

24 Mar 1652 George Redshaw to Edward Radcliffe

[Note: A Henry Horsley was one of the Northumberland commissioners appointed in December 1652 to raise a tax towards the maintenance of the army.]

Copy

If Sr. Edward Radcliffe doe not pay in to Mr. Horsly Treasurer the rent for Langly and Land ends to morrow Souldiers will come to Dilston & Quarter.

George Redshaw

this 24 March 1651

13 Feb 1696 Edward Blackett to Robert Mallabar

Newby13 Feb: 1695

Robert Mallabar

I recd. your Lettr. and you acquaint me that your fore-elders has always had a Seat in Beltingham Quire and that my Steward John Lowes hath taken away your Ancient Seat and will not Suffer you to sit there and likewise will not allow that you have any buering [burying] place there, what right or title you have to either I am wholly Ignorant of but assure yourself I will not Suffer my Steward to debar any man of his Just right either in Church or elsewhere So if you have any right to it you may assure yourself that none that acts under me shall hinder you of it being

Yr freind

E Blackett

This sumer I design God willing for the North & then I doubt not but to set all Stright amongst you

[on verso:] For / Robert Mallabar / These [presents] / Thorngrafton

29 Oct 1703 Joseph Barnes to Edward Blackett

Honrble Sir

I am ashamed that I have not yet given you an acct has I found matters att your Courts. I came not home till last Friday att night: & having been long absent I have been so entangled and engaged unavoidably in business that I would not write to you sooner. I find there are severall customary Tenemts wthin your manrs but there are noe Rolls or Books (that I cann hear of) relating to them which I take to be a great fault, such as may occasion the alteration of the tenure to your prjudice: & it is probable you

have not rec[eive]d some prejudice already by this means. About 20 years since John Lowes purchased part of a customary tenement & had it conveyed to him as a freehold by Deed & fine & I am affraid it will now be difficult to sett this right. as to the parsells purchased by William Lowes and George Barrow they agree them to be part of customary tenements but made some doubt as to takeing Admittances, & I gave them satisfaction in that particular that they ought to be admitted: yet they did not p[ro]ceed att your last Court to take the Admittances. In some manrs such neglect would by custome amount to a forfeiture of the Estate; but I could not find what forfeiture or penalty accrued to you by custome & I was not willing to amerce onely, fearing that might waive the customary penalty if there be any; wch is fit to be inquired into. As to the tyth Barrow prtend to a modus, & is willing that the matter [one word missing] arrived at by any you will please to appoint: & if the [1-2 words missing] shall not appear to your satisfaction he will submitt to [missing, probably 'William'] Lowes as to his parcells acknowledgeth tyths are [1-2 words missing] farms the tyths of those parsells of the Farm[end of word missing] one of those parsells of Land (I think the Steel [2-3 words missing] by Lease from your selfe (which I saw) & therein [3-4 words missing] <rested> & reserved to you I see there are [3-4 words missing] animosities between William Lowes & Charles Barrow <wch> I believe some use might be made thereof to your advantage, yet I think evry story is not to be believed. The communion Table & your pew in your Chapell att Beltingham are not in good order; a small expense would put them into a more fitting condition. & if this would please to give some allowance towards this incouragement of the minister there, it would be a most acceptable favour to your Tenants & others in the neighbourhood of your place.

I alsoe begg leave to acquaint you that your steward or Bailiff of Henshaw will not allow the Earle of Darwentwaters Bailiffs of Wark to take up any waifs or strays or to exemt any <press> within Henshaw: tho always one appears att Wark & pforms Sute of Court there for Henshaw I know it is alledged it is only in respect of the Leet of Wark. However my Lord only desires that the matter be fairly examined & considered by two, one to be appointed by either of you for that purpose & if you will think fitt to allow for it to be, I hope that matter may be better understood & determined. I am

Your obedient servt

Joseph Barnes

Oct 29. 1703

[on cover:]For Sir Edward Blackett Bart att Newby near Burroughbrigge In Yorkshire
Pt pd NC

8 Jun 1711 John Wilkinson to Edward Blackett

[Note: Recipient not stated, but presumably Edward Blackett]

Invoice of the costs and charges of four hundred pieces of Lead shipt by the order and for the acct and risque of Messrs Nathanaele and Jno Gould of London on board the Grape of Newcastle. Matthew Giles Mr for Archangel and consigned to Mr. Thomas Ward, and the marks in the margent vizt

WB.S 400 ps qt 526 C 0q 14 lb at 21 cwt to a fother make 25 fo 1cwt 0q 14lb and at £8 10s p fo £ 212 19 1

