present deficiency of Common Lead arises from all or the greater part of the Ore at the sevl Mills being of a description to make Ref Lead that is containing a quantity of Silver worth Refining. I hope a short time will put us in our usual stock.

BJ

16 Mar 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Grace & Freeman

Mar 16 / 33

Dr Sirs

Above I hand you Invoice of Refined Lead (300 p[iece]s) Shipped on board the Esther.

Mr Hodgson advises me this morning of you having paid him £353.15.4 for 300 p[iece]s of Lead & 20 Casks of WB Litharge shipped on the 21st & 28 feby which sum is carried to the credit of your account.

BJ

19 Mar 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Mar 19 1833

In answer to your letter of 15th Inst. The Mark WB [within an oval] is put upon all the lead refined at Blaydon to distinguish it from the reld lead made at Dukesfd and Allen Mills. The 140 p[iece]s alluded to by Messrs Maltby must therefore be reld Lead. I will thank you to ascertain from them by what ship they recd and at what date. I am surprised at Mr W Parkers ire at our selling to G&F. He must know that they have long been purchasers of us, and he might as well object to our sales to L. B & Co or James & Co. I will thank you to request Mr Key to pay £1000 to the Bishop on the 31st inst. Walkers Parker & Co are shipping largely to Liverpool port. Last Week Mr Parker has purchased a parcel of Litharge from the Lead Company. We must lower our price or lose our sale. I shall now sell £14/- per ton. Walkers Parker & Co commence working in a few days when we must again reduce our price.

23 Mar 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Richard Shortbridge

R Shortbridge & Co

Mar 19 / 33

Sirs!

I am favoured with your letter of yesterdays date covering Bills & Cash, together 442-19-9 which is carried to your credit.

I shall be glad to receive your further orders for Litharge, which I now offer you
at Thirteen Pounds, Lead Price I am Sirs ser
BJ

23 Mar 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Thomas Maltby

Messrs Thos Maltby Son & Co London

March 23 1833

Above I hand you Statement of acct of 6,000 p[iece]s Lead purchased of Mr
Hodgson on the 10 Octr and 1st Novr last, and have this day forwarded to him two
Bills at three and four Months for your acceptance as per cum cred statement. Mr Josh
Crawhall furnished the stamps.

BJ

23 Mar 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

March 23rd 1833

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 19th and 21st inst the former
advising of your having sold 1500 p[iece]s Lead to Messrs Bayley & Co of Bristol,
giving them the refusal of 1500 p[iece]s more the latter covering a copy of the contract.
We shall have no difficulty in the delivery of the refined, but should they require the
common and Slag, and should Walker & Co require their delivery for the past and
present month to be made, we could not possibly do it. As soon as the returns are made
from the Mines you shall have an amount sent. I wd not object to ship Bayley & Co
Lead at the usual commission which I wd do by my sen [?] My reason for declining to
ship Mr Keys Lead must have been obvious to you. At the same time I am in no way
anxious about it. I have no intention of selling Litharge in small quantities below £14-10
and could I depend upon the Lead Co Keeping up the price I wd readily support them.
I have only offered one Parcel of 300 Casks at £14 Ck/w has not as yet been accepted.
Indeed the Parker Beomiter Gibbons & Co living at Neath in South Wales could not as
yet have answered their agents.

I enclose two bills together value £6573.17.0 for Messrs Maltbys acceptance, ck/w I
will thank you to get effected and return them to me. The Stamps have been furnished
by Mr Josh Crawhill. Mr Alfred Hall informs me that Mr Taylor has refused £13.10 for
100 tons of lead on the Sea to go to Bristol and expects to get £13.15. This lead is of the
same quality as our common lead.

30 Mar 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Grace & Freeman

Mar 30th 1833

The above 300 p[iece]s Refd Lead was shipped and will leave the Port tomorrow
BJ

1 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Apr 1/33

Finlay Hodgson & Co

I have duly recd your letter of 29th Ult advising of Messrs Maltby & Co purchase of 50 Casks of Litharge at £14-10/- which will be shipped for them this week. The mark allude to by them will be the one used at Blagill Mill which is somewhat different from the other mills purposely to distinguish it. The weight of the Lead will decide its quality. Can you induce Messrs Malby's to purchase a few thousand pieces of Refd Lead giving them half selected & half half ordinary at £14. Common we cannot supply. They have just purchased 600 frs Common Lead of the Fallowfield Co at £13/5-. I will forward my Monthly Cash A/c as soon as you or Mr Key advise of £1000 payed to the Bishop. Messrs Bayley & Co have got an order for the whole of their Refined Lead say 1500 frs – the whole of which will be shipped this week. I have no doubt our next Sales will be effected at £13-10/- & £14

BJ

6 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Green & Freeman

Apl 6th 1833

The above 300 frs Refd Lead are shipped on Board the Hudgill Capt Pylar and will sail tomorrow

7 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Apl 7th 1833

I have your letters of the 1st & 4th inst and have forwarded my Monthly Cash Acct under cover to Mr Bt together with the Stockton list. As soon as our Pays are over you shall you shall have an Acct of the Ore raised last year which falls about 2000 Bings short of the former year. We credit the London Works One thousand p[oun]ds paid the Bishop of Durham and Two Thousand p[oun]ds paid Glyn & Co

The Fallowfield com. Lead is considered about equal to ours.

P.S. When you see Donkin please to remind him of the attempt made to charge the Weardale Mines with purpose. He may think it necessary to foster an opinion upon it which he may have an opportunity of doing while in London. Something to be determined upon as to the renewal of the life.

Gibbons & Co have not accepted my offer of 300 Casks of Litharge. I therefore stand firm at £14-10- Monthly Cash Act sent under cover to (TWht) this day.

13 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Yallop

Messrs Grace & Yallop

April 13th 1833

In answer to your favr of the 10th inst the 90 Casks of Litharge shall be shipped on Saty next the 20th inst and your instructions in respect to messrs Dodds Leightons attended to. Our present price of 20 tons of the best refined Lead suitable for making white Lead is £14 per Ton delivered at our works at Blaydon and I will get it put on board for 30/- I cannot at present offer more than that quantity but it will be sufficient for the purpose of your ascertaining its superiority over any other Lead for the purposes of White Lead. I shall be glad to receive your answer by return of post having an application which I could not supply should you accept my offer.

BJ

13 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Yallop

Apl 13th 1833

Messrs Grace & Yallop

Mr Crawhall havg given up his situation under Mr Mr Beaumont has forwarded your letters of the 6th inst to me. Our present price of WB Litharge is £ 14 -10 Credit six Mo or 2 1/2 discount for Cash delivered at our Works at Blaydon. We never undertake to deliver Lead or Litharge on Board. I can get it delivered for you at 30/- on Keel of 70 Casks. The same charge would be made on any lesser quantity that being the quantity a keel will bring down. Freight 10/- per Ton to London.

13 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Apl 13th 1833

Grace & Freeman

I beg to advise you of a further quantity of 300 Frs Refd Lead shipped on Board the Allen Capt Jonsn

BJ

15 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Cox & Payser

Messrs Cox Payser & Co

Sirs

I have duly recd you lres of the 6th & 8th inst. We have a good demand for our WB Ltharge at £14-10- per Ton and have sold none under that price. Our present price of Lead is £14 refined £13-10 comm in the proportion of 1/3 refined 2/3 common including 1/10 Slag. This would bear us out in asking a higher price for Litharge.

We look for a further advance in Lead, knowing the last years produce to fall short of the consumption. Messrs Walkers & Co have purchased largely.

WB Lead Office Newcastle
April 15th /33

your Obdt Servt
Benj Johnson

15 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to James Losh

April 15th 1833

James Losh Esqe

I wrote to Mr Bt recommending him to take the value of his Land in addition Railway House. I have this mornng his ansr declining so to do. I have beg the favour that you will communicate this to the directors. I meet Mr Dunn tomorrow to settle the Quarry terms at Blaydon and will communicate to you and Mr Blackmore the result on Wednesday.

15 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to William Wileshaw

Mr Wm <Wileshaw> Manchester April 15th 1833

At Mr Hoppers request I send you our present price of Lead and Litharge delivered at our Works at Blaydon. Refined Lead £14 Common £13-10 per fodder of 21 Cwt proportion of 1/3 refined 2/3 Common with 1/10 Slag. Litharge £14-19 per Ton. Six Mos credit from date of Invoice or 2 1/2 discount for Cash.

17 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messs Finlay Hodgson & Co London April 17th 1833

I deferred to answer your letter of the 12th until today that I might be able to report upon Mr Ps new Process of extracting silver. I have just returned from Blaydon and I am glad to be able to state that I have not the least doubt of its success.

It is of course upon a small scale, but I expect to send Mr Key from one to three Hundred frs on Saturday next. It is made from our worst description of Lead but appears very soft and to all appearances superior to our best common Lead. I note Messrs Bayley & Cos payment of £2500 and its application. I am sorry they have been disappointed of their common Lead but it could not be avoided. We have not been able to deliver Messrs Walker & Colast months quantity and they are urging the delivery. As soon as Mr Ps new Process is in full operation we shall be able to meet all our demands which could not otherwise have been done without making a great sacrifice of Lead containing from 5 to 7 Ozs of Silver. I will see Mr Plummer(?) and endeavour to let him have one half of Messrs Bayleys common Lead for the next ship. I have sold Messrs Grace & Yallop 70 Cask Litharge at £14-10 and offered them 20 tons of refined Lead suitable for white lead at £14 per Ton. Messrs Walker & Co have declined an offer from Hudgill Co of a few Thousand frs at £14 per Fodder.

We got our Pays well over and I will ford to you our stock of Lead at Blaydon, at the Mills and on the Road as soon as possible.

17 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

April 17th 1833

I wrote you yesterday and am this mornng favoured with your letter of the 15th inst advising the receipt of £274-10-10 from Messrs Grace and Freeman and payment of the same to Mr Beaumont credit with Batson Berry & Co at Messrs Glyn & Co. I stated yesterday that I had offered Messrs Grace & Yallop 20 Tons of refined Lead at £14 and have this mornng Mr Henry Grace offer of £14 per fodder for that quantity per cash allowing 2 1/2 per Ct Discount. As this may be a valuable commission I have accepted his offer and undertaken to ship it for him on my own account delivered on board at 30/- per Keel of 300 frs. Mr Grace states that the white Lead Manufacturing is conducted by himself only. I have a letter this morning from Mr Pattinson from which I doubt that. I may be able to ship the common Lead, mentioned in my letter of yesterday, for Mr Key on Saty. At any rate he may depend upon having a Kell on Saty week.

17 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Henry Grace

April 17th 1833

Henry Grace Esqr

In reply to your letter of the 15th Inst my offer was at per Ton of Twenty Cwt and not per Fodder of 21 Cwt. However to establish so valuable commission and to give you an opportunity of a fair trial of our lead I accept your offer for 20 Tons or 300 frs at Fourteen Pounds per Fodder of Twenty one Hundred weight delivered at our works at Blaydon and will on my own acct delivered it on board ship at 30/- per Keel of 300 frs twenty Tons. I expect to ship the Lead & the Litharge on Sats next latest of which shall <advise>

17 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Storr & Mortimer

Messrs Storr & Mortimer London

April 17th 1833

I am in receipt of your letter addressed to Mr Backhouse and am much surprised to hear of my Lead been left in the silver. I will thank you to refine it, and as soon as you can, inform me of the result, which I trust will be more favourable than you anticipate. As we are making our annual large Lead Pays a payment to our Bank will be acceptable.

22 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Yallop

Messrs Grace & Yallop London

Apl 22nd 1833

I beg to hand you invoice of 70 Casks of Litharge shipped on Board the Britain Capt James Wise. As it is your wish to pay an Cash you will please to pay the amt deducting 2 1/2 per Cent agreement to Mr Bts credit with Batson Berry & Co at Messrs Glynn & Co advising of the same.

Keel dues etc £1-10.

B Johnson

23 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Storr & Mortimer

Messrs Storr & Mortimer

Dr Sirs,

I have duly received your letter to Mr Backhouse of the 20th Inst including specimens of the cake of Silver which I have given to Mr Pattinson who has the charge of Mr Bts Refineries under whose immediate inspection the cake was made. He can in no way account why it should have been less pure than our Silver usually is, and indeed prides himself that it was the largest and best piece of Silver that had ever been made at Mr Bts works. Mr Pattinson is considered eminent in his profession. There is

another circumstance which I am to comprehend – when you had re-refined the cake if I may be allowed the expression – why do you make a distinction in the quality of the Silver? I should suppose after you had got rid of all its impurities the residue would be of the best quality & of equal value. If you have any of the dross ,or Lead or whatever (& which I hope you have) it may be, that has come out of it I shall feel particularly obliged to you to send it by any of the Newcastle Traders, as I am confident I cannot convince Mr Pattinson of any impurity unless I can shew him the positive fact by producing the alloy that was taken out of it.

23 April 1833

I am Sir BJ

25 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Cox & Payser

Messrs Cox Payser & Co

Apl 25th 1833

The above six Casks of Litharge are shipped on Board the John and Hannah Capt Wm Robinson for Gainbros (sic) to the care of Mr H Smith

BJ

27 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Hugh Pattinson

Mr Pattinson

WB Lead Office Apl 27th 1833

Dear Sir

I send you £100 as requested. I found your letter with a statement of Common Lead to be made at Blagill Rookhope and Dukesfield up to the end of next month. Will none be made at Allenheads Mill? I wish to have a statement of the deliveries and Stock remaining at each mill on the 30th of this Month and to have it sent down here if possible the following day. Your statement relates to the quantity that will be made, but there must be a quantity on the road and we must endeavour to get forwarded as soon as possible. To effect this I wish none but common to be sent from the Mills as long as any remains. I have written to each Mill Agent and will thank you to get them forwarded to them as soon as possible.

I am Dear Sir Yrs Truly

Benj Johnson

27 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Geddes & Kidston

Messrs Geddes Kidston & Co Glasgow

Apl 27th 1833

I have drawn upon you at 20 days date for £30-0-0 as above, when due be pleased to honor.

BJ

27 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Mark & Tidding

Messrs Mark & Tidding York

Apl 27th 1833

The above small Am[oun]t being long past due, you will oblige me by sending a
Cheque for the Am[oun]t

BJ

27 Apr 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Apl 27th 1833

I am in rec[ei]pt of your two letters of the 22nd inst. Messrs Bayley got 600 frs common lead last week. A statement of our stock of lead at the Mills on the Road and at Blaydon shall be sent after 30th inst. The Mills Agents have directions to send down their monthly delivery Accts for me on the 1st of May. I fear we shall fall short of Common Lead to meet our sales to the end of May shd Messrs Walker press the delivery of the whole of theirs. Mr Pattinson – as might be expected – has met with more difficulties than he anticipated in his new process. He has made but 150 frs this week, consequently I cannot send Mr Key a Keel before next Saty. When sent I will write to Mr Key. You surprise me by stating that the Trade can make any objection to my sale to M H Grace. Recollect he is an old customer who left at the time our refd leads was in bad repute – a ready money customer is not to be rejected. My sale had a twofold object - to establish the price of refined lead at £14- which has had a beneficial effect here, and to win him from purchasing from the London Co. The small quantity 20 tons was but a sample and I have no doubt will be followed by much larger purchases. The money is already paid to Glyns on the receipt of Invoice. We know the great Houses purchase WB Lead from a convenience, not from a courtesy. Its quality always finds a market when there is a demand. The Greenwich Hospital have sold their dirty Ore to the Hudgill Co at 57/- per Bing lead selling at £13 per fodder and to receive 5/- per Bing advances upon every advance of £1 per fodder on Lead. I can assure you we hear of no decrease in price for Lead in this quarter but an expected advance. Mr Backhouse is proceeding with with the Acct you require but as they have first to be posted in the Books some little time must elapse before I can send them.

