

[These transcripts are taken from E.T.Hughes, (ed) *The Diaries and Correspondence of James Losh* published by the Surtees Society as its Volumes 171 (covering the years 1811-23, in 1962) and 174 (from 1824-33, published 1963). The original 33 volumes are held at Carlisle Library. We are grateful to the [Surtees Society](#) for allowing their further reproduction here. A short biography of [James Losh](#) is included in Dukesfield Documents]

8 Oct 1812 James Losh

[Note: Hughes did not publish the complete entry]

Dinner with the Magistrates...Ball in the evening, Mrs. Beaumont appeared in all the splendor of diamonds but with the manners of a proud and vulgar woman.

13 Feb 1820 James Losh

Mr. Beaumont (member for the County) called and I had much conversation with him. He seems to me to have acted honorably during the late short sessions of Parliament and to have been ill used by the Tories who pretended to be his friends.

7 Jan 1823 James Losh

[Note: Hughes did not publish the complete entry]

Went to Blagdon...to a ball and supper. The party consisted of above 200 persons. Most of the Gentlemen's families in the two Counties and a good many of the Corporation (Aldermen ec.). The Barringtons, Ravensworth family, Lambton, Monk, the Swinburns, Brandlings, Beaumont ec. ec. And everything was conducted not only very handsomely but also very comfortably. I had a favorable opportunity of introducing my sons to a good many of my aristocratic friends, and had the satisfaction also to see them look well and conduct themselves with the ease and propriety of well educated young men.

11 Jan 1823 James Losh

I left Bradley (Mr. Beaumont's) after breakfast. (It) is a handsome gentlemanly seat, pleasantly situated. Mr. Beaumont appears to be an amiable man, of liberal opinions, and considerable information. But he certainly does not appear to me to be a man of powerful mind, and his knowledge of metaphysics and Political Economy (of both of which he talks a good deal) is not very profound. He has been much in foreign countries and has been by no means an inattentive observer of their manners, customs

ec. But in my opinion, he never can make any considerable figure either as an orator or a man of business.

23 Aug 1823 James Losh

I was grieved to find from C. Bigge, who came to consult me respecting it, that the marriage between Beaumont and Miss Swinburne is broken off, owing to the gross folly and misconduct of Beaumont himself, arising, I have no doubt, from insanity.

26 Sep 1823 James Losh

I was detained in Newcastle until 6 o'clock by conferences with Ed. Swinburne, Mrs. Beaumont ec., respecting Mr. Beaumont's strange conduct and unfortunate state of mind. It is quite clear that he is deranged at present, but I much doubt whether by judicious treatment, that derangement might not be speedily removed. I had a long conference with Mrs. Beaumont and never saw a more lively and convincing proof of the vanity of worldly prosperity than in her cheerless and melancholy situation. With almost boundless wealth, considerable powers of mind and a numerous family, she has wasted, indeed poisoned, all these advantages by her overweening vanity and self-sufficiency. She conducted herself tolerably well during the interview, but humbled as she was by circumstances, she could not help perpetually alluding to her wealth and importance in the world, and to the high estimation in which she is held by her connections and friends, tho', were she not blinded by prejudice and habit, she must see that she is deserted and laughed at by both the one and the other.

Had I not been really sorry for his misfortunes, I should have been much amused by the strange mixture which she exhibited of arrogance and dismay, of humiliation and self-conceit.

4 Oct 1823 James Losh

[Note: Hughes did not publish the complete entry]

I went to meet Mrs. Beaumont at her urgent request and had much serious conversation with her respecting her son – that is as far serious as her overweening vanity and folly will permit her to be upon any subject. I shewed her Mr. B.'s last letter to me and a copy of my answer in which I distinctly stated my opinion that he labors under delusions as to the Capheaton family and advised him to apply to his medical friend on the subject. I pointed out to her the necessity of decisive and speedy measures and urged to her the certainty that his character as a gentleman and a man of spirit was gone, unless it really appeared that he was deranged when he conducted

himself so strangely to the family at Capheaton, Ld. Grey ec... She seemed convinced and deeply grieved, and with many expressions of gratitude promised implicitly to follow my advice. I left her, however, without much hope of having done good and satisfied that my former estimate of her character was correct.

9 Oct 1823 James Losh

I had a letter of thanks from Sir J. Swinburne and messages full of gratitude and offers of service from Mrs. Beaumont; from Beaumont himself, a letter full of exaggerated praise and professions of friendship and regard. With all this I confess I am very well pleased and the more so because I am conscious of having acted with good intentions. But I certainly do not expect much fruit from my exertions in the shape of benefit to myself or my family.

31 Oct 1823 James Losh

Mr. Beaumont arrived unexpectedly. I passed some hours with him and found him, tho' composed, clearly deranged as to Lady Swinburne.

2 Feb 1824 James Losh

[Note: Surtees Society editor's note: Rev. Christopher Bird. In 1817 Wentworth Beaumont had written to the Prime Minister soliciting the appointment of Bird to the living at Halifax vacant by the death of Dr. Coldhurst. B.M. Add. MSS. 38269, fo. 257.]

Mr. Bird (Mr. Beaumont's former tutor and friend) called upon me and I had a long conversation with him. He is a shrewd and sensible man and I do not think so ill of him as I did before we met. I take him however to be selfish and somewhat deficient both in the feelings and manners of a gentleman. He was originally in a low situation of life and his connection with a family constituted as that governed by Mrs. Beaumont must necessarily have been, would tend more to give him dexterity of manner, and steadiness of purpose, than either liberal feelings or openness of conduct. I talked to him calmly but firmly and unless he be a very complete hypocrite, he was so deeply affected as to speak without reserve and to tell me many things which in his cooler moments he would have concealed. I began by telling him that I had by no means a good opinion of him or his character; I then stated to him what I conceived to be Mr. Beaumont's real situation and let him see also that I was well acquainted with the disposition and qualities of Mrs. B and her whole family and with the circumstances attending his own situation with respect to them. Thus at once all reserve was at an end between us and as I knew him to be greatly embarrassed, and at a loss what to do,

and as I had no personal interest to gain, I believe he told me the truth and the whole truth, but whether or not nothing but the truth, I cannot say.

21 Feb 1824 James Losh

Miss Arrowsmith (the new Governess for our girls) arrived today and I am upon the whole satisfied with her first appearance and manners.

I had a curious letter from Beaumont which made it necessary for me to write to Lord Grey. I sincerely wish I were done with this misguided man and his affairs: but I trust my last letter will prevent him from writing to me any more upon moral and religious subjects.