Custom of 526 cwt at 12d	£ 26 6	
Coquett and <Culries>	£ 4 6	
Landwaiter	£ 2 6	
Plankage	£ 6	
Porterage	£ 14	
Boatage	£ 15	
		£ 28 2 6
		£ 241 1 7

Newcastle 8 June 1711
Errors excepted
John Wilkinson

Invoice of the costs and charges of four hundred pieces of Lead shipt by the order and for the acct and risque of Messrs Nathanaele and Jno Gould of London on board the Endeavour of Stockton. William Smith Mr for Archangel and consigned to Mr. Thomas Ward, and the marks in the margent vizt

WB.S 400 ps qt 531 C 0q 7 lb wch make at 21 cwt to a fother make 25 fo 6cwt 0q 7lb and at £8 10s p fo £ 214 19 1

Custom of 526 cwt at 12d	£ 26 6	
Coquett and <Culries>	£ 4 6	
Landwaiter	£ 2 6	
Plankage	£ 6	
Porterage	£ 14	
Boatage	£ 15	
		£ 28 2 6
		£ 243 1 7

Newcastle, 8 June 1711
Errors excepted JW

[on verso:] 8 June 1711

Copy of the Invoice of 800 pieces Lead shipt in Matthew Giles and William Smith for Archangel on Messrs Nath and Jno Gould acct

23 Sep 1717 John Wilkinson to Edward Ridsdale

[Note: Attorney Edward Ridsdale was the husband of Wilkinson's distant cousin Anne Blackett, Anne being the daughter of Edward Blackett (1649-1718)]

Cousin Ridsdale

Newcastle, 23rd September 1717, pm

This is to request your friendship and assistance in an unfortunate affair, which I suppose you must be no stranger to from the many particulars Mr. Leedam gave Cousin Thomas Davison of what hap[pe]n[e]d of it at Boroughbridge and at Ripon, and from the acco[un]t your Lady (as I was told) gave Mrs Christian Blackett in a lett[e]r to her at that time, and therefore twould be needless to trouble you with a relation thereof, but from what hap[pe]ned there, and before, and after, tis too plain Sir William Blackett was the person that seduced and conveyed my daughter from me, tho he denys the whole, nay his even being at Ripon at that time, or his knowing anything of her and so conceals her by removing her from place to place, that notwithstanding all the searches that have been made for her (in one of wch she narrowly escaped) she cannot be got, so that I am obliged to have recourse to the law to recover her from him and that you know will depend on proof, and therefore it will be necessary to have the affidavits of those persons that can give any acco[un]t of the matter particularly Mr Goulding of Borough Bridge, and his servant who met two of Sr Wms horses which had been at his masters for <some time>, taken only away the Sunday before, returning from the place on the Tuesday the 21st of May the fatall day our Child left us, and the people at Ripon that can give any acco[un]t of him, in his coming this way, or in his return with her, as the house where he lighted and the house he and she lodged at, and the coach man that carried them from Ripon, and if any of those persons should refuse to come before a justice of the peace on his sending for them, or then to be examined upon Oath, the Justice I am advised by my counsel may by his Warrant compell them to both. now I being altogether a stranger in your parts, what I have to request of you, is, that you will be pleased to give me the necessary assurance, to get one of your justices that you think may be a proper person to examine them, to send for those persons, you judge can give any acco[un]t of the matter and to take their examinations upon Oath. Colonell <Notclife> was at Ripon then, for when he came here some time after, he was telling some of it, and that he see Sr William, a <Grizled> mare, that my daughter must have rid to Ripon or was left the next day at FerreyBridge [?], Cousin Tho. Davison who was there a few days after, see her, <I> with the people where they lighted at Ripon, could give an acco[un]t of the horses, pray let the people where she lodged, and the Coachman be examined to her person and clothing and if there be occasion for my sending one over to give a description of her, I shall. After all your being a relation may perhaps have some scruple in being concernd, and if so I beg youl recommend me to a person to do it, but not to tarry for my answer, but give him

directions, pray spare for no cost and whatever you shall disburse, shall be thankfully repaid as shall you for your trouble be grateified by

your most humble servant
John Wilkinson

my wife joyns with me in our services to your and your Lady and Mr Ridsdale your father

[on verso:]