When may we expect to see Mr Donkin

BJ

2 May 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

WB Lead Office May 2nd 1833

Dear Sirs

I have duly recd your letter of the 30th ult advising of receipt of £209-10-3- from Messrs Grace & Freeman and payment of the same to Mr Bt credit with Batson & Co at Glynn & Co. The error you notice you have corrected. I send you a statement of our engagement to the end of April. To which must be added Messrs Walker Parker & Co purchase for May and June & Messrs Grace & Freeman. I also send you a statement of our stock of Lead with the exception of Blagill Mill, which will not be considerable and contains no Comm Lead. By some accident this return has not come to hand. Mr Pattinson is making out at the Mills a prospective statement of the quantity each mill will make the next three months, which I will send as soon as I receive it.

You will perceive our great deficiency of Comm Lead and I see no means of meeting it unless we substitute a portion of ordinary refined for it casting it in [Nft] pieces. Mr Pattinson's process will aid us a little, but we shall still fall short to meet the extraordinary quantity of refinable lead which has increased considerably since accurate assays have been made. The Buyers I have no doubt would gladly agree to accept ordinary refined in lieu of comm, but I deem it imprudent to offer it in that shape. I mentioned in my last lre having supplied Messrs Bayley & Co with 600 frs comm lead which is all we can possibly do at present, and was done to a disadvantage as it would have paid a small profit to have refined it.

I am Dear Sirs Yours truly Benj Johnson

11 May 1833 Benjamin Johnson to John Hodgson

May 11th 1833

John Hodgson Esq London

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your favrs of the 3rd and 6th inst the former advising the receipt of £2000 from Mr Key and the payment of the same to Mr Bts credit as usual at Glyns & Co.

I have forwarded Mr Pattinsons letter to him at Blaydon and have appointed to meet him on Monday. As soon as I receive his Report upon the Points you wish to be informed upon. I will forward it to you. I am again disappointed in receiving a Keel of lead made under the new Process but am assured by Mr P I shall have 300 frs next week which shall be shipped to Mr Key next Saty. I now hand you my Cash and Sales Acct for the month of Apl. Maltbys have not a pig of lead left here. You will observe the Stockton stock of Lead is gradually declining. The Hudgill Co stand firm at £13-10 and £14 and decline large sales at that price.

BJ

P.S. Can you recommend any House to purchase a part of our Silver. At present we send all we make to Storr & Mortimer. Mr Bt once named Mr Hamlet

11 May 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Storr & Mortimer

Messrs Storr & Mortimer London

May 11th 1833

I have duly recd your letter of the 6th inst advising the receipt of a Piece of Silver weight 1470 Oz. I cannot account for the loss of weight you mention as we always weigh the Silver at the Office before it is posted and are most particular in the weight. Our Bankers have not advised of any money paid by you to Mr Beaumonts credit this week, at which I am much surprised. This may have been an oversight of your banker as once occurred before and will thank you to pay £2006.16.1 now due to Mr Bts credit with Batson Berry & Co at Glyns & Co as usual. BJ

11 May 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Messrs Grace & Freeman London

May 11th1833

The above 300 frs WB Refined Lead are shipped this day. BJ

17 May 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Thomas Maltby

Messrs Thos Maltby Son & Co

May 17th 1833

The delivery of your Purchase of 20,000 frs in Decr last is completed and now hand you Invoice of the same. BJ

18 May 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Grace & freeman

May 18 / 33

Annexed you have Inv of 300 frs of Lead this day put on board the Hudgill for your address. The Ship Ship (sic) Sails tomorrow & trust will arrive safe in due
Sir GB

20 May 1833 Benjamin Johnson to John Hodgson

John Hodgson

May 20th 1833

In reply to your letter of the 16th inst. I do not know that the Hudgill Co have made any sales at £13.10 and £14 but I know they have refused £13 and £13.10 and will remain firm.

I have not sent any Silver to Rendell & Co for some time on account of their making a regular reduction of two or three ozs upon every piece of Silver sent to them for Dross and generally about the same for refining of weight. Storr & Mortimer with one exception never complained of the quality or weight of the Silver, but their Acct is sometimes to a considerable amt. and they have not always been punctual in paying on the day or week that is was due to Glyns & Co. If you are satisfied they are quite safe I can change the mode of payment and draw upon them for the Acct of each piece of Silver as it falls due twenty days after they receive it. I shall send Mr Bell £3000 in Mr Bts landed Acct on Saty week. I yesterday forwarded to your address two pieces of fine Silver Per Jacksons Waggon weighing

1 Piece fine Silver 2724 Ozs

1 Ditto 1904 1/2 Ozs

Which you will please to dispose of as you think best. BJ

P.S. I have sold Benndson Berthers & Co 100 Casks Litharge at £14-10

25 May 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Mr Surtees

Mr Surtees Hamsterly

May 25th 33

After a long search I found the first payment for the Rent of Apperly Lane was made Dec[embe]r 1773 and it distinctly states it to be paid half year and due at Martinmas last past Mr Mulcaster therefore to <put> at May 1832 was quite correct. All the payments since have been for one year.

25 May 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Storr & Mortimer

Messrs Storr & Mortimer London

May 25th 1833

I have duly received your letter of the 18th inst Messrs Glyn & Co advise me of your payment of £607.14.7 and £840.3.5 to Mr Beaumonts credit. I have this day forwarded to your address by Jackson & Co Waggon a piece of fine Silver weighing 1610Oz the receipt of which you will please to acknowledge as usual when it arrives. It is one of the finest pieces of silver I have ever seen. I conclude from your observation that a further payment of £1746.6.5 will have been made to Messrs Glyn & Co to Mr Bt credit.

BJ

27 May 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Thomas Key

Thos Key Esq London

May 27th 1833

After a long delay I shipped on Saturday last 300 frs of the common Lead which I have been so anxious for you to report upon I expect you will find it particularly soft and pliable and shall be glad to hear the results as soon as you have tried it.

I expect to send you 300 frs more next week. I cannot make the transfer of the 600 frs slag to Messrs Walkers & Co they having none purchased of us. I shall be glad to receive your orders for Litharge, which we continue to sell at £14.10 altho[ugh] the price of Lead is £13-10 & £14

BJ

1 Jun 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

June 1st 1833

Dear Sirs

I have duly rec[eive]d your letters of the 29th & 30th Ulto. Your sale of Silver is very satisfactory. For our last sent to Messrs Storr & Mortimer we receive 5/3 1/4 per Oz. so that you have in your sale an advantage in price & prompt payment. I now hand you Mr Pattinsons Report it is I think very clear & satisfactory. You will observe he makes no mention of his new process & this when in full operation will increase our quantity of Common Lead & decrease in proportion our quantity of Ord Refined. I am also glad to find that our present Mill Establishments are sufficient to Smelt all the Ore we raise which will save any outlay at present. I am aware that many improvements at the mills may be effected & must be gradually progressing but outlay must be avoided as much as possible.

Mr Pattinson I know is very anxious to extend the Rookhope Mill & reduce the Dukesfield, but until we have got settled with the Bishop & see the Newcastle & Carlisle & Stanhope Railway in operation nothing can be determined upon.

I see clearly Messrs Maltby & Cos scheme in which I hope they will fail.

Mr Donkin has paid me £133.6.6 to your credit which sum you will please to repay yourself out of the first Money you receive on Mr Beaumonts A/c

I thought it best to say as little as possible to Mr Key about the 300 frs of Common Lead sent last week, leaving him to report upon its quality.

I am Sir BJ

8 Jun 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Messrs Grace & Freeman

Newcastle 8th June 1833

Gentn

Annexed is Invoice of three Hundred pieces WB refined Lead, shipped on Board the Esther Capt Garbutt for your address which I trust you will receive safe in due course.

BJ

8 Jun 1833 Benjamin Johnson to John Stagg

June 8th 1833

Mr John Stagg

Annexed I hand you Account due to Mr Beaumont Esqr for the Thousand Pieces of Common Lead & shall be obliged by your Cheque for the am[oun]t

BJ

8 Jun 1833 George Backhouse to John Abbot

Mr Jn Abbot

June 8th / 33

I beg to hand you A/c due to TW Bt Esq for 300 frs of Lead, for the Amt for which I shall be obliged by your Cheque.

I also include you Mr Cattlys A/c, also our which you will be kind enough to forward. I shall be obliged if he will pay the Ant at Glyn & Co to the Credit of TWBt Esq with Messrs Batson Berry & Co Bankers Bu<siness>

GB

8 Jun 1833 George Backhouse to Finlay & Hodgson

Finlay Hodgson & Co

M[onday] 8 June 1833

Gent[leme]n

Annexed I have your Monthly Cash A/c Monthly Sales and Stockton Letter, with Stock of Lead at Blaydon 31st Jan[uar]y 1833.

I have also to advise you of a piece of fine Silver weighing Two Thousand One Hundred & Fifty-One Ounces forwarded to your address at the Bullion Office, Bank of England on the \$ Inst <Oirale> have advised you of the Silver the day it was sent from this Office, but thinking Mr Johnson might have to write you I waited for his return from the mines- he has since been called away on Election business & has instructed me, but he will write you when he does.

I am Sir G[eorge] B[ackhouse]

P.S. Since writing the above I have another p[ie]c[e] of Silver weighing 1109 1/4 Ozs is forwarded to your address as above. GB

8 Jun 1833 George Backhouse to Cox & Payser

Cox Payser & Co

June 8th 1833

In Mr Johnsons absence I have rec[eiv]e[d] your letter of the 6th Inst & agreeably to your request annex your A/c with TW Beaumont Co[mpan]y for Litharge. This as ever has been an invaluable custom with this establishment not to have more than one rate of Disc[oun]t]. That is five per cent <per annum>. You will therefore be entitled to Disc[oun]t] at that Rate from the time of payment to 15 th Oct next.

The present price of WB lead is Ref[in]e[d] £14 per fodder £13-10 per fodder including 1/10 Slag & for WB Litharge £14-10 per ton usual Credit or Disc[oun]t].

I am Sir
GB

11 Jun 1833 Benjamin Johnson to John Stagg

Mr J[oh]n Stagg

June 11th 1833

I beg to acknowledge the receipt your letter of yesterdays date and Bill for £785. <3.> the am[oun]t of your last purchase of WB Lead. We have no common Lead on hand but shall be glad to sell you 1000 frs or more of refined at £14-10 per fodder at our usual credit.

BJ

11 Jun 1833 Benjamin Johnson to John Wakefield

Mr John Wakefield Kendal

I beg to hand you the above order for thirty six Pounds the am[oun]t of your Ac[coun]t for Gunpowder supplies to TWBts Allenheads Lead Mines. Please to acknowledge the receipt.

BJ

11 Jun 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

N.Castle June 11th 1833

Dear Sirs

I have duly received your letter of 7th inst advising the receipt of £273 ..15..4 from Messrs Grace & Freeman and payment of the same after deducting £133..6..6 received here from Mr Donkin to your credit to Glyn & Co as usual. I have seen Mr Batson respecting the order of payment for £2500 to Mr Bell at Glyn & Co and it appears they would receive your order on the day your letter was written. This arises from Mr Batson having to advise our Bankers at Berwick and they Glyn & Co by which some delay takes place.

I have requested him to pay a further sum of £500 to Glyn & Co on the same account. These two sums will enable Mr Bell to pay Messrs Cliffords and Mr Lees half years Annually due some time this month. I had a letter from Mr Beaumont last week requesting to know what possible tenders for supplies for the mines had been obtained since I came into office. I now send to you for his information such as I have from time to time received and written to him more fully upon the subject for you joint information. It is difficult to obtain tenders to remain in force any length of time and I consider it the best mode to to get occasionally several of the leading Tradesmen a statement of their prices and select from them.

If you or Mr Beaumont can point out any better arrangement I shall be glad to adopt it . I have a few of the returns of prices that Mr Beaumont may see how it has been done.

June 12th

I have this morning received your letter of the 10th and assure you I have my hands full of business. Mr Backhouse has been subpoenaed to Wakefield by Mr Rogers to give evidence before the Chancery Commissioners in a suit Mr Beaumont & <Wucter> <Gildern v <Thorniton> and left this morning.

Mr Beaumont requires an abstract of the Election Acct with names of Committees Polling Clerks etc-etc- to make which at all intelligible or useful will occupy a considerable time. The whole of last week was taken up in going to the mines with the substances and collecting information relating to the Election which remains still incomplete.

Mr Donkin has received your report. I am going to meet him and Mr W[ilia]m Crawhall who is just arrived, to discuss matters of general business – this may prevent me writing to Mr Beaumont until tomorrow should our interview last long.

Mr Donkin has written to Mr Griffith the Bishops Law agent on the renewal – as soon as we hear from him you shall know the result.

I sent yesterday by Jackson & Co Waggon carr[iag]e paid to your address at the Bullion office a piece of fine Silver – Weight Seven Hundred and Eight and one quarter Ounces which I hope you will receive safe. Messrs Storr & Mortimer's price is a little below your sales in which account I send it to you.

I am dear Sir Yours truly Benjn Johnson

11 Jun 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

I had the pleasure to receive your letter of the 15th yesterday advising the Payment of £560-3-7 to Mr Bts credit with Maltbys at Glynn & Co for a piece of fine silver weight 2151 Oz.

I Have this day sent by Jackson & Co Waggon a piece of fine Silver weighing 1483 Oz to your address at the Bullion office, which you will please to dispose of at the best price.

The statement of the quantity of ore at each mill shall be forwarded as soon as Mr B returns.

I cannot learn that any sale has been made at Stockton beyond the 300 frs. The Hudgill Co have sold a small quantity at £14 the exact quantity I cannot learn Messrs Crawhalls being both from home. BJ

12 Jun 1833 Benjamin Johnson to William Parker

[Note: No date, but placed in volume between 11th & 26th June 1833]

I beg leave to hand you Invoice of 1500 Frs Lead delivered, which shall complete your last Purchase. Our present price is Ref[in]ed £14 Common £13.10 in the usual quantities Litharge £14.10. BJ

12 Jun 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

[Note: No date, but placed in volume between 11th & 26th June 1833]

The above 300 Frs Ref[in]ed lead was shipped on Board the Galina Captain Cooper on Sat[urda]y last which will complete your Purchase of Mr Hodgson. I hope soon to hear that you have made another Purchase. BJ

26 Jun 1833 Benjamin Johnson to James Dickinson

[Note: the same also sent to James Walton and William Walton, the other mill agents]

D[ea]r Sir

June 26th 1833

In order that we may have the Lead Carr[iers] a/cs properly ex[ecute]d & settled preparatory to making the half yearly Pay it will be necessary that your cease to deliver Lead from [.....] Mill after the end of this week until further orders.

You will forward an acco[unt] to Leadbetter soon as you can of all Lead delivered by <the> respective Carriers this Year up to the 30th Inst leaving columns for him to present what he has rec[ieve]d at Hexham & he will receive instructions to forward the same to me. BJ

26 Jun 1833 George Backhouse to John Leadbetter

[Note: No date, but refers to letters sent to agents on 26th June 1833]

Sir

Instructions have been given to Mr B[eaumon]ts Mill Agents to make out A/cs of of [sic] Lead delivered to the respective Carriers from each of the Mills, since the commencement of the present year up to the 30th Inst leaving columns that you may insert what you have received at Hexham up to that date which you will do as soon as possible after you receive the A/cs & forward them here.

I am Sir Your Serv[ant] GB

29 Jun 1833 George Backhouse to Robert Bayley & Co

Messrs Ro[ber]t Bayley & Co

June 29/33

Gentm

Your Purchase of WB Lead being now completed, in Mr Johnsons temporary absence, I have your invoice of the same.