29 Feb 1824 James Losh to Charles Grey

Durham Feb'y 29, 1824

Mr. Beaumont has now authorised me to say that he has given up all intention of proceeding against you. And I trust I may add that he will in future abstain from all measures which can disturb Sir John Swinburne or his family.

From the first, I stated to Mr. Beaumont without reserve that the only excuse which could be devised for his conduct was that very delusion which he wished so much to disprove. And I confess I have been more surprised than pleased by his continuing to write to me as a friend and sending me a general Retainer.

I need say nothing as to his plans with respect to the County, because you, no doubt, will have heard them from other quarters before this can reach you.

Brougham in a letter I had from him today speaks very highly of Williams's speech and Williams, himself, who is with us on the circuit, seems much satisfied with his success.

11 Mar 1824 James Losh

Lord Grey's letter is friendly and even confidential. He is evidently much pleased that I have been able to prevent Mr. Beaumont from pursuing his wild and vexatious measures and at the same (time) he wishes for my advice and assistance with respect to his son's offering himself for the County when Mr. B. retires.

17 Jun 1824 James Losh

It appears that Beaumont's errand when he last came into Northd. was to challenge E. Swinburne for contradicting the assertions in his speech at Hexham. All this shews the great error on the part of the Swinburnes in not shortly denying the truth of those assertions in the same paper in which they appeared.

27 Oct 1824 James Losh to Henry Brougham

Alnwick Oct 27, 1824

My dear Brougham,

Your letter reached me at the moment when I was setting out for this place. I however sent immediately about your parcel and I now learn from my clerk that it was forwarded last Friday and so I trust that it reached you safe and sound.

I can only repeat that I am much obliged to Lord Rosslyn for his kind attention, which, I have no doubt, contributed mainly to Baldwin's success. Pray be so good as to tell him so or tell me that I ought to write to him if you think that proper.

A Dissolution seems expected by the Duke of N's friends here and Lord Grey's arrival at Howick makes it more looked for.

What will be done in this country I really do not know - Beaumont certainly means to fight and is, I believe, well supplied with the sinews of war.

I hope you feel strong in Westmorland. I meant to have made my eldest son, who is just of age, a Freeholder but I fear it is now too late.

We are doing well at Newcastle with our Mechanics' Institution; they have already obtained a good Library and I hope they will soon have a tolerable collection of models and lectures both in chemistry and mechanics. I will do all I can in the neighbouring Towns of Sunderland, Shields, Durham ec. and I think I have yesterday and today done a good deal towards forming an Institution at this place, tho' I fear some difficulties may be thrown in our way by the Duke and his friends, who seem [to be in] a most holy fear of every species of improvement.

Yours always, most sincerely,

JAMES LOSH

23 Jan 1825 James Losh

I dined and staid all night at Bradley with Mr. Beaumont (his brother Edwd. was with him). My opinion of Mr. Beaumont is unchanged. Had he been a person of moderate fortune and properly educated, he would have been an amiable and accomplished man, whereas now he is evidently (tho' not without some good qualities), the mere slave of his passions and his habits. Mr. Ed. Beaumont is sickly and feeble looking but seems to be a pleasing young man.

25 Jan 1825 James Losh

[Note: Surtees Society editor's note: He resigned his seat on account of the scandal of the previous year.]

Beaumont was with me a long time on election business.

15 Jul 1825 James Losh

[Note: Hughes did not publish the whole of this diary entry]

To Hexham where I attended a meeting for the purpose of establishing a Mechanic Institution. I opened the meeting in a speech of some length, explaining the nature, pointing out the benefits to be derived from institutions of this kind and concluded with an exhortation to the working mechanics (of whom considerable numbers attended) to form themselves into a society to manage their own affairs and to exert themselves for their own advantage as well as that of their families.

...Several of the neighbouring gentlemen and more respectable inhabitants of Hexham attended and a considerable number of members enrolled themselves: a pretty good subscription was also obtained.

20 Feb 1826 James Losh

Mr. Beaumont arrived this evening (at Alnwick) and passed two hours at my lodgings (I fear to little purpose) in consultation as to his line of conduct. Mr Bell's Law Committee also met at my lodgings and staid with me until past 11, receiving my directions as to the legal objections to be taken tomorrow.

25 Feb 1826 James Losh to Charles Grey

Feb'y 25, 1826

I cannot deny myself the satisfaction of telling you how much we were all pleased with Lord Howick's address to the Freeholders on Tuesday. And I have no hesitation in saying that it was in matter and manner all that his best friends cou'd have wished.

He probably was not heard at a great distance, but his voice appeared to me so clear and distinct that with a very little practice he may without difficulty address a numerous Assembly in the open air.

My client, Mr. Beaumont, observed to me (what was very true) that Lord Howick was the only one of the speakers who was received with anything like enthusiasm. And the result certainly proved that he best deserved it.

Both the candidates seem to be very nearly exhausted and I think it is impossible to say who is the most likely to succeed. It seems perfectly clear that Mr. Bell has the much stronger interest and that his previous canvass alone has enabled Mr. Liddell to contend with him.

Have the goodness to make my best Comp'ts to Lady Grey.

P.S. Mr. Williamson, the Assessor, and I are obliged to go to Newcastle tonight but as we understand that both parties mean to bring down the London voters, we expect to be obliged to return early on Monday morn'g.

15 Mar 1826 James Losh

There seem now to be 4 candidates all likely to stand a poll at the next general election (for Northumberland). Ld. Howick, Mr. Beaumont, Mr. Liddell and Mr. Bell.

16 Mar 1826 James Losh

I had a long and somewhat curious interview with Mr. Liddell who called upon me professedly to talk about the Catholic question, but perhaps with the further view of making out my opinion upon other points also, but not forgetting my being the counsel and friend of Mr. Beaumont. He declared strongly his wish for Catholic Emancipation and professed that he was friendly to civil and religious liberty in general. He admitted, however, to me that he considered Mr. Canning as his leader and guide. He told me that the King is hostile but moderately so to the Catholic question, that the Duke of York is violently so is but too well known, but Mr. Liddell assured me (which I did not before know) that the Duke of Clarence is very friendly to the Catholics.

31 Jan 1827 James Losh

I dined at the Mansion House with a large party, assembled in honour of and for the purpose of meeting Mr. Beaumont. I had not seen Beaumont since the election, but we seemed to be (and I have no doubt were) upon our usual intimate terms. He conducted himself adroitly and by his cheerfulness and good humour pleased his friends and in some degree disarmed his enemies. My son William accompanied me and he was much amused having never before been at a large public dinner.

