

23 Dec 1740 Thomas Rudd to John Simpson

Durham Decr 23d 1740

Sir

Mr. Silvertop has been with me and shown me an old Settlement of the Estate at Ashtree whereby it appears not only that it was an Estate belonging to Mr Timothy Shaftoe but he has also thorowly convey'd all the Colemines & other Royaltys within the same & this is very near 100 years ago, he has also shown me an Article made near 60 years ago for the workings this Colliery by the family of the Shaftoes & says that there have been Instances of the Working this Colliery by the owner of the Lands. He has likewise shown me a Copy of the Deed of Division of the West Lordship of Winlington made about 1632 whereby the several parts belonging to the Lords are particularly specify'd & there is no mention made of this Ash Tree Estate as being any part of this Lordship of Winlington, and if it was no part of the Lordship at that time the present Lords cannot have any Title to the Collierys under it in that Capacity.

For which reasons I think you may very safely execute Mr. Silvertop's deed, but for your greater security you may if you please have an endorsement thereon, that nothing therein contain'd shall be construed to convey any right or Title to the Premises in you save such as you are entitled unto under the last Will of Albert Silvertop - I am

Sir Yr most Obedient Humble Servant

Thos. Rudd

[annotated on cover in JEB's hand:] Copy of a Letter from Thos. Rudd Esq at Durham to John Simpson Esq at Bradley Decr 23d 1740

9 Jun 1775 Thomas Dawson to John Erasmus Blackett

[Note: Letters evidently written to Blackett in his capacity as an Alderman or Mayor of Newcastle. 'Governor Blackett' was William Blackett, 1720-82, brother of JEB and governor of Plymouth Citadel in the 1770s]

Kinsale. Ireland 9th June 1775

Sir

I take the Liberty to enquire about a Recruit of mine one James Miller who on 13th of March last was brought before You & some other Gentlemen, by a Serjeant of the 31st Reg., on account of his declaring himself a Deserter from Gen. Elliott's Light Horse & that he gave so lame an account of the Matter, that my Serjeant wrote me You would not credit him & consequently not credit him, & consequently not grant the usual Reward of Twenty Shillings to the Serj. of the 31st. But that you were pleased to say he should be committed Prisoner & that when an answer was got from Elliott's Regt. or the War Office concerning him that you would acquaint Governor Blackett at Plymouth.

The Day of our Embarkation from that Port, 25th April, the Governor (who had arrived at that Citadel only three days before) had not as then heard from You.

In case he proves no Deserter from that or any other Corps I should be glad to have him over here, as he has been an expensive Recruit to me and our late Agents Ross & Gray in Conduit Street London would pay the necessary Subsistence and charges attending him.

I hope you will excuse this Freedom & I have the honor to be, Sir Your most obedient & very humble Servant

Tho Dawson
Captain in The Buffs or 3rd Regiment

[on facing page:]

Copy

War Office 20th March 1775

Sir,

I am directed by the Secretary of War to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 14th Inst. relative to the Commitment to the Gaol at Newcastle, of James Mellar a deserter from Lieut Genl Elliott's Regiment of Light Dragoons, & to acquaint you that an order is sent for his removal

I am Sr your most Hble Servy
Ant Chamier

Mr Wm Gibson/ Town Clk of Newcastle

[annotated in JEB's hand:] Capt Dawson of the 3d Regiment of Foot at Kinsale Ireland
Answd June 27 1775

16 Jun 1775 John Erasmus Blackett to George Selby

[Note: possibly George Selby of Paston (1720-1806) or his son Prideaux Selby (1747 – 1813) English soldier and who later held political positions in Upper Canada.]

Newcastle June 16th 1775

Dear Sir

I received your favour of the 10th Inst. and observe what you say with respect to Shotten Tythe; you must have misunderstood me when you thought I promis'd you should have them for I have no such power, Mr Richmond and Sir Walter Blacketts land Steward Mr Forster have the Sole Management & they were the proper persons to apply to of this estate I told you that I wo'd mention it to them, & if they intended Selling those Tythes, I th't they wo'd be ready to treat with you. I have since been informed that they are not to be Let, & Sir Walter Blackett has thoughts of disposing of them

We have few horses entered & I'm told little diversion is expected. Rain is very much wanted with us & I fear you are almost burnt up. Mrs Blackett joins with me in Compts to you & I am

Dr Sir Your most obedt Hum. Servt

John E Blackett

Colonel Selby/ Paston/ Near Berwick/ Upon Tweed

6 Oct 1780 Adam Cooke to John Erasmus Blackett

[Note: Blackett was mayor of Newcastle in 1780-1, The mayoral year started at Michaelmas (29 September)]

Right Worshipful Sir

When the Mayor of Newcastle wants me, he comes in your Invitation with the Grace of a Blackett, & when I want the Mayor, I'll come with the Grace of a Christian, who is not forgetful of the Compliment of a Gentleman to his Friend well wishes and humble Servant

Adam Moses Emanuel Cooke

Newcastle Forth At Mrs Dagney's
Octobr. 6th 1780

P.S. However if your worship should send a Dozen of <Rede> wine to my Lodgings from the Mansion House for the year I shall drink the health of the Mayor & Corporation on the first Sunday of every month and sing Te Deum over it with a holiday Companion

9 Nov 1797 William Chaytor to John Erasmus Blackett

Spennithorn 9th Nov 1797

Dr Sir

I have communicated the contents of your Letter to some of the Proprietors of Lead Mines and Mine Adventurers in this Country & have no doubt they will all be ready to join in any legal Measures necessary to prevent it possible any new Tax from being laid upon Lead ore at the Mines or upon Lead when smelted - To Tax the Ore according to weight before it is smelted would certainly be unequal or improper as some kinds of Ore will produce much more Lead than others - We have been told in this Country a Tax is to be laid upon Copper Tin & Coals as well as Lead but this comes from no authority that can be depended upon - I shd have been very glad to have spent a few

Days with you at Harrogate (from which waters I have recd great benefit) but am obliged to set out for London on Saturday next. - I shall most likely see Lord Pomfret and Lord Bolton who are both considerably interested in Lead Mines in this Country and I have no doubt will lend their assistance in preventing any Tax of this sort at least from being imposed on a Partial or in an unreasonable manner - The Scotch Lead by the Treaty of Union is exported Duty Free which gives them a considerable advantage over us - I shall return into the Country in about a fortnights time and shall be ready to join you in any measures that are likely to be beneficial to our Friends concerned in the Lead Trade I am

Dr Sir

Your faithful Hble Serv

Wm. Chaytor

[addressed to:] John E Blackett Esq/ Dragon/ Harrogate/ Wetherby

[annotated in JEB's hand:] Wm. Chaytor Esq 9r Nov 1797