I am Gentm Se[rvant] GB

1 Jul 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

July 1st 1833

I have duly rec[eive]d your fav[ou]r of the 26th,27th,29thUlt and am glad to learn the price at <ch/10> you have effected Sales of 5000 P[ie]ce[s] Lead. This I trust will establish the Bill in the Market and enable you to make further sales. In the course of the week I will send a statement of our stock. Monthly Cash and etc et.c I note your sale of the two pieces of Silver and the Payment of the Proceeds Am[oun]ts to £480-5-3 to Mr Bts credit at Glynn& Co as usual. This is by far the best mode of disposing of our Silver. I have forwarded the price for acceptance to Mr Blackett wh[o]s house is a few miles out of town and does not come in every day. I was from home on Friday & Saturday or it w[oul]d have been ret[urne]d to you in this. Maltby & Co last Bill will be due this day . The 20,000 P[ie]ce[s] purchased by them on the 12th Oct last am[oun]ts to £16,444.2.8 will be due on the 12th August which I wish you could arrange with them to pay in Cash to Glyn & Co, as we have no need to draw from it and it will be a means to remove the impression in the Trade of our want of money. Four Thousand Pounds will be due from Walker Parker & Co on the 1st September and the like sum for the six following months - £1632.15.8 will be due from Mr W[ilia]m Parker on the 18th August and

£1335.7.2 on the 8th November. This had also better be paid in Cash. This will I trust enable you to apply ten or fifteen thousand Pounds towards the legacies out of the lead trades should it be thought advisable to pay each of the Legatees £10,000 when the £61,000 is rec[eive]d for the Land already sold

2 Jul 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

July 2nd 1833

I return you enclosed the Bill of Messrs <Pallatreau Per> & fils accepted by Mr W. F. Blackett payable at Messrs <Tobarts> & Co.

I have this day forwarded to your address as usual by Jackson & Co Waggon a piece of fine Silver weighing 776 3/4 Oz which you will please to dispose of to the best advantage.

BJ

6 Jul 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Thomas Maltby

Messrs Maltby & Co

July 6 1833

D[ea]r Sirs

I am favoured with your letter of the 3rd Inst. I wish Mr Hodgson a few days ago to request he would arrange with you to pay the amount of the 20,000 p[iece]s of lead when due, in cash to Mr Beaumonts Credit with Batson Berry & Co at Glyn & Co. I have no doubt he will have seen you upon it & have made such arrangement.

I am Ser[vant] BJ

6 Jul 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Messrs Grace & Freeman

6 July 1833

I beg leave to advise you of Shipment of the last 300 frs Ref[ine]d Lead purchased by you of Mr Key. I shall commence with your purchase of 2000 P[iece]s of Mr Hodgson next Mo[nth] giving you an a/c of the expenses of Shipping with each parcel, which shall be affected at the lowest rate.

I am <dear sir> BJ

6 Jul 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co

6 July 1833

I now send you my Cash A/c & Stockton List. It is quite evident that we must substitute ordinary Refined Lead for Common & the sooner we commence to make our sales half Ref[ine]d half Com[mon] including one tenth Slag the better. I have this day sent you by Jackson & Cos Waggon a p[iece] of fine Silver w[eigh]t 1401 1/8 Ozs. I must trouble you to forward to Mr Beaumont in case he should not return to London before he goes to the Continent <their> parcels of permission to shoot on his moors.

I have written to Messrs Maltby & Sons, in answer to a letter I rec[eive]d from them yesterday that you would call upon them & arrange the payment of the [£] 16,446.2.8 due on the 12th Aug & that it might be paid to Glyn & Co in Cash.

I fear Mr B[eaumon]ts continental trip will give great offence to his constituents.

I am Sir BJ

P.S. Mr Donkin has had a letter from the Bishop's Agent to say that he cannot recommend his Lordship to accept less than what was first asked for the renewal £10,000 unless we can show that Mr Fenwick's calculation was made on an enormous <belief>.

7 Jul 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Robert Stagg

[Note: No date, but placed in volume between 16th & 16th July 1833]

I beg leave to hand your Statement of the quantity of Ore received by Mr Beaumont in Weardale in the year of and in Sept[ember] 30th 26, by <2 v/8 > since 1832 and will feel obliged by you furnishing me with the quantity revised by the Lead Company in that year to the 30th Sep[tember] same period.

16 Jul 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Finlay Hodgson & Co

July 16 1833

D[ea]r Sirs

I am in receipt of your favours of 6th 12 Inst the former advising of the receipt of £271.3.6 from Messrs Grace & Freeman & the payment of the same to Mr Beaumonts Credit at Glyn & Co & Mr Keys A/c of bills & Payments for the month of June, the latter of the receipt of Balance from Messrs Bayley & Co of £101 & pay to Mr B[eaumon]t credit at Glyn & Co.

I have this day forwarded to your address as usual a piece of fine Silver by Jackson & Co Wagg[on] weighing 2205 3/4 Ozs. The piece of Silver which has been returned was made at Blaydon under Mr Pattinson's immediate inspection. I have drawn his attention to the inconsistency & trust it will not again occur. This is the

second piece from that Refinery which has turned out impure since his appointment and the only silver we have had any serious complaints about.

Mr Donkin has received Mr Beaumonts letter relative to the proposal of the Bishops Agents. I believe we shall find the parties very difficult to deal with & I feel confident they will not meet Mr Beaumonts views.

Messrs Locke Blackett & Co have purchased 2000 p[iece]s of Ref[ined] Lead at £13 for 22 cwt of the Duke of Cleveland It is very clear [he] has not known the state of the market having refused since to increase the quantity and I wish we could devise any means of giving him occasional information on the subject. Mr Bolam his Land Agent, for his estates at <Hart> resides here but it is at present from home. As soon as he returns I will get him to write to the Duke & state that I shall be glad to give him an account of the state of the market Monthly or quarterly if his Grace will condescend to receive it. The Duke's mines are not producing much at present, but he has a large stock of Lead at his Mills.

I am Sir BJ

17 July 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Robert Stagg

Rob[er]t Stagg Esq

July 17th 1833

Annexed you have [a] Statement of the quantity of Lead Ore received by Mr B[eaumont] from his Weardale Mines in the year ending Sept[ember] 30th 1832 and the Am[oun]t of Composition due to him from the Lead Co for the 409 5/8 Bings received by them

18 Jul 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Yallop

Messrs Grace & Yallop

July 18th 1833

Sirs

Our lowest price for WB Litharge is fourteen Pounds & ten Shillings per ton delivered on the same terms as your last purchase.

Yours BJ

20 Jul 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

July 20th 1833

I have duly received your letter of the 16th inst and am this day advised by Messrs Batson & Co of the Payment of £5500 by Messrs Maltby & Co to Mr Beaumonts credit

at Glyn & Co on the 15th Inst. I have this day sent by Jackson & Co Waggon to your address as usual a piece of fine Silver from the Blaydon Refinery weighing 16631/2 Oz which you will please to dispose of to the best advantage.

21 Jul 1833 Benjamin Johnson to John Hodgson

[Note: No date, but placed in volume between 20th & 23rd July 1833]

John Hodgson Esq

Having Business in London on my own acc[oun]t I shall leave NC [Newcastle] on Sat[urday] the 3rd August by the Steam Boat and will call upon you on the Wednesday following. I do not intend to remain more than three days. BJ

23 Jul 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Finlay Hodgson

23rd July 1833

D[ea]r Sir

I am in receipt of your letter of the 19th Inst advising of your having sold, two pieces of Silver & of payments of the net proceeds £ 567.1.11 after deducting £19.17.2 charged upon a former piece to Mr B[eaumon]ts credit with Messrs Glyn& Co as usual. I have this day forwarded by Jackson & Co Waggon to your address another piece of fine silver from Blagill Mill weight 1243 1/4 Ozs.

As our cash balance with Messrs Batson& Co is considerable there is no need to draw on Mr W[ilia]m Parker & he may pay the am[oun]t of his a/c with Interest in Cash in October.

I note your sale of 50 Casks Litharge to him at £14.10/- . I have sold 70 Casks at that price to Messrs Grace & Yallop. I do not think we can support more than 10/- above the price of Ref[ined] Lead for Litharge since there is so great competition in that Article. At that price it leaves a good profit.

Your Six Months credit is a good arrangement. <...> well that the Co[mpan]y have agreed to do the same

I am surprized to hear that Mr Key denies to some of the London Houses that he has made any purchase at £13-10/- & £14 indeed that he has made any purchase at all.

Messrs <Mocaltor> & Goldsmith in deducting £90.17.2 have twice charged for the Carriage. Breakerage and Porterage. The sum to be deducted should have been £9.4.8.

I am Sir BJ

28 Jul 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

July 28th 1833

I am without your fav[ou]r since I last addressed you on the 23rd inst. I have now to advise you of having yesterday forwarded to your address as usual by Jackson & Co Waggon a piece of fine Silver weighing 941 3/4 Ozs

3 Aug 1833 Benjamin Johnson to John Locke

Messrs John Locke & Co London

Sirs

I have duly received your letter of the 1st Inst. Our present price of WB Litharge is Fourteen Pounds ten shillings per Ton delivered at our works at Blaydon. We never undertake to deliver it on Board. The expense of delivery on Board would be <31s/..d> for the 70 Casks and the same charge would be made any less quantity. I shall be in town on Tuesday next and will do myself the pleasure to call at your works.

WB Lead Office Newcastle

Aug[us]t 3rd 1833

I am Sirs yr [obedient servant]

Benj[amin] Johnson

13 Aug 1833 George Backhouse to John Stagg

J[oh]n Stagg Esq

13 Aug 1833

Sir

In Mr Johnsons absence I am favoured with yours of the 11th Inst. & in reply have to say we have no Common Lead to dispose of at present but can supply you with the quantity of Slag inquired after at £13..5/- for an fodder. Six Mo[nths] Credit

I am d[ear] Sir GB

16 Aug 1833 George Backhouse to John Stagg

J[oh]n Stagg

16 Aug

Sir

In reply to your favour of yesterday I have to say I accept your offer of 13/5 pour F[odde]r 6 Mo[nth]s Credit for Three Hundred p[ie]ce[s] of Ref[ine]d Slag Lead, if it suit your arrangement you may have Five Hundred on these terms.

I am Sir GB

P.S. I have the goodness to give orders to your shipping Agents here.

17 Aug 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Aug 17 1833

Annexed you have a statement of the Stock of Lead unsold at Blaydon and the respective Mills on the 31st July after sales of last week are deducted, and 15,000 P[iece]s of the Ordinary refined Lead are supposed to be recast into Common of 11 St[one] Pieces.

The Lead at the Mills will be delivered at Blaydon by the end of next Month

I have considered only 15,000 of the 23,000 to be recast to leave a sufficient quantity of Ordinary refined [Lead] to meet our sales of ref[ine]d Lead in the proportion of One third. If necessary 5,000 frs more may be applied.

500 frs will be recast next week and from 500 to 800 weekly afterwards. To effect which some additional Pans will have to be set.

I did not arrive until yesterday after a tedious Passage, and have been engaged all day with Mr Donkin which prevents me giving you the required information on other matters but will furnish it in the course of next week.

A Piece of fine Silver was forwarded to you as usual on the 27th ult weight 941 3/4 Ounces and a second this day weight 1763 ounces. The [£] 330-6-7 rec[eive]d for the piece of Silver last sold. I conclude you have carried to your credit on account of the £600 due to you for commuted commission due June 30th.

WB Lead Office

August 17 1833

I remain Sir

Benj{amin} Johnson

22 Aug 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

I have duly rec[eive]d your fav[ours] of 16th & 19th and note you having carried the net account of sales of two Pieces of silver £579-9s-11dto your Credit for Commuted Commission. I yesterday forwarded to your address as usual per Jackson & Co Waggon a piece of fine Silver weight 1759 Ounces.

When advised by Messrs Batson & Co of the receipt of Messrs Maltby Son & Co Payment of £5444-2-8 shall credit their account. The stock of Lead at Blaydon - supposing the Lead at the respective mills to be delivered would stand precisely as you state. But since I last wrote you I have sold to James & Co 2,400 P[iece]s ref[ine]d 540 Common and 60 Slag and to Joseph Price & Co for Exportation to America 500 P[ieces] Ref[ine]d (ordinary) 450 Common and 50 Slag at £14 & £13-10 to which add your sale to Malby & Co of 2500 Ref[ine]d and 2500 Common making the stock at Blaydon

	Refined	Common	Slag	Refinable
	22,993	24,346	5,790	31,879
Sold	14,900	12,340	2,760	
	8,093	12,006	3,030	

Return of Ref[ined] Common Slag
Sales made

August 17th	9,500	8,850	2,650
James & Co	2,400	540	60
Price & Co	500	450	50
Maltby & Co	2,500	2,500	
	14,900	12,340	2,760

To meet the 12,006 P[iece]s of Common sold there are at Blaydon and the Mills 7,981 P[iece]s leaving a deficiency of 4359 p[iece]s to be made up out of the recasted ordinary.

Taking into account the required preparation for recasting I do not think we can calculate on any surplus of Comm[on] Lead beyond our present sales at the end of next month but you may safely calculate on 5000 P[iece]s by the end of October.

We might increase this quantity by ceasing altogether the separating process, but I cannot recommend it Mr Pattinson being of the Opinion, from recent trial of the most beneficial result.

He is now taking out his Patent, satisfied that it will turn out more beneficial than he at first anticipated.

I have learnt that Price & Co are casting a large quantity of Lead into weights to export to America as Manufactured Goods, upon which only <15 -6d> duty is paid and the <Rascolls> House of Liverpool has contracted to supply a large American house with 1000 Tons in weights for the same purpose. I have no doubt both Walkers and Maltbys are intending to do the same which makes them so pressing for delivery. Walkers house made the communication to a friend of mine.

I shall send you a portion of the accounts and statements you are wanting under cover to TW Beaumont at St James Place on Sat[urda]y and will date the letter at the <corner> of the direction Newcastle aug[us]t 24th for distinction and continue so to do.

The quantity of Lead Mr Pattinson will be able to refine at Blaydon will be from 5 to 6000 P[iece]s a month of the resting stock.

August 22 1833 – It is possible Price & Co may want to Purchase a further quantity I shall not <commit> ordinary Ref[ined] at £14 & Slag at £13-5 we can <issue> after you have supplied Maltbys I think we may ask a little advance. I have thought of 10/- but will try 20/-

P.S. Messrs Bevington Gibbins & Co have purchased 200 Casks of Litharge at £14-10/-

29 Aug 1833 Benjamin Johnson to John Stagg

John Stagg Esq

The order for the delivery of the above 301 P[iece]s of Lead was given to your agents Messrs Clark & <Dunn> on the 17th inst but we understand it was not shipped until the 26th

WB Lead Office (with Invoice) Aug 29th 1833

30 Aug 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Geddes & Kidston

Messrs Geddes Kidston & Co Glasgow

I am favoured with your lre (Letter) of the 28th inst. Our present price of WB litharge is Fifteen Pounds Per Ton delivered at our works at Blaydon. Six months credit or 81/2 p[er] c[en]t Discount allowed for cash. I am Yrs Benj Johnson

WB Lead Office Newcastle August 30th 1833

31 Aug 1833 George Backhouse to John Locke

Messrs John Locke & Co

31 Aug 1833

Annexed I have pleasure to have your invoice of Thirty Casks of WB Litharge which I trust will reach you in due course. I am Sir GB

31 Aug 1833 George backhouse to Joseph Crawhall

[Note: No date, but '20th inst' must place it on 31st Aug 1833, coming after another of that date in the same volume]

The delivery of Messrs Maltby's purchase of 5000 p[iece]s of WB on the 20th Instant being now complete, I enclose your Invoice of the same which have the goodness to forward to them. Ob Sert Sir GB

4 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Hugh Taylor

Hugh Taylor

I enclose a cheque for £30 the amount agreed upon to be paid by Mr B[eaumon]t towards the repair of Newburn Quay

Please to acknowledge the Receipt G... Yrs Benj Johnson
WB Lead Office Sept 4th /33

4 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co

Since I had last the pleasure I am in the receipt of your esteemed fav[ou]r of the 28th & 30th ulto & first in respect to the Executorship Acc[oun]ts.