7 Feb 1827 James Losh

[Note: Hughes did not publish the whole of this diary entry]

I dined at a great dinner given in Fletcher's Long Room to Mr. Beaumont: it was numerous and upon the whole respectably attended. I spoke upon the subject of 'Parliamentary Reform' (having been requested to give that as a Toast) ...Beaumont spoke vigorously and certainly much better than I expected. If he would take pains and attend to business he would be a valuable member of Parliament and by no means a bad public speaker. He is very quick in his conceptions and has very considerable general information. His voice too is sufficiently powerful and he has the manners and appearance of a gentleman. I was disappointed in Mr. Bird. He is certainly an able man and speaks with great ease and self possession; but there is a coarseness of manner and want of tact about him which will always prevent him being a good public speaker.

22 Nov 1827 James Losh

Mr. Beaumont's friends between 20 and 30 dined together to celebrate his marriage which took place this day. I much fear that this hasty marriage with a very young lady, not over well connected (and what is worse probably not very well educated) is not likely to turn out well. Beaumont, however, has an active and vigorous mind and should he become steady in his habits, turning his attention to useful objects, he may still, with his great means, become a most valuable member of society.

27 Jan 1828 James Losh

I had an offer today of the situation of auditor to Col. and Mrs. Beaumont with a salary of £500 (and the payment of my annual expences of one journey to London) a year. I

think I ought not with my family, to refuse this, tho' I confess I do not like holding any situation involving responsibility beyond what is strictly professional.

4 Feb 1828 James Losh

I had today a long interview (and upon the whole a satisfactory one) with Mrs. Beaumont, together with the Revd. C. Bird as to my Auditorship and everything was finally settled. God grant that this important step may turn out for the benefit of my family.

5 Feb 1828 James Losh

I went with Mrs. Beaumont to Mr. Crawhall's (her agent's) office and she announced to him my appointment as her Auditor. After that we had a needlessly long, but upon the whole, a satisfactory conversation and examination of the books. During these, I think I obtained tolerably clear notions as to the nature and extent of the duties of my situation and my mind was much relieved by the conviction that I should be able to discharge them without much difficulty.

14 Feb 1828 James Losh

[Note: Hughes did not publish the whole of this diary entry]

In the morning I went with Mr. Crawhall and my son William to Blaydon...to see the works for refining lead ec. and inspect the manner of keeping the accounts. I was pleased with what I saw and am so far more and more satisfied with my new situation.

28 Feb 1828 James Losh

[Note: February monthly summary. The notes within the two sets of round brackets at the beginning are those of the editor of the Surtees Society volume. Dr. Phillpotts was the rector of Stanhope. Hughes did not publish the whole of this diary entry]

(Monthly summary) (On the duties of his Auditorship viz.) 'to examine the accounts of the different Stewards and Agents and to keep a general superintendence over them'. It is not expected that I should take any part in the detail of the business, except in renewing the agreement with the Bishop of Durham and perhaps also negotiating (should it be required) with Dr. Phillpotts...

26 Mar 1828 James Losh

[Note: Hughes did not publish the whole of this diary entry]

I set out in my gig...about 9 o'clock...to Newhouse (Mr. G. Crawhall's) to attend Col. and Mrs. Beaumont's great annual pay in Weardale. The whole sum taken up for this pay was near £70,000, but considerably more than half of this sum was paid away at the Hexham and Allendale pays. I breakfasted at Lanchester.

27 Mar 1828 James Losh

Newhouse (Mr. Crawhall's) is large, old and inconvenient. The entrance hall is a long narrow room with a table the whole length of it, at which the pays are made. Mr. Crawhall sat at one end of this with one plate full of sovereigns, another of silver and a third of copper coin before him, with piles of bank notes (the large ones Batsons, the small Scotch) on one side of him under the the care of a clerk. Three other agents or clerks assisted in keeping the checque accounts so as almost to prevent the possibility of any mistake.

The workmen were admitted in regular order and received their balances, upon respectively producing a ticket, shewing what was due upon the work done under the original bargain, deducting what had been received for subsistence ec. Subsistence money is paid every month and the balances once a year. The monthly payments about £4000 and the yearly pay about £70,000. This includes all Col. and Mrs. Beaumont's mines, not those of Weardale alone. Near Mr. Crawhall's house there were about 40 tents pitched, many of them supplied with liquor and refreshments, cold meat ec, but many also containing Yorkshire cloth, hats, shoes, trinkets ec. for sale. A curious example how closely supply follows demand; how soon money makes a market. Many shopkeepers too from Newcastle who supply the retail dealers in this district with groceries, hardware, ec. were in attendance to have their bills discharged. The pay was made to the workmen: they paid their bills to shopkeepers of this district and they again the persons of whom they made their wholesale purchases. It is said that Mr. Featherstone (a grocer in N.Castle) generally receives during the pay about £8000.

The miners in general are stout, well looking people, and they are, upon the whole, moral and orderly in their habits, honest and industrious, with the exception of being most of them poachers. One everywhere meets the bad effects of our absurd game laws.

About 20 of the principal agents ec. dined with Mr. and Mrs. Crawhall and myself and I suppose not fewer than 100 of the inferior agents, farmers ec. in the hall and kitchen.

Mr. Bolam, Mrs. Beaumont's Land Steward, attended to receive the farm rents which also mostly are obtained from the pay at first (for many of the miners have small farms) or second hand.

28 Mar 1828 James Losh

[Note: Only the relevant part of the diary entry published by Hughes is included here]

I stopped 2 hours at Stanhope and saw Dr. Phillpotts' large new house and good gardens: every thing seems to be done upon a liberal not to say expensive scale, and in point of taste, tho' there may not be much to admire, I do not think there is much to blame.

3 May 1828 James Losh

I took new chambers today in Mr. Crawhall's house in Newgate Street, having been driven, most unwillingly, from those I have long inhabited by nuisances of various kinds - a dram shop at the bottom of my staircase, a grocer's shop with a coffee mill, below me, and a carpet warehouse in the rooms above me.

14 May 1828 James Losh

[Note: Britton Hall is Bretton Hall, the seat of the Beaumonts. Only the relevant part of the diary entry published by Hughes is included here]

I set out upon my journey to Britton Hall and London taking my servant Noel with me. We left N.Castle at 1/4 before 6 in the Leeds coach and reached Leeds soon after 7 at night. I went on the outside the whole way and we travelled safely and by no means unpleasantly. As I sat on the Box with the coachman I was not much annoyed by the dust; I saw the country to advantage and had the means of enquiring as to the names of places ec.