To / Mr. Edwd Ridsdale Junior
At his house/ In / Ripon
By Borough Bridge

16 Dec 1740 Nicholas Roberts to John Blakett

Decr. 16th 1740

S[i]r

S[i]r Edward orders me by Mr. Bowes to Enquire after your health this very Extream Cold Weather, the snow is I think Deeper than any time last year and the Frost as Severe, we have a Scarcity of <Fother> and have a whole Troop of Dragoons Quartered here which is very heavy upon our Poor ale house Keepers, S[i]r Ed[war]d has had the Gout in his right hand Sometime, my mother has had some slight attacks but I hope they will Escape a Bad fit., When Mr Bowes agreed with S[i]r Edward about the Farm as Whitshields Lowes was to lead all materials which you were to find and the workmanship in laying on, and he was to keep all the Thatch'd Houses in Repair at his own Expencc. There was no mention made of wood but as that is a material it is to be found, not that Mr Lowes is to take wood at will, I write this by S[i]r Edward's Direction, who with my Mother and Wife Desires services to you and all our Rippon Friends

I am S[i]r Your most humb[le] Serv[an]t
N Roberts

[on verso:] To

John Blakett Esq / At/ Newby

14 Sep 1762 Thomas Chatty to Mary Jurin

[Note: Mary Jurin, recently widowed in September 1762, was the daughter of Alderman John Simpson of Newcastle and possibly thereby a distant cousin of Sir Edward Blakett. Blakett and Simpson were evidently involved in a search for the missing will of Mrs Jurin's late husband James, perhaps as executors (notice in the

Newcastle Courant of Sept 4th 1762) which might explain how this letter came to be amongst Sir Edward's papers.]

The Hermitage September 14th 1762

Hon. Madam

Herewith you receive an abstract of all my Receipts and Disbursements from my first entring into my Master's Service to the 3d. July 1762 inclusive, and also an Account of my wages and how much I have receiv'd, and that upon the whole there appears to be a Balance of £46 0 2 due to me.

I believe I informed you that Mr. Waller made the Agreement for me, and that he told me my Master would not be confin'd to give me more than £15 a year but wou'd have it at his own pleasure to give me more or not, according as he shou'd think proper. When I waited on my Master he told me the same, and that he did not Doubt but I shou'd find his place to be very beneficial; for as he was a Justice of Peace & hired me to be his Clerk & Butler, I might expect considerable perquisites. I told him that I apprehended I was not Qualify'd to be his Butler, for that I did not sufficiently understand laying the Cloth & setting out the side-board, he reply'd those things would easily be learn'd, as he should always keep a Footman that understood it, and that I sho'd have little to do in that respect, but to stand behind his Chair and to take care of his Cellars and his Plate; and said he believed he should not stay in the Country many months at a time, but that I should always continue there; that it wou'd be some time before he should have occasion for me, but I should then enter into his Service, and that my wages sho'd commence from that day; and that as soon as he wanted me he would let me know; and said something which gave me room to understand that the advantage I shou'd receive by Perquisites would depend solely on his stay in the Country, and for that reason he would be at his own liberty whether he would give me more than £15 a year or not according as Circumstances should happen, or something to that purpose, from which I had a more than probable reason to expect a considerable Income.

In April following I receiv'd a Letter from my Master from Newcastle with Orders to apply to Mr. Sellwood [?] to assist me to buy a Horse to bring me down, and to pay for it & he would pay me again, and to be ready to come to him on the first Notice, & that he would allow my Expences upon the Road, but would not limit them but leave it to my own discretion, and ordered me to apply to his Sister Nanny who would give me directions how to send my Cloaths by Sea; but as Privateers were then very often taking Ships, and as I had a pretty good Stock of Cloaths, I did not chuse to venture them by Sea, but rather to run the risque of paying for Land carriage, if my Master should refuse it when I came to Newcastle & waited on my Master I told him I had sent my Cloaths by Land, and the reason why I did so, he said it was very well & ordered me to charge the Expence to his account; and told me that he had altered his mind as to my being his Butler, and that I must go to his House, where he had a good many Workmen & he would give me Money to pay their wages; that I must be sometimes among them, as my presence would keep them close to their work; and that he should

not look upon me as a common Servant; I did not know what he meant by that Expression, but I submitted to his pleasure.

My Master did not begin to act as a Justice until April or May 1758, and I did not get one Shilling in Perquisites before that time, not did I soon afterwards get a penny but what I got for Clerk's Fees, except 5s. from the Malt Man & 1s. from the Taylor; and tho' I understand that every other Servant had Money given at your first coming to the Hermitage, yet I had nothing at that time, nor at any other time, either when Money was left by Visitors or upon any Consideration whatever, tho' I apprehend, in case I had been permitted to act in the place of Butler, according to my first Agreement, I should have receiv'd considerable perquisites on that account; and did not doubt but my Master intended to make me ample Satisfaction in some other manner.