I find from Mr Donkin that he has not answered yor lre (letter) to him on this point, but that he will in course of this week. For my own part I should be exceedingly glad of any arrangement that would facilitate the making out and settling of these acc[oun]ts. And it would afford me great pleasure if Mr Knox could devise any plan that would be more satisfactory to yourself by which we could bring our books closer up. I fear it cannot be done. The attempt however, accompanied by a report to that effect would be highly satisfactory to myself.

Mr Donkin is still of Opinion that Mr Adlington has no right to ask for any statement of the Lead acc[oun]ts and that it should not be given unless strongly pressed by Mr A[dlington].

I have not an opportunity to day (having a Lead Carriage Pay at Blaydon) to go fully into the statement of the Limehouse acc[oun]t but will do so in the course of the week. My observation that Mr B[eaumon]t should have credit for £27,200-11s-6d could only apply as stating the acc[oun]t in the way recommended by Mr Donkin.

I am aware it is acc[oun]ted for in your acc[oun]t Cur[ran]t.

Your acc[oun]ts from Spain and Petersburg are very cheering

Messrs Maltbys Purchase

Mr Jos[ep]h Crawhall - their agent here – has written fully to them on the marks on our Slag Lead. It is singular that all other purchasers prefer the Rookhope and Blaydon Slag to the Allen and Allenheads Messrs Maltbys preference can only arise from an accidental circumstance of smelting with a better than usual quality and which may not again occur.

Mr Crawhall enquires, for Messrs Maltbys, the quantity and price of Allen and Allenheads slag we have for sale. We have from 600 to 650 P[ie]ce[s] which can be delivered immediately & have referred them to you stating to Mr J[osep]h Crawhall that it would not be purchased under [£]13/10s. The difference in quality of Slag Lead arises from the quality of the Ore from which it is made – all the impurities being left in the process of smelting and refining.

Mr W[ilia]m Parker

I note your sale 2000 P[ie]ce[s] to him and time of delivery which shall be duly attended to. His order for Litharge has been extended to seventy Casks.

Messrs Locke Blakett & Co wish to extend their last purchase to 6000 P[ie]ce[s] which I have declined to do, unless at an advance of 10s/- to be delivered in November.

I think they are likely to accept my offer

Bullion

The excess of Bullion in the six months ending July 31st 1833 over that of 1832 arises from the 10,000 Bings of Ore smelted and refined at Blagill Mill, two extra Furnaces erected at Blaydon and the Lead refined at Dukesfield mill were none was refined in 1832.

Litharge

Our present Sales of Litharge will be completed by the 14th Sept[embe]r after that time if any extra quantity should be wanted 100 Casks a week can be made at Blaydon and the same quantity at the two mills Dukesfield and Allen. This of course would decrease the quantity of refined L[ea]d in proportion to the quantity of Litharge made. I have sold 32 Casks at £15 which price I continue to ask under the impression that Lead is worth £14 & £14-10s

Since my arrangement with Mr Parker to make their Common Lead in 12 st[one] P[ie]ce[s] they do not seem to be at all anxious to get it away. I really believe they only wanted to prevent deliveries to other houses when they pressed urgently the delivery of all their Comm[on] L[ea]d before any other Purchaser should be supplied.

Messrs Rofit Bayley & Co Bristol

I have obtained from Blaydon a detailed statement of the Lead delivered to them – By which it appears there is an error of 4 Fodder 16 cwt in the weight of the refined Lead amounting to £64-5s-8d.

This error must have been detected in Taking Stock at the end of the year. I confess it is a very unpleasant circumstance and arose from an error in addition on the part of Mr Emmerson the Clerk at Blaydon.

He stated the delivery and weight of 1500 B[ing]s Ref[ine]d L[ea]d to Messrs Bayley & C on Board 5 Keels at 2151 cwt .2 q[ua]rte]rs.7 lbs (pounds) as follows

P[ie]ce[s]	Cwt	qrs	lbs
No. 1	300	450	2 14
No. 2	300	450	3 7
No. 3	300	450	0 7
No. 4	300	449	3 21
No. 5	300	450	0 14
	2151	0	7

Which should have been 2251 Cwt, 2 quarters, 9 lbs an error of 100 CWT or 4 foddors and 16 Cwt. In future the detailed acc[oun]t will be sent here which hitherto has come in gross.

I yesterday forwarded to your address as usual by Jackson & Co Waggon two P[iece]s of fine Silver weighing

1 Blaydon 1588 1/4 Oz

2 Allen 1358 1/2 Oz

Y[ou]rs etc Benj[amin] Johnson

WB Lead Office Sept[ember] 4th/33

5 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to John Stagg

John Stagg Esq Stockton

Sept[ember] 5th 1833

I have duly received your letter of yesterdays date and beg to inform you that I cannot extend your purchase of Ref[ine]d Slag Lead beyond the original offer of 500 P[iece]s having yesterday offered the whole of our stock of Slag Lead to a London House at £13 – 10 and have no doubt they will purchase at that price. The 200 P[iece]s will be delivered on receiving your order ofv shipment.

B[enjamin] J[ohnson]

5 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to W Blakett

W. F. Blakett Esq Bonridge

Sep[tember] 5th 1833

We are at a stand at the mines wanting Gunpowder and cannot obtain a single Bar[rel] in the town. It is a serious inconvenience and shall fell obliged if you will remedy it as soon as possible. I have been obliged on several occasions to purchase of Messrs Bradshaw & Anderson at an addoner of 26 s/t. on your Contract and I fear Messrs <Pigon> & Co may be dissatisfied to allow as the difference, but to which we are fully entitled, having had an offer from Mr Wakefield of Kendal at 40/- whose Powder on trial was much approved of by the miners.

B[enjamin] J[ohnson]

5 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to James Dickinson

Newcastle, 5th Sept [ember] 1833

As there are several instances of two or more Lead Carriers being of the same name & in consequence of which mistakes are very liable to be made, in order therefore to

prevent as much as possible any mistake from occurring I request you will in future insert in the Tickett the residence of each individual receiving that Tickett in the same manner as the one inclosed.

Ben[jamin] Johnson

A copy sent to each:

Ja[me]s Dickinson Jon[atho]n Sparke Tho[ma]s Stut
Will[ia]m Walton Ja[me]s Leadbitter Rob[er]t Elleringham

7 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Finlay Hodgson & Co

Sept 7 1833

Since I had the pleasure to address you on the 4th Inst. I have rec[eive]d your favours of the 3rd & 5th. The former handing statement of Mr Keys receipts & payments for the month of Aug & advising Receipt of £292-18 from Messrs Grace & Freeman with its applications.

The latter advising the sale of two pieces of fine Silver & payment of the net proceeds £939-13-8 to Mr Beaumonts credit with Glyns & Co.

I now inclose my Monthly Cash A/c also Monthly Cash A/c with Batson Berry & Co & Stockton List.

You will perceive a decrease of upwards of 8000 p[iece]s since the last return at Stockton. I beg to call your attention to Mr Burnett's correspondent remark that the returns are given in confidence. I will reply to Messrs Locke & Co s complaint as soon as I have made the necessary inquiries.

I am etc BJ

P.S. I hear the Company have sold 5000 p[iece]s to Mr Thompson. The Hudgill Comp[an]y have sold 2000 p[iece]s to Mr W[ilia]m Parker at £14

8 Sep 1833 George Backhouse to John Stagg

[Note: No date, but placed in volume between 7th & 11th Sept 1833]

Above I hand you Invoice of Two Hundred Pieces of WB Ref[in]e]d & Slag Lead which I trust will shortly be with you & to satisfaction. I am etc G[eorge] B[ackhouse]

11 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to William Parker

W[ilia]m Parker Esq

Sep 11th 1833

The above 20 Casks of Litharge being del[ivere]d & beg to hand you invoice of the same. BJ

11 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Yallop

Grace & Yallop London

Sep 11th 1833

Our present price of WB Litharge is £ 15 per Ton delivered at our Works at Blaydon. We expect an immediate advance. BJ

14 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Messrs Grace & Freeman London

Sep 14th 33

I beg to Hand you Invoice of 300 <pc> WB Ref[in]ed Lead this day shipped as above. The shipping charges are the same as the last Parcel and will send an acc[oun]t of the whole with the Invoice of the last Parcel of you Purchase. BJ

16 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Yallop

Messrs Grace & Yallop London

Sep 16th 33

In reply to your favour of the 13th inst I must decline your offer of £14-10 for WB Litharge. Our last Sales were made at £15 and anticipate an immediate advance. BJ

16 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Robert Bayley & Co

Messrs Rob[er]t Bayley & Co Bristol

Sep 16th 1833

I beg leave to hand you an amended invoice of your Purchase of 3000 p[ie]ce[s] WB Lead, a mistake having been made by our Clark at Blaydon in his return of the weight to this office and beg to thank you for your communication to Mr Hodgson which we should not have detected until we took stock at the end of the year. The error in weight was 100 Cwt and arose from an error in addition. BJ

16 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to William Ferry & Co

Messrs Ferry & Co Gateshead

Sept 16th 1833

Your account for Litharge being due on the first inst you will oblige me by remitting a Cheque for the am[oun]t £52-4-11. We do not normally draw bills for small am[oun]ts and <we> should have had to add two <Mrs. Mr.> in this case had we done so. I enclose the stamp left at this office.

BJ

17 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Sep 17th 1833

I duly received your letter of the 14th inst advising the receipt of £127-17 from Messrs Locke & Co and Paym[en]t of the same to Mr B[eaumon]ts credit with Messrs Glyn & Co.

I have extended Messrs Locke Blackett & Co Purchae 2000 P[ie]ce]s half Ref[ine]d half Com[mon] including 1/10 Slag at £14 and £14-10.

We have 3000 p[ie]ce]s Slag Lead at Blaydon unsold one half of < oh/w> is ref[ine]d Slag.

Mr Parker <taking> Ordinary Ref[ine]d in 12 St[one] Pieces will enable us to deliver 7000 P[ie]ce]s Common Lead by the end of Oct after completing all our present sales.

I have fav[oure]d Messrs Bayley & Co an amended Invoice agreeable to the Statement sent to you on 4th Inst explaining how the mistake had arisen. The Sale to Locke Blackett & Co was against my inclination at the Price but I found it <would> give great offence to refuse. I have not made any further Sales under £15. Walker Parker & Co have not taken a single piece of their last Purchase.

BJ

18 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Messrs Grace & Freeman Chelsea

Sep 18th 1833

I have duly received your letter of the 16th inst and find on referring to Mr Key's Letter advising the Sale to you that the figures are 3600 <.....> not 3000 as I had read it. I have given Orders for the shipment of 300 p[ie]ce]s this week and the same next week.

BJ

18 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Finlay Hodgson & Co

18 Sept 1833

Dr Sirs

I am favoured with your letters of the 19th & 20th Inst advising of Sale of 3 p[iece]s of fine Silver & payment of the net proceeds amounting to 1005-16-8 & to Mr Beaumonts Credit at Glyn & Co. My letter to you under date of 19th Inst would in great measure give you the information required from Mr Pattinson nevertheless forwarded your letter to him & now inclose his answer. We shall be able to deliver 7000 p[iece]s of Lead (Com) by the end of next month over above the Sale of 2500 to Walker & Co.

Batson & Co have advised me of the receipt of £5500 from Maltby & Co.

The returns of Stock formerly, were of the Stock at Blaydon only- Latterly that at the respective Mills was included – The actual time the Lead at the Mills will come into Stock at Blaydon cannot be depended upon. The rate of carriage is so exceedingly low that we are obliged to allow the carriers to bring it down at their own convenience and was I to urge the deliver they would instantly ask an advance of price. When the Railway is in operation – and which we expect will be the case in less than 12 Mo[nth]s. to state the precise time the lead can be delivered at Blaydon.

I have no doubt I can sell the whole of our Slag Lead at £13.15/- at which price I would recommend you to offer Maltbys 3,000 p[iece]s half Ref[ined] & half Ordinary.

I am etc BJ

19 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay & Co

In reply to your lre of the 17th inst the return made on 31st July and stated 31,879P[iece]s of Refinable Lead, is a correct statement of the stock of that description of Lead at Blaydon and at the Mills- Mr Pattinson will work up the whole of the refinable lead now on hand at Blaydon, as well as the refinable lead made from the Ore of the year ending Sept 1833 in twelve months from this time. The old stock will have to be worked up as conscience may <eccise.> indiscriminately with the new stock.

I sent you yesterday a statement of the Comm[on] Lead we can deliver by the end of October next.

Viz 7000 P[iece]s of refined L[ea]d we can deliver a much larger quantity.

Messrs Maltby have not advised me of their Payment of the £5,500 but have no doubt the Berwick Bankers will do so by tomorrows Post.

Yours etc Benj Johnson

WB Lead Office Sept 19 1833

23 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Messrs Grace & freeman London

Sep 23rd 1833

I beg leave to hand you Invoice of 600 P[iece]s WB Refined Lead to complete Mr Key's Sale to you. BJ

23 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to John Hodgson

John Hodgson London

Sep 23rd 1833

I have the pleasure to enclose you our Balance & that of last year.

The stock of Lead remaining on hand Xmas 1832 is valued at £11 per fodder ch/w I state for your guidance.

I shall be glad if you will state any observation you may think necessary to make, and favour me with them when Mr Knox comes down.

I have just heard that Mr Losh, who is at Greta Bridge on his circuit as serving Barrister, has been taken dangerously ill and is not expected to recover.

BJ

23 Sep 1833 Hugh Pattinson to John Hodgson

[Note: Letter undated but taken from sequence in book]

Lead Works Blaydon

Sept 23/33

Sir

Mr Johnson yesterday handed to me that part of your letter to him of the 20th Inst containing some queries to me which on his request I have the honor of proceeding to answer.

The statement you have given of the Stock of Refinable Lead on hand at Blaydon at the different dates you mention is of course correct & shews an increase in 13 Months (viz from June 30th 1832 to July 31 1833 of 8775 pieces. This increase was occasioned not entirely by the extra smelting of the 10,000 Bings of Ore at Blagill Mill as you conjecture for all the Refinable Lead made at Blagill Mill was refined there except about 2,000 p[iece]s which were refined at Blaydon and by so much increased our Stock but the increase resulted principally from the circumstance that the stock of Ore laying at some of Mr Beaumonts own Mills at that time was entirely of the description to make Refinable Lead – the Ore producing Com[mon] Lead having been in a great degree smelted up. This was particularly the case at Allen Mill.

In reply to your first query I beg to state that the Stock of Refinable Lead on hand at Blaydon I beg to state that the Stock of Refinable Lead on hand at Blaydon on July 31st 1833 viz 25,285 p[iece]s is now (23 Sept) reduced to 22,860 & by the end of June 1834 will be entirely worked up & converted into marketable Refined Lead at the same

time also will be left the lead made from the present Years Ore with which the old Stock will not at all interfere, about the 1st of July 1834 when I shall begin to smelt the Ore of the year ending 30th Sept 1834 all the old stock of Lead will be Refined & all the Ore of the Year ending 30th Sept 1833 will be completely smelted up & the Lead from it also Ref[in]ed & ready for market. This will put us upon the clear footing you very justly consider so desirable.

It may appear to you that the slight decrease of the Stock of Refinable Lead from 30th July to this date hardly corresponds with what I proposed to accomplish but I am fully aware why the stock has not decreased more rapidly. I deem it however unnecessary to trouble you with the details.