15 May 1828 James Losh

[Note: Hughes did not publish the complete diary entry]

...Reached Wakefield soon after 10...and proceeded immediately to Britton Hall. I found Mrs Beaumont and her Steward (Mr. Brackenridge) waiting for me and we entered upon business immediately.

16 May 1828 James Losh

Business: auditing accounts and arranging deeds ec. Mr. Rodgers (Mrs. B's solicitor) joined us. In the 10 hours I, of course, include conversation and consultations with Mrs. B. on her affairs.

30 May 1828 James Losh

[Note: May monthly summary]

Mrs. Beaumont is certainly not a pleasant person to do business with, but she has many good and some kind qualities and I do not doubt by steadiness and a moderate degree of attention, to get on vastly well in my new situation. Her principal agent in London appears to me to be a good man of business and I found all his accounts clear and very regular. Indeed, Mr. Hopkins has been brought up and occupied all his life, in business connected with lead and I am disposed to think very well indeed both of him and of the clerks whom he employs in his office.

28 Jul 1828 James Losh

From Allendale Town to Allenheads the ride is romantic being near the wild little brook called the East Allen. There are some plantations and a small quantity of natural wood on its banks and the wild heath covering the hills which rise to a considerable height makes the scenery wild and interesting. We were very hospitably received by Mr. W. Crawhall who seems to be a plain but sensible man.

29 Jul 1828 James Losh

I went into one of the principle lead mines, about 2 miles in extent and 120 fathoms deep. We went most part of the way in waggons but were let down by a rope in two places from ten to 20 fathoms and descended a considerable way by 30 short ladders fixed one above another on projecting parts of the rock, making altogether a height of about, I suppose, 60 or 70 fathoms. I suffered very little inconvenience in going down but felt the labor of coming up tedious and fatiguing. Mounting the ladders in particular tired me and put me so much out of breath so that I was obliged to rest several times as I ascended, but I did not afterwards suffer any inconvenience from this over-exertion. The mine was upon the whole well ventilated but in places I felt the air close and unfit for easy respiration. This was I believe occasioned by the explosion of the gunpowder with which the working of the ore is here carried on.

Different parts of the mine are let to different small parties of workmen, who are generally paid so much per BING for the ore washed and fit to be melted into lead.

I do not think the wages of miners upon an average at present above 15s per week: children, however, may be employed at small wages, and they have some advantages as to houses and grassing for cows ec. Many, however, of the workmen come from a distance bringing their week's food with them and 6 or 8 of them lodging and cooking in single rooms.

30 Jul 1828 James Losh

[Note: Hughes did not publish the whole of this diary entry]

We rode to Coalcleugh where we stopped some time and then proceeded to Brackensike ec. seeing Boretin Force, a romantic little cascade on our way. We had a luncheon at Coalcleugh and returned to Allenheads to a late dinner. The day was fine and I was much pleased with my excursion. I rode above 20 miles and walked a good deal without suffering from fatigue. I think the air of the heaths and mountains always agrees with me....We found Mr. Johnson, Mr. Beaumont's Steward at Allenheads.

25 Aug 1828 James Losh

[Note: Hughes did not publish the whole of this diary entry]

In the morning early I proceeded to Wolsingham where I breakfasted and joined Mrs. Beaumont at the Rev'd. Mr. Wilson's. We then went on to Mr Geo Crawhall's in her open carriage, Douglas driving her maid in my gig...Dinner and all night at Newhouse.

26 Aug 1828 James Losh

In the morning, we proceeded to Allenheads, the home of Mr. W. Crawhall and were met by the Revd. C. Bird and Mr. Bolam, Col. B.'s land agent and Mr. Johnson, Mr. Beaumont's agent. We passed this day in examining accounts, giving directions to the agents ec. Mrs B. here had her table supplied from the small inn near and had her own wine, fruit ec.

17 Oct 1828 James Losh

Went to the Ball where I had much talk with Liddell (our M.P.). He was sounding me as to Beaumont's plans and I was endeavouring to make out his. I do not believe we were either of us successful.

7 Dec 1828 James Losh

I went alone to Bywell to visit Beaumont and his bride and dined and staid all night there. Mr. Bird was the only other visitor and we had much confidential talk as to the Election. We both stated the absolute necessity of Beaumont's regular attendance to his parliamentary duties: and assuming that as a condition, we gave it as our opinion that he had the fairest prospect of success.

8 Dec 1828 James Losh

Beaumont and I had a long walk before breakfast and another afterwards, his wife accompanying us. He shewed me also every part of his house and we talked over all his meditated improvements.

Upon the whole I was pleased with my visit and really hope that this marriage may be very beneficial in its consequences. The lady is young, pleasing in her appearance and unaffected in her manners. But she does not appear to me either handsome or clever.

With the exception of a little vehemence against the Quakers and the Irish Association, there was nothing eccentric in Beaumont's sentiments and his manners are always good. Beaumont is certainly a man of good talents. He has a good memory, has read much but without any regular system and his imagination often runs away with him. He would be very pleasant in conversation, were he not too fond of metaphysical subtleties and did not a little disguised Aristocracy now and then shew itself.

15 Jan 1829 James Losh

Mrs. B announced to me my appointment to be Steward, or judge, of the 'Head Court of the Regality of Hexham'.

21 Apr 1829 James Losh

[Note: Hughes did not publish the whole of this diary entry]

I went to Hexham...to enter upon my new office of steward of the Regality of Hexham. I succeeded Mr. Williamson who was dismissed by Mrs. Beaumont in (as it appears to

me) a foolish and not over gracious manner. His answer to her letter was short and spirited, but the change has made no difference in the good understanding which has always subsisted between him and me.

22 Apr 1829 James Losh

[Note: Hughes did not publish the whole of this diary entry]

A large party of the gentlemen of Hexham and the neighbourhood dined with me (at the expense however of the Lord of the Manor). I pushed about the bottle and by giving a good many toasts, and making them 2 or 3 short speeches, I contrived to get the evening well and chearfully over...

6 May 1829 James Losh

[Note: Hughes did not publish the whole of this diary entry]

I received the melancholy intelligence of the death of Maria Bigge, which tho' it was not unexpected, grieves me very deeply...As I heard of Maria's death on my way, I was very unfil for business, but I was obliged to proceed to Durham to meet the Agents of the Bishop. Mr. Crawhall accompanied me and we made what seems to be a very good bargain, viz. that the Bishop is to receive £1000 per Quarter during his holding the see of Durham, in due of the 9th share of lead ore.