I humbly hope my Accounts will appear to be fair & just, and that my Expences will be thought very reasonable, for I have computed that my whole Expences, which I have charged to my Master's Account, from my first coming to the Hermitage, being upwards of five years, amounts only to the Sum of £1 13 2 or thereabouts.

I also understand that all the Physick & Attendance any of the other Servants have had from the Apothecary, is charged to my Master's Account, and I hope I may expect the same Indulgence, notwithstanding I have paid for what I have had to the first of January 1762; But if you please to reimburse me all or any part of what I have so paid, as Mr. Howson's Bill commences before the beginning of the Year 1760, you may if you think proper, send that Bill back again & order Mr. Howson to charge what Medicines I have had since that time in his Account to be now delivered in, and to return me what I have paid for the Years 1760 & 1761.

I most humbly ask pardon for giving you this trouble, but as there might be something which you may not be fully acquainted with I took the liberty to set it down in writing, that you may have the whole matter before you, which I submit to your Consideration; and if you think proper to allow me anything towards a Satisfaction of what I might reasonable have expected according to my first agreement, I shall accept of your Bounty with Gratitude and Thankfulness; for as I have no right to claim anything from you but what appears in the Balance of my Accounts, therefore whatever you please to give me over and above that Sum will be a Charity bestowed on your

most dutiful and most obedient humble Servant
Tho[ma]s Chatty

[on outer leaf:] To Mrs. Jurin

[annotated in a different hand:] Mr. Chatty's letter

13 Jun 1767 William Darwin to Walter Blackett

[Note: Recipient not stated but from context and the endorsement on the stock certificate it was clearly Sir Walter Blackett]

Sir

I have the honour of your Letters of the 6th. & 8th. instant the latter inclosing me Mr. Rich[ar]d Wrays Letter about the <Horsgates>, I had previously received the like account from Sir Edw[ar]d Blackett and that he agreed to take £60 for it, the very sum you mention & I have given a notice of motion accordingly for the next Wednesday being the Seal day in Chancery, & then I shall get forwards with those purchases as fast as possible.

Sir Edward Blacketts Stock being sold I have purchased for you in 3 p Cent Bank and Consol £2000 which stands in my name for your use & I have inclosed you the Cash <bires> Receipt with my Declaration of Trust on the back, which you will please to take care off, as it must be returned me when you give orders for the Stock to be sold.

£ s d

This Stock was purchased at 88 3/4 p Cent so that it cost 1775 0 0

Commission 2 0 0

Recd more of Sir Edwd for your use & placed to your acct 566 14 4 1/2

£2343 14 4 1/2

Which £2343: 14: 4 1/2 with your own £2700 is in full of the £5000 & £43: 14: 4 1/2 remaining due to you from the Trust Estate.

I called at Mr. Waldo's yesterday morning but he was not at home, my letter to him of the 3d. instant and which I gave you an Account of was to this effect – 'As you can't get a further sum fixed so as to pay off Mr. Savage, Sir Walter told me before he went it would not be convenient to him to take the other £12000 because the Lendor of such a lone [sic] to be sure will not chuse to be a second Mortgagee and Sir Walter does not care to incumber any other parts of his Estates but those in Mortgage to Mr. Savage, if you should hear of a Loan of 30, 35, or £40,000. at 4 p[er]cent would be more agreeable to Sir Walter as it would pay off Mr Savage as well as answer his offer purposes' so I make no doubt if Mr. Waldo can procure such a Loan at 4 p[er]cent he will as it is for his advantage by saving 10 p[er]cent & immediately let me know, but as I have already mentioned I don't apprehend it will be got at 4 p[er]cent, the sum being large & then the time for taking it (vizt) 6 months after it is found or agreed upon for, as you can't well take it before, as 6 months notice must be given Mr. Savage, which is an Inconvenience. So I think you ought not much to depend upon his procuring it. Supposing an advertizement was to be put into the paper of the following purport.

Any person willing to lend from 30 to £40,000 at 4 p[er]cent for 5 or 7 years certain, may hear of a very ample Security on Lend by applying to Mr Darwin in Grays Inn.