In your second query you desire to know what Stock of Ore is required to be on hand at the different Mills on the first day of any Mining year to keep them in regular employment until they can be supplied with Ore raised at the Mines within the Year itself?

The Mining year ends on the 30th Sept that is the workmen are paid for the Ore worked down in the Mines up to that date at the next general pay in the Spring. Now it takes a considerable time to get the Ore out of the Mines & to get it washed up & carried to the Smelting Mills so that the Ore worked in the Mines up to the 30th Sept is never entirely delivered to the Mills before the end of December or sometimes the 1st or 2nd week of January. The washing of the Ore of the ensuing year is seldom commenced until April, or any part delivered to the Mills until about the beginning of May so that it requires at any rate a four Months Stock of Ore to be on hand at the different Mills at the conclusion of the del[iver]y of any one year at the end of December to keep the Mills at work until the new Ore is received of the following year. Aforementioned Smelting Stock is about 13,000 Bings. I believe I shall just about keep all the Mills at work next Spring until a sufficient quantity of the Ore of 1834 is delivered to proceed with but this need not deter you from endeavouring to sell Lead. Ore for no disadvantage to Mr Beaumont will be produced by one of the Mills (say Dukesfield) standing a few Weeks between the Ore of 1833 & 1834.

In my letter to Mr Johnson of Aug 3rd last I did not intend to convey any impression that a whole years stock of Ore was then on hand but only that a part was on hand and the remainder would be delivered in time to allow of its conversion into lead by June 1834.

I trust this will be satisfactory in reply to your queries but if not shall of course be most glad to explain or supply further information.

With the utmost respect and regard. I have the honor to remain Yr mo Obt Servt
HL Pattinson

23 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to John Stagg

Dear Sir

23 Sept 1833

I cannot offer you 500 p[iece]s of Ref[ine]d Slag Lead at £13-10/- but will let you have that quantity half Refined half Ordinary at £13-15/- & the whole Refined at £14 I have offered the whole of our remaining Stock of Slag Lead to a London House at £13.15/- without distinction of quality.

I have no doubt any offer will be accepted.

John Stagg

I am etc BJ

28 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Thomas Key

Tho[ma]s Key Esq London

Sep 28 1833

I beg leave to hand you Invoice of your last purchase of Ordinary refined Lead ch/w. Depend upon it the Market will advance and that £14-10 and £15 will be obtained for common and Ref[ine]d in a very short time. We are still selling Litharge at £15 but it must also advance.

BJ

29 Sep 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

[Note: No date, but placed in volume between 28th Sept & 2nd Oct 1833]

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co

I am in receipt of your favour of the 26th inst advising the receipt of £292-6s-9d from Messrs Grace & Freeman and payment of the same to Mr B[eaumont]s credit with Glyn & Co. I note your sale to them of 2000 p[iece]s refined Lead at £14-10 and await your further instructions upon it.

I conclude I am to ship it as usual, charging as usual for the Keel dues and Commission.

I also note your sale of 3000 p[iece]s Slag Lead 1/2 refined 1/2 ordinary to Messrs Maltbys at £13-15s-0d.

I am etc Benj Johnson

2 Oct 1833 Hugh Pattinson to John Hodgson

[Note: Addressee and Date are assumed from context and sequence in book respectively. In the book no date or addressee is given.]

Blaydon Lead Works Oct 2nd 1833

In reference to the matter on which you received my opinion on the 30th ult viz whether it will suit Mr Beaumont to sell 2000 tons of Ore besides the 1000 Tons now

under treaty and if so what description of Ore should be offered and what price. I beg to lay before you the following observations.

I am of the Opinion that it would suit Mr Beaumont very well to sell 2000 tons of Ore provided the purchaser will take the description of Ore which yields ordinary refined Lead. This sort of Ore is principally raised at Barny Craig and Swinhope Head Mines and is smelted at Allen Mill. It requires about 4 1/4 Bings of this Ore to produce one fodder of Lead which yield in refining 12 oz of Silver and its value per Bing will be as follows taking the price of Common Lead at £14-10s per Fodder and reckoning 4 oz of silver to cover the cost of refining and loss of lead in the operation which it will do provided the Refined Lead is considered worth ten shillings more than the Common.

Carriage of 4 1/4 Bings of Ore from the Mines to Allen Mill at 2s/6 per Bing.	£ s d 0 10 7 1/2
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Cost of smelting this description of Ore at 1st and 2nd fires including every charge at Allen Mill per Fodder of Lead	0 13 7 1/2
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Carriage of One Fodder of Lead from the Mill to Blaydon	0 15 3 1/2
Expense per Fodder of Lead	£ 1 18 11

Value of one Fodder of Common Lead Including its proportion of Slag	£14 10 0
--	----------

Value of 8 Oz of Silver being the excess Beyond that required to Pay the cost of Of extraction at 5s/3d per oz	£ 2 2 0 16 12 0
Expense as above deducted	£ 1 18 11
	£14 13 1

This divided by 4 1/4 gives £3-9s-0d value of one Bing of this Ore at the mines to which add carriage 10s/6d per Bing makes its value at Blaydon £3-19s-6d per Bing or £9-18s9dper Ton. I am decidedly of the Opinion that this Ore should not be sold for less than the price stated.

If the parties should prefer purchasing Mr Beaumont's unrefinable Ore there will be no difficulty in supplying the quantity provided the whole of our refinable Lead for some time is made into Eleven Stone Pieces and sold as common to furnish us with our proportion of that description of Lead but in case of further Sales of common Lead Ore. Mr B[eauumon]ts regular Earnings will be a good deal interfered with and mine income received will be felt and loss sustained by the alteration just proposed I would

say therefore very decidedly that the price should not be less than £9-10 per Ton Ore any Amount, Common Lead being taken at £14-10 per fodder.

The abstraction of 3000 Tons of Ore from Mr Beaumont's produce this year will have the effect of stopping the smelting operations for some time in the Spring at one or more of the of the Mills on which accounts it is desirable that the matter should be settled as soon as possible in order that I may have time to regulate the delivery of the Ore <decreasing> by –

H.L. Pattinson

3 Oct 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay hodgson & Co London

Oct 3rd 1833

In ans[wer] to your letter of the 28th & 30th ult you will see by the enclosed return of Stock at Blaydon that we are enabled to deliver Messrs Maltby Son & Co the whole of their last purchase of 5000 p[iece]s and have given them an Order for delivery of same. They are now shipping their purchase of Slag Lead for Petersburg via Hull, as no Ships from this Port will take Lead for the Baltic after the month of Sept. Messrs Walker & Co are doing the same. Messrs Grace and Freeman 2000 p[iece]s selected Refined Lead will be shipped on receiving their instructions. I am glad that the Contract states the Payment to be six Months from date of Contract I trust Mr Key will have made the Payment of £1000 to the Bishop of Durham on the 30th ult as usual. I enclose Monthly Cash Out, Sales and Bankers Out. Del[ivere]d Jackson & Co two pieces fine Silver Address Finlay Hodgson & Co weighing together 2119 1/2 ounces on the 30th Sept.

B. Johnson

3 Oct 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Newcastle Oct 3rd 1833

I am in receipt of your letters of the 27th 28th & 30th ult and have the pleasure of forwarding Mr Pattinsons Report upon the Lead Ores. You will observe that he now thinks we ought not to sell any unrefinable Ore under £9-10 a Ton, whereas in his letter of 11th Sept he states "My opinion is that Mr B[eaumon]t should not on any account have less than £3-10 in a Bing" which would be £8-15 a ton. I suppose the difference of his opinion to arise from the recent Sale made in Wales at £10 a Welsh Ton of 2400 lb. I thought this price had been obtained from the Ore containing an extra quantity of Silver, but upon enquiring I find the Welsh Ores are not refinable. Mr Pattinsons observation as to selling Ordinary Ref[ine]d Lead as common

I do not think we ought to put this practice to any extent, indeed should Mr P[attinson]'s separating system come into full operation, there would be no need as the whole of the separated Lead has been considered Common Lead, but should Lead suitable for making White Lead be operated upon in this way, it must of course be into 12 stone Pieces and sold as Selected Refined. If the Parties are anxious to purchase Ore, it is probable they would not object to the Barney Craig and Swinhope Ores, provided they could get them Refined after smelting. It is pretty certain they cannot be supplied from any other district of which you will doubtless make the most. To cut in upon our Ores suitable for common Lead should if possible be avoided; but if not practicable we must meet it by substituting a portion of Ordinary refined Lead as suggested by Mr P[attinson], and practiced in Walker & Co case. I am quite of your opinion that a sale of 3000 Tons is most desirable.

London Company Pays

The London Company pay their men upon the same principle as Mr B[eaumont]'s are paid – They receive monthly Subsistence, I believe 40s/- if they are supposed to have earned it –ours receive 30s/-. Their mining year ends 31st of Oct ours 30th Sept. They make their annual great Pay in January, we in March or April. Their Produce is about 1/3 of ours, consequently sooner <drawn>.

Bankers Acc[oun]t

I beg to call your attention to our favourable balance with our Bankers, which you know carries no Interest. Might not half the am[oun]t be applied in Payment of the Legacies on liquidation of Mr B[eaumont]'s London debts? Batson & Co are in advance about £3000 on Elective Acct and £5000 advanced to Mr B[eaumont]t upon which Interest is charged.

BJ

5 Oct 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Oct 5th 1833

I have duly received your letter of the 2nd inst advising Sale of 1500 p[iece]s selected refined Lead to Mr Th[oma]s Thompson Cattley at £14-10. Mr Abbott his Agent at this place applied to me a few days ago to make this Purchase for him, and 1000 p[iece]s for himself; but as our Stock of selected refined Lead did not exceed 1445 p[iece]s at that time as you will see by our Return of the 30th inst. I refused to sell under £15 – When he learns the Price at which Mr Cattley has purchased I have no doubt he will renew his application for the 1000 p[iece]s and as he is a safe and regular Purchaser I cannot refuse him the quantity at the same Price. The six letters you allude to are from a man of the name of John Ridley of Hexham who has been writing weekly to Mr B[eaumont]t for some months past, to Mr B[eaumont]'s great annoyance. I will inform him that Mr

B[eaumon]t is on the Continent and that his letters are not forwarded, but I have no idea he will desist. The subject of correspondence is Tithes, of which Mr B[eaumon]t is the Lay Proprietor at Hexham. I have seen Mr Parker and he will write tomorrow or Monday and fix the time for Mr Knox to come down. Mr Walter Hall is down and we expect an immediate settlement of their affairs will take place.

BJ

5 Oct 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Storr & Mortimer

Messrs Storr & Mortimer 13 New Bond Street

Oct 5 th 1833

I have duly received your letter of the 3rd inst and in answer have to observe that since Messrs Finlay & Hodgson have been appointed Mr B[eaumon]ts Agents in London I have consigned the Silver to them at the Bullion Office for which they are now obtaining 5s/6d an ounce in cash on the day of sale.

BJ

9 Oct 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Samuel Parker

Sam[ue]l W. Parker Newcastle

Oct 9th 1833

I have not received any amount from Mr Hodgson or our London Bankers of any Payment on your Acc[oun]t on the 1st inst. According to our agreement, you were to have paid Cash on that day £5260. 15.9 which was due on the 1st Sept last. BJ

9 Oct 1833 Benjamin Johnson to William Ferry & Co

Messrs Ferry & Co Gateshead

Oct 9th 1833

I beg to refer you to my letter of the 16th Sept and have to request that you will favour me with the am[oun]t of you're ac[coun]t for WB Litharge or a cheque by tomorrows post.

BJ

9 Oct 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson London

Oct 9th 1833

I have duly rec[eive]d your esteemed fav[ou]r of the 7th inst and credit your Acc[oun]t with £416..9..5 paid to Mr B[eaumon]ts aredit with Messrs Glyn & Co. The net proceeds of a piece of fine silver weight 1564 Ounces.

The Sale of 3000 p[ie]ce]s Slag Lead to Messrs Maltby & Co is certainly remitted in my return of last Months Sales but is accounted for in the return of Stock. Please to rectify the omission. I yesterday forwarded to your Address as normal by Jackson & Co Waggon a Piece of fine Silver – Weight 2301 Ounces.

I have no advice of Mr W[ilia]m Parkers Payments of £190.9.6 due July 21st and £1632 . 15. 8 due the 18th August. Which sums were to be paid in cash in Sept bearing Interest from the respective dates. I am glad Mr Knox is coming down. I shall be absent at Stanhope with Mr Donkin tomorrow and Friday attending a Parish meeting relating to the rating of the Tithe and Lot <Ore>. Mr Backhouse will attend to Mr Knox who may be usefully employed in my absence. I will write Mr Hodgson on Saturday.

BJ

10 Oct 1833 George Backhouse to Finlay & Hodgson

Finlay & Co

10th Oct 1833

By the usual conveyance I forward you to the Bullion Office a piece of fine Silver weighing 1498 Ozs which you will please attend to on arrival.

I have the pleasure also to inform you that I have sold to Walkers & Co this day 1000 p[ie]ce]s Slag Lead at £13..15s/- per f[odde]r this will be all of the ord[inar]y Slag. Mr Johnson has left this today to be in readiness to attend a meeting of the Inhabitants of Stanhope, at that place tomorrow, respecting the rating of Mr Beaumonts Mines in Weardale to the Poor. He will return tomorrow night & will reply to your favour of the 8thInst on Saturday.

I am etc GB

12 Oct 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Messrs Grace & Freeman London

Oct 12 !833

Above I hand you Invoice of 300 p[ie]ce]s Lead shipped on Board the Miner Capt[ain] Sim. Mr Hodgson has advised me of your purchase of 2000 p[ie]ce]s Refined Lead which we can ship at any time on receiving your instructions. BJ

12 Oct 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Oct 12th 1833

I am in receipt of your fav[our] of the 8th & 9th inst. By referring to your Book in which the Stockton List were copied you will find the return for the month of Jan'y 1832 under date of the 1st Feb and that all the returns are dated the 1st of the following Month. The return for Nov I now send you which will complete your set.

Mr Pattinson will go up next week and ascertain the exact stock of Lead the Duke of Cleveland has at his Mills, of which I will inform you on his return. If this turns out no more than I expect, with the great decrease at the Stockton Wharfs I think we may look for an immediate advance. Are the London Company acquainted with our decrease of Stock? I am advised of Messrs Walker Parker & Co payment of £4362 to Mr B[eaumont]'s credit at Glyn & Co on the 3rd Oct. I have given Mr Keys Agents an Order for 70 Casks of Litharge which I expect we shall be able to deliver by the end of next week Messrs Bayley & Cos Payment of £6213 is carried to the Credit of their Acct.

BJ

16 Oct 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Oct 16th 1833

I have rec[eive]d your letter of the 14th inst and have to correct my statement of the weight of the Pieces of Silver advised of us the 30th ult. It should have been 2109 1/2 ounces and not 2119 1/2 as stated. Mr Knox is busily engaged in the Lead Accts and will return you a report of his proposals by this days post. I meet Mr Donkin tomorrow upon the <Sales> Acc[oun]ts.

BJ

19 Oct 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Oct 19th 1833

I have duly received your esteemed fav[ou]r of the 15th & 17th inst, the former advising the sale of two pieces of fine Silver and the payment of the net Proceeds to Mr B[eaumont]'s credit at Glyn & Co am[ountin]g to £561..5..0. The letter advising the Receipt of Cheque from Mr W[ilia]m Parker for Lead and Interest am[ountin]g to £1646..7..10 which will be carried in due course to his credit.