11 May 1829 James Losh

[Note: Hughes did not publish the whole of this diary entry]

I set out in the Mail for London with Noel taking an inside and an outside place. Mr. Brackenridge accompanied me as far as Wakefield....Leeds is a large and an ugly town.

14 May 1829 James Losh

After calling upon Mrs. Beaumont, I went to the House of Lords and had the satisfaction to find that all difficulties were removed as to our railroad.

15 May 1829 James Losh

At Beaumont's earnest request yesterday, I attended the christening of his little boy (Wentworth Blackett Beaumont) at his house near Hampstead. The party consisted of Mrs. and 2 Misses Beaumont, Capt. and Edwd. Beaumont, Mr., Mrs. and 2 Misses

Atkinson, Messrs Broderick and Summers - 2 young Atkinsons joined us at the splendid entertainment which we had after the service was performed. Things went off very well considering the heterogeneous nature of the two Houses of Beaumont and Atkinson. My presence, I believe, gave satisfaction to both families and tended to prevent any disagreeable collision between the parties.

7 Oct 1829 James Losh

Mrs. Beaumont arrived and I was really glad to see the old lady looking so well after her late severe illness. Whatever her faults and her follies may be, her life is of great importance not only to her own family but to all persons connected with her concerns. At present, things at least proceed in an orderly manner, but should my friend Beaumont come into possession, I fear we shall witness much confusion and misrule.

9 Oct 1829 James Losh

Annual visit to the mines thus terminated satisfactorily. The death of poor Col. Beaumont makes no difference in the business arrangements of the family and I have nothing to say new of Mrs B., except that I think age and infirmities have rather improved and softened her character. I was glad that there was no necessity to dismiss any of her numerous workpeople (above 3000) tho' no doubt the reduction of wages must diminish their comforts very considerably.

14 Oct 1829 James Losh

[Note: Hughes did not publish the whole of this diary entry]

Dinner in the name of the Steward of the Regality of Hexham to about 19 of the principle inhabitants of Hexham and the neighbourhood...The dinner seemed to go off vastly well. I pushed about the bottle, gave them about 20 toasts, talked a good deal and was civil to every one! An easy mode of becoming popular in a country town.

1 May 1830 James Losh

[Note: Mr. Murray was the family doctor (E.Hughes note on the published version)]

I received a letter today from Mrs. Beaumont, mentioning the sudden death of her London Agent, Mr. Hopkins, expressing her great anxiety to see me and earnest wish that I should hasten to London as soon as possible. Upon mentioning this to Cecilia

she greatly approved the plan for my setting out to London without delay. Mr. Murray was decidedly of the same opinion.

16 Jul 1830 James Losh

I declined dining with Beaumont's election party.

11 Aug 1830 James Losh

A very numerous meeting of the Friends to the Abolition of Slavery was held today in the large Methodist Meeting House. Beaumont was in the chair and Brougham made one of his magnificent but somewhat too vehement speeches. He was warmed and somewhat exalted by the great events which have occurred in France and also by the most honorable and flattering mark of public approbation which he has just received from the great county of York, having been called upon (together with Lord Morpeth) by the freeholders, and what is still more remarkable by the great majority of the gentry to represent them in Parliament. This and Mr. Hume's election for Middlesex, both free of expence, prove that a great and decisive feeling in favor of liberal opinions has taken place throughout the country.

I was somewhat mortified that the state of my health prevented my sharing in the real triumph of the enemies of slavery upon this occasion.

16 Aug 1830 James Losh

This was an important meeting of the Railroad Directors. I presided as Chairman and succeeded in carrying the measure which appeared to me essential to our success, viz. that we should proceed with the Parliamentary Line at the Newcastle end, as they have done at the Eastern (sic) end not very far from Carlisle. John Clayton opposed my views, but I had a large majority. Beaumont attended and took a prudent and proper part in the debate.

29 Sep 1830 James Losh

[Note: Hughes did not publish the whole of this diary entry]

Went to Mr. Ord's at Whitfield...which is in my opinion one of the most comfortable residences I have seen. The situation is both romantic and convenient, for since the new road was opened, the access to it is safe and easy.

30 Sep 1830 James Losh

Proceeded alone in my carriage to meet Mrs. Beaumont at Mr. G. Crawhall's new house in Weardale, about 24 miles from Whitfield.

1 Oct 1830 James Losh

Drive to Mr. W. Crawhall's at Allenheads after breakfast, receiving a deputation of the workmen.

27 Oct 1830 James Losh

A large party dined with me (as Steward of the Regality of Hexham) at the White Hart Inn and everything went off very well. I gave a great many toasts and pushed about the bottle: some songs were sung and the whole party seemed to be satisfied and cheerful.

29 Oct 1830 James Losh

A public meeting of the inhabitants of Hexham in order to forward a petition for the abolition of slavery had been fixed at 10 o'clock this morning in order to suit my convenience. I therefore attended and proposed the first Resolution, in a short but, I think, clear and well arranged speech. The hour being very inconvenient to the shopkeepers and workmen of all kinds, the meeting, tho' respectable, was by no means numerous, which prevented me from speaking fully or with much animation. I had considered the subject with some care and had the meeting been large I should have endeavoured at least to point out both the evils of, and the remedies for, the present miserable condition of the slave holders, as well as of the slaves, in the West Indies.

15 Nov 1830 James Losh

I went with Mr. Johnson to look at Mr. Crawhall's new purchase at Benwell. His intention is to repair (or rather rebuild) the old hall. This seems to me bad taste and I much doubt its being good economy. There are some beautiful situations in the park: he might have repaired the present offices for his gardeners' and hinds' houses, fruit rooms etc., left the old tower covering it with ivy and made his gardens and orchard, and had his stables etc. between it and the village; all these might easily have been protected from the east wind.

14 Dec 1830 James Losh

Mr. Darnell (a Prebendary of Durham) wrote to me yesterday and came to my chambers today for the purpose of making a bargain with Mrs. Beaumont for the lead tithes of Stanhope, Dr. Phillpotts (now Bishop of Exeter) having by his manuevres lost the living of Stanhope. As some promise had been made to him in the King's name by the Duke of Wellington, Lord Grey empowered the Bishop of Durham to appoint any of the Prebendaries of that place to be Rector of Stanhope, upon condition, however, of regular residence and of the appointment of the Bishop of Exeter to the vacant stall.

Mr. Crawhall and I after a long conversation agreed, subject to Mrs. Beaumont's approbation, to give Mr. Darnell £3750 a year by quarterly payments during his incumbency. This, I think, a good bargain for Mrs. B. and I do not believe that Mr. Darnell would have taken the Rectory unless we could have secured this sum. He seemed to expect £4000, the sum we give the Bishop.