Mr Parker stands further indebted in the sum of £190..9..6 and £2..9..7 1/2 three months Int[erest] for 50 Casks Litharge purchased Nov 21st 1832 and due in Cash on the 21st July last. This am[oun]t may as well be added to his Pay[men]t of £1335.7.2 due the 8th of Nov next charging Int[erest] up to that time. Messrs Maltby & Co have purchased 2000 p[ie]ces of the Hudgill refined Lead of Messrs Newton Lyon & Co and 667 Pieces common Lead purchased of you in Jan[uar]y last. The rate of Litharge allude

to in Mr K<urdes> Letter was 35 Casks – 10 Tons at £15 and not 35 Tons. PS I have written to Grace & Freeman to enquire what number of Pieces they wish to be shipped in one Bottom – please to forward the letter to them

BJ

19 Oct 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Messrs Grace & Freeman Chelsea

Oct19th 1833

Mr Hodgson informs me that I may ship your last purchase of 2000 p[iece]s refined Lead at any time. I will thank you to inform me what number of pieces you wish to be shipped in one Bottom.

BJ

26 Oct 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Grace & Freeman Chelsea

Oct 26th 1833

Above I hand you Invoice of the weight of 300 P[iece]s of Ref[ine]d Lead shipped as above, the first delivery of your Purchase of 2000 P[iece]s of Mr Hodgson on 26th of Septr last

I expect to ship 600 P[iece]s in two vessels next week of which you shall be duly advised.

You may rely on every attention on my part both as to the quality of the lead and expence of shipping the Freight of lead to London never varies being always charged £10 a keel of 300 P[iece]s of ref[ine]d lead Shipping charges 30/- which I carry to your Debit.

I am Sir Benj Johnson

2 Nov 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Messrs Grace & Freeman Chelsea

I now hand you weight of 900 P[iece]s WB Refined Lead shipped as above being part of the 2000 P[iece]s of you last purchase. I expect next week to ship the remainder.

Yours Sir BJ

Nov 2 1833

2 Nov 1833 Benjamin Johnson to William Parker

[Note: This letter has been struck through up to the signature with a ps added]

William Parker Esq

I hand you invoice of 2000 P[iece]s WB Lead purchased of Mr Hodgson in Augt last. I beg to call your attention to the Payment of £1335-7s-2d due on the 8th inst upon your purchase of 8th March last and £198-9s-6d for 50 Casks of Litharge due July last.

You will oblige me by paying in due course the am[oun]t and interest upon the £198-9s-6d from July to the 8th of Novr to Mr B[eaumon]ts credit with Messrs Batson Berry & Co at Messrs Glyns & Co.

Yrs Sir BJ

I am this day advised of your payment of £1646-7-10 to Mr Bt credit at Glyn & Co which is added to the credit of you account.

Nov 2 1833

2 Nov 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co

I have to acknowledge the rec[ei]pt of your two fav[our]rs of the 30th & 31st ult. And now hand you weight of two Pieces of fine Silver as above forwarded at the above dates, to your address as usual, by Jackson & co Waggon. I note your payment to W Bt credit with Batson & Co at Glyns & Co for the net Proceeds of a piece of fine silver amounting to £612-14s-6d. Messrs Cox & Payser & Co can have 30 or 40 Tons of Litharge in ten days from the time we are advised of their Purchase. We shall continue making and can therefore let them have 20 Tons by the end of next week. The shipping charges for Litharge are the same as for lead or nearly so viz 31 /- Per Keel of 70 casks each cask weighing about 6 Cwt. These are the lowest charges that are ever made and are subject to advance when the Keelmen are in full employ. We can at all times effect it on our best terms from the great quantity of Lead we are always shipping. I am glad Messrs Cox & Payser have declined to purchase Lead at present they will have to pay a higher price when they next apply.

Yours truly BJ

Nov 2nd 1833

PS Mr Batson has just handed me account of Mr W[ilia]m Parker Payment of £1646.7.10 ch/w I have carried to the credit of his acct.

6 Nov 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co

I received your lre (letter) of the 2nd inst on Monday and having an engagement early that morning at Bywell I was prevented answering it until my return today.

My lre to you of Saturday last would have cross yours of same date and would supply you with all the information required as to the time when we could deliver Messrs Cox Payser & Co 35 Tons of Litharge. I have not received any instructions from them for shipment but will immediately attend to any they may favor one with and effect it at the lowest possible charge.

Of the refined Lead at Blaydon returned as Stock on Saturday last 11.0</5> P[iece]s are selected Refined.

BJ

Nov 6th

7 Nov 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Walker & Parker

Messrs Walker Parker & Co

Newcastle

Nov 7 1833

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterdays date covering the cheque <from> Lambton & Co value £401..22..3 which is carried to the credit of your Ac[coun]t for 100 Casks of Litharge purchased of TWB[eaumon]t Esq in Dec[ember]1832

BJ

9 Nov 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Messrs Grace & Freeman Chelsea

Nov 9th 1833

On the other side I hand you an Invoice of 300 P[iece]s Refined Lead shipped on Board the Allen Capt Jons, part of your Purchase in June last and above of 600 P[iece]s Refined Lead part of your Purchase in Sept last. The remaining 200 P[iece]s pf this purchase will be shipped next week of which shall advise in due course.

BJ

9 Nov 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Thomas Key

Tho[ma]s Key Esq London

Nov 9th 1833

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th inst covering 13 together am[oun]ts to £1690.6.10 which with £3000 paid to F.H. & Co on the 5th inst we carry to the credit of the London Works. We further credit the London works with the payment of £2061.12.1 paid to Messrs <Intock> & Co for the repairs of the Wh[ar]f Wall, debiting Mr Beaumonts private Acct with the same. At your request the invoice of the 70 Casks of Litharge shipped to your address on the 4th of July last. I shall be glad to hear you have received the Sum given anticipate to recover from The <Lever> Lee & Co. I have advice of the London Company having sold 3000 P[iece]s Refined lead at £15 per

fodder. I made a Sale of the same quantity at that price, ten days ago – which Price we now consider established and quote Litharge at £15-10 per Ton.

BJ

9 Nov 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

[Note: Letter undated, assumed from sequence to be 9 November]

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

I am this day favoured with your letter of the 9th inst and one from Mr Key enclosing 13 Bills together value £ 1690.6.10 ch/w with £3000 paid you on the 5th inst we carry to the credit of the London Works as also £2061.12.1 paid to Messrs <Intock> & Co for the repairs to the Limehouse Wh[ar]f Wall debiting Mr B[eaumon]ts private account with their several Sums. Mr Key states that he expects to receive back from The <Lever> Lee Co of this sum £1690.6.10 leaving Mr B[eaumon]ts liability £363.6.5.

We observe that Mr Key has opened an Ac[coun]t for himself in the Limehouse Books for the amount of his stocks on the 1st Jan[uar]y last, and that he expects to liquidate this am[oun]t by the end of next month.

I am glad the London Co have sold 3000 p[ie]ce[s] Ref[ine]d Lead at £15 . –it will establish that Price and I think we need not fear any reaction. Your observation on various entries to be made will be attended to. I shall write to Mr Hodgson by tomorrows Post.

BJ

13 Nov 1833 George Backhouse to Grace & Freeman

Messrs Grace & Freeman

13 Nov 1833

I beg to hand you Invoice of 2000 P[ie]ce[s] WB Lead purchased by you of Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co as above.

I am Sir GB

16 Nov 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Cox & Payser

[Note: Undated letter, assumed to be 16 Nov from sequence]

Messrs Cox Payser & Co

I beg reference to Mr Backhouse Lrs (letters) to you of the 11th and 13th inst advising the shipment of 84 Casks of Litharge to Messrs Sigars & Co and 17 Casks to your order at Gainsbro. On the other side I hand you Invoice of weight of 17 Casks

shipped on board the Britain Captain Wise to your address in London and above Invoice of the whole 118 Casks. The shipping Charges of the above 118 Casks amount to £2-18s –which may as well remain unsettled until the 2000 P[iece]s of Lead is shipped.

The value of the 2000 P[iece]s Lead taking the 1000 P[iece]s refined at 12 stone each and the 900 P[iece]s Common & 100 P[iece]s slag at 11 stone each will amount to £2020.----

It would be very inconvenient at this time to have it weighed off as our Wharf is undergoing repair and the am[oun]t stated will be as near as & I trust answer all the purposes you require. I shall be glad to receive your instructions to ship it as soon as convenient.

Your etc Benj Johnson

16 Nov 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Nov 16 1833

I am favoured with your letter of the 13th inst covering the sale of a piece of fine Silver and the payment of the net proceeds after deducting £19.10.6 in Account of Mr<K... Trout> Esq to Mr Beaumonts credit with Glynn & Co. I have received instructions from Cox Payser & Co to weigh off the 2000 P[iece]s Lead which they wish to remain on the Wharf for the present but to pay for it deducting 2 1/2 per Cent Discount as we could not conveniently do, so, on account of the Wharf being under repairs, I have <computed> the weight and make the value £2020 which will be as near the am[oun]t as possible and will enable them to settle the Acc[oun]t. I have had no further application for Lead. The Duke of Cumberland stands firm at £15 for Ref[ined] Lead Stockton weight.

BJ

23 Nov 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Nov 23 1833

I have duly rec[eived] your esteemed fav[our] of the 20th inst advising the sale of a piece of fine Silver and Payment of the net Proceeds am[ountin]g to £439.14.8 to Mr B[eaumon]ts credit at Glynn & Co.

BJ

24 Nov 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Finlay Hodgson & Co

24 Nov 1833

Gent[lemen]

I had the pleasure to address you yesterday & am this morning favoured with your lre (letter) of the 22nd Inst advising the rec[eip]t of £527-1- from Messrs Cox Payser & Co for Lith[earge] & pay[ment] of the same to Mr B[eaumon]ts credit at Glyn & Co. I also note your further Receipt of £1969-4/- from the same parties in 11 Bills three of which value £215 are due, & paid to Mr B[eaumon]ts credit at Glyn & Co & that you will pay in the remainder as they fall due'

BJ

30 Nov 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Joseph Blog

Jos[ep]h Blogs Esq

Nov 30th 1833

Sir

In answer to your letter of the 28th Inst our present prices of WB Litharge is £15/10 per ton deliverd at Blaydon.

The shipping charges will be 31/- for each fifty Casks & the same charge would be made for any less quantity.

I am Sir BJ

30 Nov 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Thomas Key

Tho[ma]s Key Esq

Nov 30th 1833

Sir

I have duly rec[eived] your letter of the 15 Inst advising the payments of £411.5.9 to Messrs Finlay & Co to be placed to the credit of the Lon[don] Works. If Messrs Grace & Freeman are correct in the copy of the invoice under date of trhe 8 March it is clear Mr Backhouse must have made a mistake in making it out. The weight should be 455 " "7 and not 445 " " 7. The money statement in the invoice is correct & you must please to explain this to them & get them to pay the £6-15/- they have deducted. If they refer to the other parcels of the same number of pieces they will see that the weight has been incorrectly returned. Our market is looking well £14/10 & £15 now fully established here.

We are charging Litharge at £15 ..10/-

I am Sir BJ

30 Nov 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Finlay & Co

30th Nov 1833

I have duly rec[eived] your letters of the 23rd & 27th Inst advising the payment of £586.5.2 to Mr B[eaumon]ts credit at Glyns arising from the sale of a piece of Silver and [£]290-11-10 rec[eived] from Grace & Co on A/C of 300 P[iece]s Ref[ined]Lead.

I am glad to hear you have made a Sale to Maltby & Co of 10,000 P[iece]s & await the usual copy of Contract.

I have sold 2000 P[iece]s to Locke Blackett & Co on the same terms.

<...> BJ

30 Nov 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

[Note: Assumed to be to Finlay & Co from sense and references. Letter not addressed]

30th November 1833

I am fav[oure]d with your letter of the 28 Inst this morning covering Messrs Maltbys contract for the 10,000 P[iece]s Lead of which Mr Crawhall has this day shipped 1,800 P[iece]s and will ship the same q[uan]tity next week.

Mr Key states in his letter of the 15th that he has paid to you a cheque for [£]411-5-9 to Mr Beaumonts Credit to be placed to the credit of the Lon[don] works. You do not mention that payment in your letters written since that date. I has this day forwarded to your address as usual

No. 1 Piece of Silver w[eigh]t 1408 Ozs

2 Ditto 1715 Ozs

By Jackson & Co Waggon

I am Sir BJ

4 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Dec 4th 1833

I am favoured with your letter of the 2nd inst enclosing Mr Keys with 18 Bills amounting to £1167-15-9 which with £1877-11-2 paid to you by Cheque is carried to the credit of Mr Beaumonts London Works. BJ

4 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Thomas Key

Tho[ma]s Key Esq London

Dec 4th 1833

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of of the 2nd inst enclosing 18 Bills amounting to £1167..15..9 which with £1877..11..2 paid by Cheque to Messrs Finlay & Hodgson is carried to the credit of Mr Beaumonts London Works.

BJ

5 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Walker & Parker

Messrs Walker Parker & Co

Newcastle

Dec 5th 1833

I am this day advised by Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co of your having paid them £4363-13-2 to be carried to the Credit of your Account with TWBeaumont Esq

I am also advised of your having purchased of the same Party 10,000 Pieces of WB Lead and enclose an Order for the delivery of the same. BJ

5 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co

London

Dec 5th 1833

I have received your letter of the 3rd inst advising the receipt of £4363-14-2 from Messrs Walker Parker & Co and Payment of the same to Mr Beaumonts credit at Glyns & Co. I note your sale of 10,000 Pieces to Walkers Parker & Co and hand you a statement of our Stocks at Blaydon. Should you effect a further sale of 10,000 Pieces to <there> <Parties> as you anticipate I beg to call your attention to our Stock of Selected Refined, which you will see is fast diminishing and it would be most desirable if you could make the the anticipated Sale one half Refined to consist of half selected half ordinary Half Common included up 1/10 Slag. We shall be under the necessity of stopping the Lead carriage from the Mills at the end of the present Month and it will be February ere we can reopen it. The Roads at present are intolerable and we are threatened with the exaction of full Winter Tolls which would call for an advance on the <cars> of credit. I will send you a statement of the Stock at the Mills when I return from them the end of next.

7 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co

London

Dec 7th 1833

I have to advise you of having yesterday forwarded to your address as usual by Jackson & Co Waggon a Piece of fine silver weighing 1642 3/4 Ounces which you will please to dispose of to the best advantage. BJ

9 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Finlay & Co

Dec 9th 1833

Gent[lemen]

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th inst enclosing Walker & Cos contracts for 20000 P[ieces] of Lead. I have this day sold to Messrs Locke Blackett & Co 3,000 P[ieces] One half Ref[ined] Selected & One half Com[mon] including 1/10 Slag at £14/10 & £15. Also to James & Co 2200 Ref[ined] at £15 & 800 Com[mon] at £14/10 usual credit from date of Contract.

I shall not make any further Sales under £15/10 and £16. Litharge £16..10/- which shall be glad to hear to be your determination also.

I am Sir BJ

9 Dec 1833 George Backhouse to Grace & Freeman

Grace & Freeman

Dec 9th 1833

Annexed I hand you Inv[oice] of 300 P[ieces] WB Ref[ined] Lead of the first quality shipped on board the Galena J[ohn] Cooper Master, which I trust will shortly be safely with you.

The ship has been detained since Saturday by the weather, but I think she will get away today.

I am Sir GB

9 Dec 1833 George Backhouse to Joseph Blog

Sir

Dec 9th 1833

Above I hand you Invoice of Twenty Casks of WB Litharge, the quality of which I trust will be satisfactory.

I also beg to inform you that the price of WB Litharge has this day been advanced to £16..10/- per ton.

I am Sir GB

12 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Dec 12th 1833

I am favoured with your letter of the 9th and 10th inst advising the Payment of £1000 to Mr B[eaumont]'s credit at Glyns & Co on account of Bills rec[eived] from Cox Payser & Co.