2 Feb 1831 James Losh

[Note: Hughes did not publish the whole of this diary entry]

I went with Beaumont to Morpeth to attend the County Meeting called by the High Sheriff upon the requisition of near 300 most respectable gentlemen and freeholders...As Beaumont and I travelled by ourselves I had a great deal of conversation with him; he does not want sense and has both read and thought a good deal on politics. His opinions are liberal and moderate and he is in theory far from being an aristocrat, but he has been spoiled so much by early indulgence and by a long course of dissipation and selfishness that I fear that he will always in practice be a slave to his passions.

1 Mar 1831 Anonymous

[Note: Hughes incudes this piece as an appendix. Transcribed here is the relevant part of the pamphlet referred to in Losh's letter to Brougham of September 7th 1832. It is undated but Losh dates it to the time when the 'great question of Reform was brought forward' and is dated here to 1 March 1831, when the Reform Bill was introduced to the House of Commons]

Beaumont and Ord's

GREY LIST

Englishmen! One of the boasted pledges of Earl Grey on his accession to power was, that the affairs of Government should no longer be carried on by patronage. He has spent a long Parliamentary life in Bawling out for a 'Reform' of what he called 'abuses', and has invariably felt himself scandalized whenever a Tory chanced to confer an appointment in Government, the Army or Navy, or the Church, on a deserving relative. Compare his professions with his performances; look upon his shameful abandonment of principle; see how he has feathered his nest, and the nests of every member of his family, by giving all who are capable of wearing lawn sleeves, or a red coat, or putting on a sailor's uniform on a gala day, or of walking to the Treasury Office to receive their pensions, some share of what the Noble Earl and his political satellites

THE WHIGS
while out of office, called
'Public Plunder!'

	£	s.	d.
1. Right Hon. Earl Grey, First Lord of the Treasury, Member of the Privy Council, Supernumerary of the Knights of the Garter, Commissioner for the Affairs of India ec. ec., per annum			12,500
2. Right Hon. Lord Durham (married to Earl Grey's daughter Louisa Elizabeth), Lord Privy Seal, with a seat in the Cabinet, per annum	2,192	6	2
This Noble Lord soon after his acceptance of Office, took a violent fit of Economy - he felt ashamed that, having a splendid private fortune, and no arduous duties to perform as Lord Privy Seal, he should receive a large sum from the declining revenue of an almost impoverished country, and declared he would sustain the honour without the emolument. But he has since repented, applied to the Treasury and pocketed the money! He has also gone upon a foolish errand to the Emperor (or as Beaumont & Ord affirm the 'miscreant') of Russia with his wife and a tail of nephews, cousins, and half cousins. The Noble Baron is the bearer of Five Millions of John Bull's money which Beaumont & Ord voted to the 'Miscreant' to enable him to exile the Brave Poles whom he has conquered, to the Deserts of Siberia! This pleasant excursion of the 'family party' sent out for so 'execrable' an object will cost the country not less than an additional			80,000
3. Henry, Viscount Howick, M.P. (son of Earl Grey) Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, per annum			3,000

4. The Hon. Edward Grey (brother of Earl Grey) Lord Bishop of Hereford and other 'Nice Pickings', per annum 13,000

5. The Hon. George Barrington, M.P. (married to Caroline, daughter of Earl Grey) a Lord of the Admiralty, Captain of the Royal Navy ec., £2,000. The Captain may be considered a sort of political Caleb Quotem for in addition to his Captainship in the Navy and his Junior Lordship of the Admiralty, he is Steward of all the Bishop of Durham's Manor Courts (to perform the duties of which he keeps a Deputy), and lastly he is Master of the Greatham Hospital in the County of Durham. This situation affords some fine pickings - the Captain pockets at least, from this alone £600 a year, although he has no duties to perform and £1,400 from his Stewardship of the Manor Courts makes an additional per annum of £2,000 - in all 4,000

25 Apr 1831 James Losh

I travelled to N.Castle by the mail coach and reached that place precisely at 2 o'clock, just in time for the public meeting. I was called to the Chair, reluctantly because there appeared to have been no previous arrangement, owing, I think very much to Dr. Headlam's want of tact or judgement. We got through the business better than could have been expected, tho' certainly my situation was not a very pleasant one. I was determined to call upon Lord Howick to come forward, but as Mr. Beaumont's sentiments were not known, his friends were at a loss how to act, particularly as no one seemed to have had any direct communication with Lord Howick. I however, determined to take a decided and straightforward course and to support two honest Reformers by every means in my power.

28 Apr 1831 James Losh

Beaumont arrived and I was much occupied with him in canvassing.

29 Apr 1831 James Losh

[Note: Hughes did not publish the whole of this diary entry]
I breakfasted with Beaumont...and afterwards went to Hexham where there was a great public meeting held in the open air. I was in the chair as the Steward of the Regality of

Hexham. We met first at the old Hall and then adjourned to the Abbey green. Beaumont spoke very well and when I returned thanks...I addressed the crowd at considerable length with the view of persuading the freeholders to go to Alnwick at their own expence and I believe I was very successful, certainly what I said was very well received and measures were immediately adopted to prepare carts ec. for the purpose of cheap conveyance.

29 Apr 1831 James Losh to Henry Brougham

[Note: The letter is undated, but the postmark is 29th April 1831.]

My dear Lord Brougham,

Your letter of the 23rd. followed me to Carlisle and from thence has only this moment reached me. I went into Cumberland on Saturday to attend a great meeting of farmers ec, where William Blamire presided as your Brother James' deputy. Politics were prohibited in our public speeches but great enthusiasm was shewn in conversation and I contrived to hint pretty broadly at reform in what I said to the meeting at large. My nieces has prepared 3 dinner invitations for 3 different days to give me an opportunity of agitating. On Sunday, however, I received a summons from Newcastle and on Monday I got upon the mail coach and got there in time for a public meeting.

We are going on admirably and I have no doubt we shall bring in Howick and Beaumont without any direct expence to either of them. Their immediate connections, however, shou'd subscribe £1000 or £1500 for each of them. All Beaumont's professional [agents] have given up their retainers and volunteered their most active and gratuitous [support] . What do you think of 25 reforming Attornies all selected in 1826 and not for their political sentiments. I of course heard their Declaration.

I have written to Lord Durham today. All hostility towards Beaumont must be forgotten (or at least suspended); any shyness or suspicion will do infinite harm as many of Beaumont's nearest connections are very jealous of some private understanding between Mr. Bell and Lord Howick's friends. Another thing is of the utmost importance - the Agents of the Greenwich Hospital are all the private friends of Mr. Bell and they will evade any written directions which may be given to them. A confidential person ought to be sent down as this may make the difference of 50 or 60 votes. If Bell run away as I really hope he may do, I will proceed to Cumberland or Westmorland or wherever I may be wanted. I have declined acting professionally (I mean for pay) any where.

I am much grieved that the Cabinet shou'd lose their salmon owing to my absence.

Yours always sincerely,
JAMES LOSH

[P.S.] I have this moment had a letter from the Cumberland and Carlisle committees. You know, of course, that W. Blamire has been called forward by a very numerous party for the County. And James and Howard have declared for the city. The enthusiasm is as strong as we could wish in Cumberland, Durham and Northumberland.

It is only justice to Mr. Beaumont to say that he has been always most anxious to secure Ld. Howick's Election. His own is beyond all doubt safe; but I know that he would rather retire himself than that Lord Grey's son should be beaten in his native county. He has uniformly to me expressed his sincere respect for Lord Grey and there cannot be a more determined Reformer than he is.

12 Aug 1831 James Losh

When I reached home I found a letter from Brackenridge with an account of Mrs. B's death. What effect this may have upon my income I do not know, but notwithstanding Beaumont's apparent friendship and regard for me, I certainly consider my Auditorship as somewhat precarious. I much fear the old Lady's death will not increase the comfort or prosperity of her family, though certainly she was neither a wise nor an amiable woman.

14 Aug 1831 James Losh

I had a short but very friendly letter from Beaumont requesting me to meet him at Breton as soon as his health will permit him to travel.

27 Aug 1831 James Losh

I had a letter from Beaumont today of the most confidential kind, but still I fear that when he finds his income much less than he expected, he may think he can do without an Auditor. Were I merely his Auditor, perhaps he would be right, but with his habits, a person of some experience and of integrity is quite essential to any tolerable management of his affairs.

31 Aug 1831 James Losh

I had a letter from Beaumont expressing great anxiety about his affairs and wishing me to meet him in London.

1 Sep 1831 James Losh

[Note: Only the relevant part of this diary entry has been transcribed]

Mr. Donkin and I have nearly the same views of Mr. Beaumont's situation and I think if he can be persuaded to act reasonably, his affairs may be satisfactorily arranged without much difficulty.

29 Dec 1831 James Losh

Business with Beaumont at Bywell where I dined and staid all night. Nothing could be more kind and confidential than Beaumont's communications with me. He disclosed to me all his plans in strict confidence, viz. his determination to dismiss the Crawhalls and all his present agents except Johnson. His intention to place my son James in the situation of Auditor etc., and his resolution not to sell Bywell etc. He also consulted me as to his conduct as to the County representation, and desired me to sound W. Ord as to being his colleague for the southern division, when the Bill is passed. All this looks well and promising, but unfortunately I have no confidence in Beaumont's steadiness.

3 Feb 1832 James Losh

Re son James becoming Beaumont's Auditor. I shall be quite content with my 100 guineas a year for holding the courts and going to London once a year if required.

6 Feb 1832 James Losh

With his usual impetuosity, Beaumont seems to have taken a step which must cause an immediate rupture with Mr. Crawhall. He gives me the same account as James did of their interview and speaks candidly and fairly enough of that subject. His wish to see me in London arises from his not knowing how to act with respect to Crawhall.

22 Feb 1832 James Losh

I had today a long letter from Beaumont written in a more business-like style than usual. I fear, however, that he is pursuing a very doubtful course in his affairs, and that James will not have a very pleasant (perhaps not a permanent) office as his Auditor.

16 Mar 1832 James Losh

[Note: Only the relevant part of this diary entry transcribed]

I saw Lord Howick on the Railroad business and had also a good deal of conversation with him on the subject of Emigration. He appears to me to be a clear headed man of business, and tho' I know his manners are said to be cold and repulsive, I never found him otherwise than frank and even attentive and civil. I had a good deal of talk with W.Ord relative to the Northumberland elections ec. I dined and drank some coffee with Beaumont and Mrs. B. and Miss Atkinson, her sister.

24 Mar 1832 James Losh

[Note: Only the relevant part of this diary entry transcribed]

Most part of the morning I passed with Beaumont and Mr. Hodgson (his new agent).

10 Apr 1832 James Losh

[Note: Only the relevant part of this diary entry transcribed]

I saw Mr. Mulcaster and arranged the terms upon which he is to give up his present situation as Mr. Beaumont's Agent.

12 May 1832 James Losh to Henry Grey

[Note: Only part of the letter transcribed.]

May 12, 1832

When I wrote to you very hastily yesterday, I did not recollect that there was last night no post from this place to London. I have now seen Headlam, Mr. J. Fenwick and many of your other friends in Newcastle and have the greatest reason to believe that Lord Grey is, if possible, more popular than he was before his resignation. I have also seen a good many of the solicitors ec and I think I can venture to say that should there be a Dissolution, you and Mr. Beaumont will both be returned without any expence whatever, let who will be your opponents. But I do not believe any person will have the courage to oppose you.

7 Sep 1832 James Losh to Henry Brougham

[Note: Only the relevant part of the letter transcribed. Losh's 'little pamphlet' is 'Observations on Parliamentary Reform' (1831). See entry for 1 March 1831 above]

Jesmond Grove
Sept. 7, 1832

My dear Lord Brougham,

...I will send a copy of a little pamphlet which I published a short time before the great question of Reform was brought forward. I had arranged in my mind materials for a much more extensive work, but circumstances occurred which prevented me putting them together; and I was obliged (having advertised my intended work) to write something very hastily, and therefore confined myself mainly to answering an Article on the ballot in the Westminster Review which was at that time most industriously circulated in the shape of a small distinct pamphlet, gratuitously distributed all over the kingdom.

If you take the trouble to read my little work you will see, however shortly stated, the opinions which I have always held on the two very important subjects to which you allude, the right of suffrage and the mode of increasing it. I cannot help thinking that, if the liabilities to serve on juries was somewhat extended and the franchise of voting given to householders but somewhat restricted by a qualification, the duty and the privilege might be made to match, and perhaps hereafter, when your schoolmaster has been abroad a few years longer, all householders may be safely entrusted with the exercise of them both.