I am glad you have effected a Sale to Locke & Co and have induced them to take one half of the ref[ine]d Lead of the Ordinary quality. I fear you will not be able to make your Sales generally in this proportion but it is very desirable when ever it can be done. I shall give Mr J Crawhall, Mr Keys agent here – an order for 3000 P[iece]s Ordinary Refined Lead today and he may ship any part of it immediately. I go on Monday to the Mines with the subsistence Money and will bring down a correct Statement of the Stock at each mill. It will be inconsiderable, not exceeding in the whole 1500 or 2000 Pieces exclusive of <of make> Lead at Allen and Fallerfield Mill and of which there is but a sufficient quantity to carry on the Refinery Furnaces at these places.

BJ

P.S. Interest Book and Book of Balances to be sent.

12 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Locke & Co

M[essrs] Locke & Co London

Dec 12th 1833

At Mr Hodgsons request, I beg to inform you that the estimated value of the 10,000 P[iece]s of WB Lead you have purchased of him will be £4044-10-

BJ

14 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Thomas Key

Thos Key Limehouse

Dec 14th 1833

Your letter of the 3rd inst was not forwarded to me for some days or you should have heard from me sooner. I am glad Messrs Grace & Co have so willingly met the error in the invoice. I am advised by Mr Hodgson of your having purchased of him 3000 P[iece]s Ordinary Ref[ine]d Lead, and at the same price Viz £15 p[er] fodder. Mr Crawhall called upon me yesterday and I then stated to him in that we would not deliver any selected refined Lead before the middle or end of March and that our selling price was £16, but that I would let you have 1000 P[iece]s at £15-10 to be delivered at that period. As it however appears that Mr Hodgson would have sold you that quantity at the same Price he obtained for the Ordinary, had he been here we could have del[ivere]d it. I am willing – with <J HW> concurrence that your purchase be extended to that quantity. Our present price of Ref[ine]d Lead is £16 Ordinary £15-10 and Litharge £16-10-

If from 100 to 200 P[iece]s of Selected Ref[ined] would be of great advantage to you we will endeavour to let you have it immediately and the whole 1000 P[iece]s as soon as we possibly can.

BJ

14 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

[Note: Letter undated, date assumed from sequence]

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

I am favoured with your letter of 11th inst advising the receipt of £1542-14 from Mr W[ilia]m Parker and payment of the same to Mr B[eaumon]ts credit at Glyn & Co. On the <annexed> sheet I send you a statement of our stock of Lead at the Blaydon and the Mills by which you will see that there is a considerable deficiency to meet our present sales. There will however be little difficulty in effecting it before the purchasers require the delivery. I shall continue to send you a weekly statement of stock at Blaydon, which will be a guide to you for all future sales. As the Lead now comes in rapidly from the Mills, I consider the Blaydon return will give you all the information required to regulate your sale; connecting with it Mr P (Pattinson?) report of the prospective produce of the Mills for the next year. You may always conclude that the Stock of Lead at the Mills will never exceed one third of a months production. The usual monthly returns from the Mills will be sent but it would be attended with considerable inconvenience to send them oftener. Three of the Bills you rec[eive]d from Cox Payser & Co am[ountin]g to £176-3- would fall due before the £1000 last advised of but which you don't notice

17 Dec 1833 George Backhouse to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay & Co

Dec 17 1833

Inclosed I hand you Reads unpaid Acceptance bearing Mr Keys Endorsement value as under-

Bill 20

Costs .. 19 .4

To which I will thank you to do the needful.

I am Sir GB

P.S. As this Bill was transmitted through you I prefer its taking the same course back to direct transmission to Mr Key.

19 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to William Ferry & Co

Messrs W[ilia]m Ferry & Co

Gateshead

Dec 19 1833

Above I hand you renewed Invoice of 12 Casks WB Litharge due in bank 1st Sept :-
Cash and bearing Int[erest] at 5 per cent from that date. I will thank you to send a c
Cheque or call and discharge the Am[oun]t in the course of the present week.

BJ

19 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Robert Chance

Rob[er]t Lucas Chance Esq Birmingham

Dec 19th 1833

I beg leave to call your attention to the Amount due from you to the Ex[ecutor]s of the
late Mrs Beaumont amounting to £620-19-7 due the 30th June 1831. You will oblige me
by stating when we may expect it to be paid.

BJ

20 Dec 1833 George Backhouse to Mr Emerson

Dear Sir

20 Dec 1833

Herewith you have a quantity of forms for making out the Statement of the
Stock of Lead on hand at Blaydon to the close of last week. Two of which you will be
kind enough to fill up & forward here every Monday Morning.

Please inform me tomorrow what q[uan]tit[y] of Ref[ine]d Slag Lead you have at
present on hand.

Yours Sir GB

21 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to John Stagg

John Stagg Esq Stockton

Dec 21 1833

I was prevented answering your letter yesterday being absent from Newcastle.
We have but 450 Pieces Refined Slag Lead but can make of 500 next week which
I shall be glad to sell to you at £15.10 per fod[der]. 500 Common at the same price and
1000 P[iece]s Ref[ined] at £16 per fod[der]. These are our present prices and I believe
the prices of the Company and Duke of Cleveland I shall be glad to have you're
am[oun]t by return of post or I have an application to purchase Slag Lead from a
London House.

BJ

22 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

[Note: Date and Author both assumed; letter not signed or dated]

Finlay Hodgson & Co London

I Have duly received your letters of the 13th. 17th. 18th. And 19th: inst advising the receipt of the following sums-

	£	S	D
1833 Dec 13 th 2 Pieces fine Silver	834	18	8
“ 16 th Grace & Freeman	293	4	0
“ 19 th John Locke & Co	3943	7	6
“ “ 1 Piece fine Silver	440	1	0
	£5511	11.	2

& all the Payment of the same to Mr B[eaumon]ts credit at Glyn & Co

Mr Parker called this morning to enquire if Mr Walker had made a purchase of Slag Lead and to what <interest> We have but 450 P[iece]s Ref[ine]d Slag which I offered yesterday to Mr Stagg of Stockton at £15-10

24 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

24th Dec 1833

I have duly received your letter of the 21st inst and have now to advise of having sent by Jackson & Co Waggon to your address as usual a piece of fine Silver weighing 1523 1/2 ounces. Mr Stagg to whom I offered 500 P[iece]s Ref[ine]d Slag at £15-10 per fod[er], declines it at that Price and offers £15 for 500 P[iece]s Common and 500 P[iece]s Ref[ine]d Slag which I have of course declined.

BJ

24 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to John Hodgson

[Note: date assumed from sequence.]

John Hodgson Esq

You are quite correct in your statement of the quantity of Lead to be made by 14th March 1834 if Mr P[attinson] is correct and which I have no reason to doubt. You may also add 1000 Pieces of selected Ref[ine]d ch/w we supposed purchased by Mr Key. It is somewhat singular that Mr P[attinson] sh[oul]d state to you that he has no particular wish to visit the <Spe..sh> Mines – when he proposed it to me himself. I cannot tell how his partiality to Rookhope arises unless it is that this Agent <Mr Steel> the Agent is more tractable than the other Mill Agents. I shall request him to give us a correct

statement of the expence and advantage of his new Process over the older and <...> to him that he may provide to a sufficient extent to give it a fair trial at Blaydon.

I trust our Common Lead will carry us thro[ugh] our Ref[ine]d if you sell in the usual proportions of half common half Ref[ine]d.

BJ

28 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to John Hodgson

John Hodgson Esq

Newcastle Dec 28 /33

The annexed letter will explain my observations to you in a former letter, upon the sum invested by Mr B[eaumon]t in the Allendale Road. I have taken considerable interest in it since it has fallen under my observation as Mr B[eaumon]ts representative and I am glad to be able to give you so good an ac[coun]t of its present prospect to pay at least a portion of Interest. When this was returned in the Executors List acc[oun]t it was considered of little or no value, as no Interest whatsoever had been paid upon it & it was the intention of the Trustees to expend a large sum upon some new Branches, but I thought them not absolutely required, & they have for the present abandoned them. I think it right that Mr B[eaumon]t should wave [sic] his priority of claim to be paid the £1500 as the other party will I have no doubt in that case give up on their £1682 and consolidate the whole amount without preference Mr B[eaumon]t is now receiving as Mr Crawhall justly observed by the reduction of Ore and Lead Carriage at least £1200 per annum for which the other parties receive nothing beyond the accommodation of an excellent road which before was often impossible. Please to lay the report before Mr Beaumont the first opportunity.

BJ

28 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Hugh Pattinson

Mr H I Pattinson

The weight of the piece of Silver sent this morning is 1147 1/2 Ounces. You will oblige me with a statement of the actual expence of smelting the different ores produced in Weardale, at Rookhope. Allen & Dukesfield Mills, also stating the expence of refining at Allen, Dukesfield & Blaydon.

BJ

28 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Grace & Freeman

Messrs Grace & Freeman

Above I beg to hand you Invoice of 200 P[iece]s of WB refined Lead shipped this day – which completes you purchase of 2000 Pieces in June last. Annexed you have statement of shipping charges of 4000 Pieces which you will please to remit me at your convenience.

WB Lead Office Dec 28th /33

28 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Thomas Key

Tho[ma]s Key Esq

I have duly rec[eive]d your lre (letter) of the 26th inst enclosing seven Bills value £2151. 2s. 3d of which £1613.0s.6d we carry to the credit of the London Works & £538.1s.9d to the credit of the Exorship acc[oun]t debiting the same with £267.13s.6d paid for Ground Rents. We also credit the London Works with £598.6s.10d paid by you to Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co on the 26th inst

WB Lead Office Dec28th/33

28 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co

I am in receipt of your lre (letter) of the 24th inst enclosing one from Mr Key with seven Bills value £2151.2s.3d of which £1613..0s.6d we carry to the credit of the London Works and £538.1s.9d to the credit of the Exorship acc[oun]t debiting the same with £267.13s.6d paid for Ground rents particulars of which we will thank you to furnish & also credit the London Works with £598.6s.10d paid to you by Mr Key crediting you with that amount Paid to Mr Beaumonts credit at Messrs Glyns & Co.

I also note your receipt of £3000 from Glyn & Co and payment of the same to Mr Lee & Mr Clifford which sum I paid through Messrs Batson & Co out of Mr Beaumonts Landed receipts. I have also received Mr B[eaumont]s Bond to Mr Bell for £2000 duly cancelled – which sum was paid to Mr Bells credit at Glyns & Co out of the Lead acc[oun]t & observe your payment of £60.5s.0d Interest on the same to the 26th Inst & £83.2s.6d paid to Glyn & Co on Mr B[eaumon]ts acc[oun]t.

I have this day forwarded to your address as usual, a piece of fine Silver per Jackson & Co Waggon, weighing 1147 1/2 ozs. And shall forward another piece on Monday of which you shall have due advice.

The Balance against the London Works now stands at £1889.11s.11d exclusive of charges for Freight, Lighterage & Keelage on Messrs Grace & Freemans Lead 3000

Pieces. We send by the Red Plover Coach this evening a Box containing the Balance Book & etc etc

Dec 28th/33 BJ

PS the Red Plover Coach runs to the Bell & Savage Ludgate Hill.

28 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to John Hodgson

John Hodgson Esq

My Dear Sir

I beg reference to my official letter of Saturday last

The D[ra]ft of Lease from the Bishop has been forwarded to Messrs Griffiths at Durham his Lordship's Sol[icitor]s & the Declaration of Trust to Mr Birks at Barnsly Mr Becket's Sol[icitor]s. Messrs Donkin & Stable will see Mr Griffith next week when the lease will be endorsed & forwarded to Mr Beckett. Mr Donkin thinks there can be no difficulty in getting the Bishop to consent to have any name substituting in lieu of my <Son's> if it should be Mr Beaumonts wish. We have a precedent for it under the late Bishop.

You will receive the Balance Book which I trust you will find correct. There is a trifling difference compared with Mr Knox's statement, in the liquidation fund, which is explained by Mr Backhouse in Mr Knox's A/c. I have sent you a Statement of the Allendale Road Trusts. Do you think it will be necessary to take any notice of it in the Exorship's A/cs.

28 Dec 1833

Yours Sir BJ

28 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

[Note: Date assumed from sequence, copy letter un dated]

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co

I duly rec[eive]d your lre (letter) of the 27th inst and Mr Keys statement of acc[ount]s for Dec .. on the Other side I send you statement of our stock at Blaydon on the 28th inst. I have this day forwarded to your address as usual by Jackson & Co Waggon a piece of fine Silver weight 1021 1/2 Ozs

Yours Sir BJ

28 Dec 1833 Benjamin Johnson to Thomas Key

Tho[ma]s Key Esq

I have duly rec[eive]d your lre (letter) of the 26th inst enclosing seven Bills value £2151. 2s. 3d of which £1613.0s.6d we carry to the credit of the London Works & £538.1s.9d to the credit of the Exorship acc[oun]t debiting the same with £267.13s.6d paid for Ground Rents. We also credit the London Works with £598.6s.10d paid by you to Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co on the 26th inst

WB Lead Office Dec28th/33

2 Jan 1834 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

[Note: Letter unsigned but assumed to be from Benjamin Johnson]

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co London

Jan 2nd 1834

On the receipt of your letter this morn[ing] I sent for Mr Pattinson and have now the pleasure to hand you our joint opinion of the value of Lead Ore suitable for making Common Lead delivered at the Wharf at Blaydon.

In Sep[tembe]r last I furnished you with a Statement of the value Ordinary & Slag Ore del[ivere]d at Blaydon from Mr Pattinson and Mr W[illia]m Crawhall selling Com[m]o[n] Lead at £14 per fodder. Mr Pattinson stated at £8-15-0 and Mr Crawhall at £8-11-5 but to Mr B[eaumon]t statement we thought it necessary to add four or five shillings per Ton for the extra carriage of Lead <on allen> Pig Lead – enabling the two estimates about agree. You then fixed Sep[tember] 27th : £9_4_4 to be the price at which you would sell the Ore per Ton.

Now taking the value of one Ton of Ore selected for making common Lead at £9_4_4 when Common Lead was worth £14 per fodder it follows that when Common Lead is worth £15-10 per fodder the price of one Ton of Ore will be £10_4_1 but to this you must add the probable advance that may take place before the end of the next four months when the 160 Tons will have to be del[ivere]d.

The Hospital regulation for the Sale of their lot Ore is for every advance of 10s/ per fodder in Lead the Ore advances 2s/6d per bing or 6s/3d per Ton. Now could you in case of a Sale make this regulation with Purchasers? We should be able to deliver forty Tons of Ore a Month at Blaydon provided the roads are not drifted up with snow.

I must defer answering the other points in your last letter until Sat[urday] as it was late before Mr P[atkinson] came in from Blaydon. I am delighted to hear that Mr Beaumont arrived I will write to him on Sat[urday] tomorrow not having a London Post day.

4 Jan 1834 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hogson & Co London

Jan 4th 1834

I have duly received your Letter of the 1st inst and note you Sale to Mr W[ilia]m Parker of 5200 P[ie]ce[s] Lead and 70 Casks of Litharge. Also your sale of 2000 Pieces Common Lead to Mr Key. These sales will fully establish the Price at £15-10 and £16 of which I have appraised the Duke of Cleveland. Mr Backhouse has made out the ac[coun]t against the London Works which you will find to agree with yours, excepting the Payment of the Lever Lee Company which you state to be £2,060-12-1 and Mr Key £2061-12-1. This Mr Key will be able to explain. We have also excluded the Keel dues paid on 3000 P[ie]ce[s] of Grace & Freeman Lead. I am not able to send the bankers monthly account as I wish all the Payments to be made on account of the Mines <etc> to be entered as paid on the 31st Dec[ember] and it will be a few days before I can get them all collected en[ter]ed and paid.