The Reform Act, however, has done so much and gone so far beyond the most sanguine hopes of all reasonable men, that I most anxiously wish that no attempt be made for several years to come, to make any material alterations in it - nothing beyond improvements in the mere detail of its operations, where it may in practice be found not to work well.

I sent you today a Newcastle paper, which will shew what we are doing here as to election matters. Both Bell's party and the ultra (or Tory)radicals, have most perseveringly published all kinds of abuse against Lord Grey, which certainly have produced some effect tho' to no considerable extent. Several answers have been given, one of which you will see in that newspaper: it is too verbose and too violent, but the main facts are well stated and by condensing it and making it somewhat more clear and simple, it will be useful in the form of handbills and placards.

Rely upon it the Tories are ready enough to call the Radicals in, as allies against rational Reformers. Shou'd they succeed (which God forbid) they will repent, as in all similar cases, when their allies become their masters, and their masters they soon wou'd be. I do not, however, bate one jot of heart or hope. The struggle is now, as it was in the time of Charles the first, between the middle classes and the two extremes, but knowledge is more diffused and the press much more powerful now than it was in those days. It must however be allowed also that pauperism and profligacy have fearfully strengthened the ranks of the enemy. War wou'd in the present state of things be madness - in all states it is a detestable evil and those who seek to plunge our country into it (under any pretence whatever) seem to me to be either very weak or very wicked. It wou'd certainly be a glorious sight to behold England, France and

America united to preserve the peace of the world by mild means, if possible, but if necessary by the sword itself...

4 Jan 1833 James Losh

Dinner with Beaumont at the Recorder's Club. It was the anniversary and Mr. Dixon was in the Chair. Most of the party were of the Tory faction, but everything went off very well and with apparent good humour. Beaumont and I sat by John Clayton and I couldn't help laughing in my sleeve at the frankness and candour which were exhibited on both sides.

10 Jan 1833 James Losh

I went with Beaumont to Hexham where a public dinner was given to him by a large body of electors. Mr. Blackett was in the chair and the day went off very well. Blackett made an excellent chairman and spoke very well and like a gentleman. Beaumont made the most regular and statesmanlike speech I ever heard him deliver. I had not prepared myself so much as I ought to have done but being a good deal excited by the general enthusiasm which prevailed, I spoke with considerable force and effect.

22 Jan 1833 James Losh

I dined, as Recorder, at a sumptuous dinner given by the Master and Brethren of the Trinity House (The Trustees for a charitable Institution!). Mr. Bell, M.P., the Mayor, and all the Tory crew formed the dignitaries at this feast much in principle resembling a parish dinner - given out of the poor rates. I was nearly alone of the liberal party and the most studied attention and respect was paid me. Mr. Bell affected to speak in the most friendly and familiar manner (after having during the election not spoken at all). I received his advances with cold civility. Mr. Brandling gave my health in civil and flattering terms, for which I returned thanks in a very few commonplace words. As I have never had the slightest personal disagreement with any of the Brandlings, I now as always meet their friendly advances with kindness and cordiality. It occurred to me afterwards that I might have given the Tories a severe rub by proposing the health of Chas. Bigge, the Chairman of the Quarter Sessions - he being also chairman of the committee for securing the election of Beaumont. Perhaps however it was a more dignified course to go through the forms, without condescending to notice the political and party spirit of the meeting. Besides Bigge is too cold a reformer to deserve to be made the hero of our party.

21 Mar 1833 James Losh

A final meeting of the committee was held today and it was determined to abandon the petition agst Mr. Bell upon condition that Mr. Clayton undertook to give up that ag't Mr. Beaumont and to pay the expenses incurred already in promoting the petition ag't Mr. Bell. We found that we had not above £800 subscribed including £100 which I undertook to make good. I however held out an assurance that I could procure as much as wou'd bring up the whole to £1000. And I strongly urged them to wait until Sunday (24th inst.) on which day I thought it more than probable than I should procure what we wanted, viz. as much as wou'd make up £1500 - the sum stated to be necessary to secure our success.

The committee, at best only a feeble party, gradually melted down to 3 or 4 - and I by no means blame Mr. Philipson (the petitioner) or Mr. Potter (his surety) for shrinking from a serious responsibility with nothing but promises and hopes to support them.

I declined having any thing to do with any negotiation whatever with Mr. Clayton, or anyone else, as Mr. Bell's Agent. I soon heard, however, that Mr. Clayton at once closed with the terms proposed and the whole matter was speedily settled. Mr. Beaumont's conduct in this matter has been by no means creditable to him. After expressing in the strongest terms the absolute necessity there was to prosecute the petition with vigour - particularly after he found that one was presented ag't. himself - he seems to have made a private agreement with Mr. Bell (even proposing it first) that both petitions should be withdrawn. And this no doubt operated considerably upon the committee, in making them less sanguine and less zealous in their proceedings.

The Whig Gentry, with a few exceptions, are, in Northumberland a set of very shabby fellows, and the inhabitants of that county, generally speaking, a cold hearted, selfish race. I have exerted myself zealously in this business, but have found but little support and I am sick, very sick, of North'd. politics. Henceforth I mean to stick to my profession and to withdraw as much as possible (gradually and quietly) from all but professional connection with Newcastle and North'd. I will give up by degrees all my subscriptions to public charities, except those connected with education or literature, and so avoid public meetings in any degree connected with electioneering.

22 Mar 1833 James Losh

I have felt more mortified by the result of all my labors in support of liberal measures in the So. Division of North'd than such an event deserves, but I have witnessed so much selfishness and want of any thing like honorable feelings, not only amongst those who nearly, if not quite, profess to be trading politicians, but also amongst those who

'bawl for liberty', that I cannot at once reconcile myself to so degraded a state of human nature.

24 Apr 1833 James Losh

[Note: Hughes has not published the whole of this diary entry]

Dinner...to a large party of Hexham Grandees...but it was quite evident that Mr. Beaumont's popularity is much damaged by his foolish conduct with regard to the petition ag't Mr. Bell.

14 Sep 1833 James Losh

[Note: Hughes did not publish the whole of this diary entry. Only the relevant part of that which Hughes published is transcribed here.]

Mr. Crawhall died today...He will be a great loss in many respects to me, but mainly in respect to the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway. He was an honest and kindhearted man, well acquainted with general business and an excellent accountant and orderly and persevering in whatever he undertook. He also had considerable knowledge in Mineralogy, Natural Philosophy and a taste for literature and the fine arts.

His faults were want of flexibility in manner and obstinacy in whatever measures he had once adopted. He had also a hesitating manner of expressing himself and his contracted education and early habits of life prevented him from ever having the ease and assurance of a gentleman.