6 Jan 1834 Benjamin Johnson to John Hodgson

[Note: Letter dated 1833 but must be 1834]

John Hodgson Esq

Jan 6th 1833

I had the pleasure to receive your letter of the 4th inst this morning and am glad Mr <Bt> approves of all that has been <done> in his absence. I wrote to him at <Rams>gate on Sat[urda]y and Mr Donkin to the same place yesterday.

Mr Parker called this morning to say he sh[oul]d write [to] his partner Mr Walker to pay for the 15,000 p[ie]ce[s] purchased on the 7th of August last by three equal payments in Cash at Glyns & Co on the 20th Jan[uar]y 20th Feb[ruar]y and 20th March. I told him I should leave it to you and Mr Walker to <estab[lish]> whether such payments would be accepted <inst...> an allowance of future <..> as the whole would due on the 7th of Feb[ruar]y as the prior pay[men]t in Jan[uar]y w[oul]d not compensate for the extra credit upon the Pay[men]t in March. The amount is £14,785_11_0 Mr Parker says he considers they are entitled to an offer of the 1500 P[ie]ce[s] common Slag at £14 as a part of their late purchase and that he shall decline to purchase any Slag above that price. I therefore consider your <party> with Mr Walker advised of on the 23rd Dec[embe]r at an end.

In my letter to Mr Beaumont I stated fully every circumstance respecting Mr Backhouse and want his answer before I finally approach any one to his situation. I have warned a person I think very suitable to fill the situation – he is 32 years of age & is at present a Schoolmaster at Newbiggin, a village in this neighbourhood. I have known him several years and he bears an excellent character. I shall be glad to receive the Copying Machine and directed the Capt[ain] of one of your traders to call upon you and bring it down- but if already sent off all the better.

7 Jan 1834 Benjamin Johnson to Lock Wilson & Bell

Messrs Lock Wilson & Bell

At your request I hand you Invoice as above and beg to acknowledge the Receipt of Tender for 20 Tons Malleable Iron Rails which I accept. BJ

9 Jan 1834 Benjamin Johnson to Joseph Price

Joseph <Price> & Co

Jan 9th 1834

Gent[lemen]

Annexed I hand you Ac[coun]t of two purchases of WB Lead a payment for which will be due as follows

£ s d

for the first Purchase Amt	941	3	3	due Feb[ruar]y 21st
for the second	497	15	0	f[ebruar]y 23rd
	1438	18	3	

And have this day drawn on you as under viz

At Forty three days after date for	£941	3	3
At Forty five days after date for	£497	15	0
	£1438	18	3

Which you will please to honor when due

BJ

11 Jan 1834 Benjamin Johnson to John Hodgson

John Hodgson Esq

I shall see Mr W[ilia]m Crawhall on Tuesday next when I take up the subsistence money & I will request him to state what he considers the value of Mr Beaumont's interest in the Allendale Road. Its real value to him as connected with his mines has been at least from £1,000 to £1,200 a year but the valuation must be made upon the probable return that he will receive from the road in future.

As no dividend has yet been declared I am quite sure that no purchaser can be found at anything like the value, and it was on this account that the Turnpike trusts here and in Yorkshire were returned at so small a sum.

Railway Shares

If Mr Beaumont were to offer his Shares in the Railway for Sale – under whatsoever circumstances it might be stated to occur. It would be a death blow to the concern. It is quite clear that additional shares must be created to compleat the undertaking and it is equally clear that if he, the person of all others the most benefitted should offer his shares, no one would invest one penny beyond what they are now bound to pay and the undertaking would be most fearfully injured – out of the whole amount of the 60 shares he now holds of £100 each he will not have to advance more than from £3,000 to £3,500 the residue being met by the money paid to him by the company for his land taken up by the line of Railway- of this about £1,000 will be paid for the Land at Bywell and the residue from the settled estates near to Hexham, which will of course have to be invested – or the parties take a beneficial interest in the Railway which I think they cannot refuse to do. I have no hesitation in saying that Mr Beaumonts mines and Estates will benefit from £1,000 to £1,500 a year when it is completed to Haydon Bridge it is expected to be opened from Hexham to Blaydon this year when a very considerable saving in the carriage of lead and materials going to the mines will take place. And should it never pay anything to the shareholders Mr B[eaumon]t will be amply paid for his Investment. A sale would materially affect his popularity in the county. Mr Donkin is of the same opinion upon all these points. I am sorry to inform you that Mr Beckett refuses to act in any way until a Ledger is restored to him which it appears was borrowed some years ago and sent to London when Mrs B[eaumon]t had a trial with the Low Moor Company. I never heard of the circumstance till the other day but it appears Mr Beckett has often applied for it and I much fear it has been mislaid in London & may probably never be found. Mr Donkin has written to Bretton and to S[h]effield to obtain all the particulars. It took place when Mr Wheat of Sheffield was Mrs B[eaumon]ts Solicitor and the Gent[leman] who was his Agent in London is since dead. I understand Mr W[ilia]m Parker has got the Hudgill company to renew his Bills. This does not look well. He has purchased some lead of James & Co part of their last Purchase of us. Can you obtain for me any information of the credit of the parties who are partners with the Halls in the Derwent Mines –resident in London? I expect the Halls will pay Six shillings the first instalment on their Debts in a few Days and will be put in possession of the Mines and Works. If they should apply to purchase Lead & I have no doubt they will to what amount may they be trusted. Messrs Batson Berry & Co are to furnish me with a written statement of the manner they propose the acc[oun]t with them to be kept since the 1st inst on Monday which I will forward to you.

WB Lead Office

Jan[uar]y 11/34

I am Dear Sir etc BJ

11 Jan 1834 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co

I have duly rec[eive]d your lres of the 6th & 7th inst and note your sale of two pieces of fine Silver and Payment of the net proceeds to Mr B[eaumon]ts credit at Glyn & Co. I also observe that the parties to whom you offered the the Lead Ore have refused It will answer our purpose quite as well to make it into Lead. The £300 paid on the 9th Feb[ruar]y and the £100 paid on the 12th July to the Railway company was upon Mr B[eaumon]ts original 10 Shares & the £500 paid on the 9th Feb[ruar]y & the £500 paid on the 12 July last was upon Mr B[eaumon]ts 50 Sharesthese sums will I believe agree with my cash acc[oun]t viz £850 on the 9th Feb[ruar]y & £600 on the 12th July. Your statement of Mr Beaumonts acc[oun]t appears correct. In future the annual payment to the Infirmary must be charged to the Lead acc[oun]t as it is on account of the Workman at the Mines & Mills that it is paid. When you state that £20,000 must be transferred from the Liquidation fund do you purpose that £13,233-15s-6d of 1832 as a part, and the remainder to come out of the fund of 1834

The two surviving lives in the Bishop of Hexhams Lease are Sir John Trevellian Bart. Of Nettlecombe in the county of Somerset and Wallington in the county of Northumberland aged about 72 and not yet 73. And Christopher [see annotation below] Senior of Wolley in the County of York Farmer now aged 32 Years.

Yrs etc BJ

WB Lead Office Jan[uar]y 11th/34

[added in pencil:] This should be Richard Senior Son of Christopher

13 Jan 1834 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co

I had the pleasure to receive your letter of the 10th inst advising the sale of a fine Piece of Silver and payment of the net proceeds £273-10-11 to Mr Beaumonts credit at Glyn & Co. I presume the quarterly Payment to the Bishop of Durham due the 31st ultimo was paid by Mr Key as usual but I have no advice of it.

You state under Date of 26 Dec[ember]

We debit Mr B[eaumon]ts account £83-2s-6d paid this day to Glyn & Co on his account – and shall send you an extract of the Acc[oun]t Current on the 31stinst. In the mean time you will give us credit for their Payment.

This sum does not appear in your acc[oun]t Currant sent. I will thank Mr Knox to call on Messrs Chapman & Co Leadenhall Street and enquire when the Mermaid sails for Bombay and when my son Edward must come up.

WB Lead Office Jan[uar]y 13th/34

14 Jan 1834 George Backhouse to Thomas Key

Thomas Key Esq

D[ea]r Sir

During Mr Johnsons absence at the Mines this day, your endorsement on John Dobins Draft & Joseph Lee's accep[yance] has been returned for non payment. It was brought to me and I again returned it to Mr SK Batson observing that he has been many times requested to provide for such things at Glyns in case any of your endorsements should not be paid. He says Glyns refuse to do anything except through the regular channel, that is, returning them to Berwick. He however advises that you should in the first instance make them payable at your own Bankers if needful. I told him I thought you kept an a/c at Glyns & he is to transmit your Bill by this Post.

I am sir GB

Bill 29 16
Costs 1 3 11
£30 19 11

14 Jan 1834 George Backhouse to Finlay & Hodgson

Finlay & Co

14 Jan[uar]y 1834

Annexed I <transmit> you Stock of WB Lead at Blaydon showing the q[uan]tities disposable and wanting.

I have also to advise you of a piece of fine Silver this day forwarded to your address as usual by Jackson & Co Waggon & weighing 1593 3/4 Ozs to which you will give the necessary attention. This will close the Bullion A/c for 1833 & I hope it will soon be disposed of.

I am Sir GB

14 Jan 1834 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

[Note: Date assumed from sequence letter undated but prior letter dated 14 Jan and following letter 13 Jan]

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co

I duly received your letter of the 13th inst. It is true the Liquidation Fund of 1832 is but £3,223-15-6 but would it not be better at once to carry the Profit of 1831 and 1832 to Mr Beaumont's Debit to meet the £20,000 – take the Balance out of last years Profit and commence our funds from 1833

The following Gentlemen residing in London hold Shares in the Derwent Mines and are Directors; John Roath, Mr Harry Forman, John Macdonald, Thomas Hill, & Walter Hall.

Allendale Road.

In my last letter I stated the advantage to Mr B[eaumon]t of this road at £1,000 to 1,200 per annum. I am now able to give it in detail:-

Carriage of 6,573 Bings of Ore from Coalcleugh	£	S	d
To Allen Mill on the old Road at 4s/- Per Bing	1302	12	0
Ditto on the new Road at 2/6 per Bing	<u>814</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>
Ann[ual] Saving by new Road	488	9	6

Carriage of 6324 Bings of Allenheads Ore to	£	S	d
Allen Mill on the old Road 3s/8d per Bing	1159	8	0
Ditto on the new Road 2/6 per Bing	<u>790</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>
Ann[ual] Saving by the new Road	<u>368</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>0</u>
Brought Down	488	9	6

Annual reduction in the carriage of

Lead made at Allenheads	200	0	0
Ditto of Coals	150	0	0
Ditto of Materials for the Mines	<u>80</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	£1287	7	6

The number of Bings of Ore is the quantity sent to Allen Mill from Coalcleugh & Allenheads in 1833

Railway

I have also made out a statement of the advantage that will avail from the Railway to Mr B[eaumon]t so far as his mines are concerned. Supposing the Railway made to Hexham

From Allen mill to Hexham 9 1/2 miles	S	d
Carriage for One Ton of Lead	5	5 1/2
From Hexham to Blaydon 16 miles	<u>9</u>	<u>1</u>
	14	6 1/2

From Allen mill to Hexham	5	5 1/2	d
Hexham to Blaydon			
on the Railway 17 Mile	3	11	<u>9</u> <u>4</u> 1/2
Saving per ton			5 2

Supposing the Railway completed from Blaydon to Haydon Bridge

	S d
From Allen Mill to Haydon Bridge 5 miles	
Carriage of One ton of Lead	2 9
From Haydon Bridge to Blaydon	
On the Railway 25 miles	<u>5 9</u>
	8 6

Dukesfield Lead Carriage

Dukesfield Mill to Dilston 5 miles	S d
Carriage of one Ton of Lead	5 0
From Dilston to Blaydon on Railway	
12 miles	<u>2 9</u>
	7 9

Taking the quantity of Lead made at Allen and Allen Heads mill each year at 4,000 tons when the Railway is completed to Hexham there will be an annual saving of Carriage of £1,000 and when completed to Haydon Bridge of £1,200.

Taking the quantity of Lead made at Dukesfield at 3,000 tons a year there will be a saving of £750 a year the forecast rate of Carriage from this mill to Blaydon being 12s/9d per ton. These estimates are taken below rather than above what the actual saving will turn out to be.

BJ

16 Jan 1834 J Longhorn to George Backhouse

[Note: Letter is not addressed to anyone but is assumed to be a reply to George Backhouse letter to Thomas Key of 14 Jan 1834 above.]

Berwick Jan[uar]y 1834

My Dear Sir,

With reference to the Charge proposed to be made in Mr Beaumonts acc[oun]t under the circumstances you name. I cannot object to allow the £2 per cent upon it more really we could not allow unless for the movements in London, we were to make a charge upon them to indemnify us the expenses.

I am my Dear Sir Your very Truly

J Longhorn

You will receive herewith a ret[urne]d Bill which with similar ones, were desired, when dishonored to be applied for to the Other Parties By Glyns in London. This I believe Glyns would not do – they will not depart from their usual regularity & in fact as such a proceeding might lead to irregularities and get us all into scrapes it

would be better not but you might at any time when you have given notice to Mr Johnson, Enclose them to Messrs Glyn & Co directing them to whom & whence to apply. You can explain this to Mr Johnson but the best way would be for him to get Mr Key to give a reference on the back of the bill to his Bankers

17 Jan 1834 Benjamin Johnson to unknown

Sir,

In a letter I received today from Mr Beaumont this morn[ing] he says-
"Inform the Secretary of the Northumberland Hunt that I distinctly understood that the Subscription was for three years only."

NCastle Jan[uary] 17 1834

I am Sir Yours Truly BJ

23 Jan 1834 Benjamin Johnson to Finlay & Hodgson

Messrs Finlay Hodgson & Co

Jan[uar]y 23rd 1834

I duly received your letter of the 20th inst Messrs Grace & Freeman Statement of Ac[coun]t is correct, and I have given them credit for £4904.3 and £13.1.7 Discount-together the Bal[ance] of purchase of 2000 Pieces on the 24th June last. I also give them credit for £20-13-4 due to myself for shipping charges. I sh[oul]d wish this sum to be taken out of Mr B[eaumon]ts Ac[coun]t and I will request Batson & Co to debit themselves in £490-4-3 and pay over to me the £20-13-4. The Hudgate Co are asking £17 and I shall be glad to hear the London Co and yourself are doing the same. It is reported here that all the Lead – with the exception of the first shipments have been seized and Duty demanded upon it.

BJ

8 Feb 1834 Benjamin Johnson to Thomas Key

Thomas Key Esq Limehouse

Dear Sir

I had the pleasure to receive your letter of the 5th inst this morning enclosing 8 Bills together amounting to £2,053-1s-5d which I have carried to the credit of your acc[oun]t. I am glad to hear you approve of our separated Lead and wish all your late purchase of Common Lead to be of that Description so far as I am able I shall have great pleasure in meeting your wishes.

WB Lead Office
Feb[ruar]y 8th 1834

I am dear Sir
yours etc BJ

11 Dec 1837 Benjamin Johnson to John Ruddock

[Note: This letter is the last one in the ledger but is a long time out of sequence, the previous letter being dated February 1834]

WB Lead Office

Newcastle

John Ruddock Esq Hexham

Mr Beaumont having been about on the Continent I have not been able to return an answer to the complaint made by Mr Watson and others of the damage to their land by the Allen Mill Chimney until now and as the application was conveyed through you, may I beg the favour that you will communicate Mr Beaumonts answer to the respective parties. Viz That as soon as the weather will allow immediate steps will be taken to remove the cause by extending the Chimney Flue on to the Fell. I have already commenced to search for <straw> and in a few days shall advertise the winning of the stones and cutting the line of Flue. I think this will be satisfactory to the Parties and convince them of Mr Beaumonts willingness to do all in his power to meet their wishes.

I am dear Sir Yours Truly

Benj Johnson