I am very sorry to hear your disorder still continues & though nervous complaints are not so easily removed as accidental colds, yet I hope a little warm weather & your disengaging yourself from all kinds of business which may perplex the mind will be a means of soon reinstating you in your health, which is the sincere wishes of Sir

Your most obed[ien]t & very humble Servant

Wm. A. Darwin

Grays Inn

13 June 1767

I have wrote to Mr. Totton, Mr. Shepherd & Mr. Mailman who married three of the late Mr. Jurin's Sisters (by Sir Edwards direction) for their consent to the Sale of the ferry at Hexham, and as soon as I have their answers will apprise you thereof – Mr. Ord will be in Town on Tuesday & on Wednesday I shall see him upon that business.

The inclosed letter for Mr Blake came under <bearer> addressed to you there was other [?] Letter with it, I can't find out Mr. Blake, you will please to direct it for him.

[Enclosure: joint stock security certificate, filled out with personal details and date by hand:]

Consolidated £3 per Cent. Annuities.

Received this 12th Day of June 1767 of Mr. Will[ia]m Alvey Darwin The Sum of Seventeen Hundred & Seventy-five Pounds being the Consideration for Two Thousand Pounds Interest or Share in the Joint Stock of Three per Cent. Annuities erected by an Act of Parliament of the 25th Year of the Reign of King George II. entitled, 'An Act of converting the several Annuities therein mentioned into several Joint Stocks of Annuities, transferable at the Bank of England, to be charged on the Sinking Fund'; and by an Act of the 28th, the 29th, the 31st, the 32nd, and the 33d of George II. and the 1st and 6th of George III. together with the proportional Annuity at £3 per Cent. per Ann. attending the same by me this Day transferred to the said W[illia]m Alvey Darwin.

Witness <J> Little

Witness my Hand Gael Morris

[on verso:]

12th June 1767

I hereby declare that the within mentioned Capital Stock of Two thousand pounds is the property of Sir Walter Blackett Bart. and that my name is used in Trust only for him

As witness my hand
Wm. Alvey Darwin

23 Mar 1774 John Mowbray to Edward Blackett

Darlington, 23rd March 1774

Sir Edward Blackett

Being engaged in building a Windmill in the Neighbourhood of Darlington, among other Things & wanting one pair of Grey Mill Stones which I am informed you have to dispose of belonging to your mill at Sockburne now laid off Work by reason of sundry Repairs wanting, and the Damn Broke away by the great Floods about 2 years ago:

My Neighbour Mr Robson (your late Agent) being dead made me at a loss how to apply, other ways than writing to yourself

I imagine it would be your interest to sell the Materials, as the Wood Work is mostly spoiled by the Floods continually washing into the Mill, leaving behind, Sand: Mud etc, and the expence of rebuilding the damn (with the uncertainty of its standing) would be very great, joined with many new Wheels wanting

Your Answer how to apply, or to treat with, will much oblige

Your very humble Servant

John Mowbray

6 Apr 1774 Christopher Fawcett to Edward Blackett

Newcastle 6. April 1774

Dear Sir Edward

As all or most of the Title Deeds relating to the Estate at Winlaton which you have sold to Mr. Simpson are in the Hands of Sir Walter Blackett, and as Sir Walter, Sir Thomas Wentworth & others are interested in those Deeds, but it is necessary That Mr. Simpson should have a Deed of Covenant for the Production of them as there shall be Occasion; I made the inclosed Draft as appearing to me a proper One for all Parties interested; and having so done I sent it to Mr. Wilson of this Town for his Perusal & Approbation on the part of Sir Tho[ma]s Wentworth; He has returned it to me, and says he apprehends Sir Thomas will expect the Approbation of Mr. Phipps of Lincolns Inn; You will therefore be pleased to lay the inclosed Draft before Mr. Phipps immediately, and desire He will give it all possible Dispatch, and when he hath settled it to his likeing, beg of him to write to Sir Tho[ma]s Wentworth & acquaint him That He hath so done; and you will be pleased to return the Draft to me as soon as Mr. Phipps hath settled it, in order to my making the addition of the Schedule to it which will be a long one. You should also acquaint Sir Walter Blackett with the Purport of this

Letter & the Inclosed Draft. Time wastes apace & the 12th of May will be upon us soon, Therefore Expedition is absolutely requisite. I am, Dear Sir,
your most faithful & obed[ien]t. Serv[an]t
Chr. Fawcett

1 Feb 1776 William Darwin

[Note: Date not given but a letter from Henry Richmond to Sir Walter Blackett of 28th February 1776 appears to refer to this potential property exchange so a date of 1st February is assigned here. The memo appears to be in Wm Alvey Darwin's hand.]

Memo

Sir Walter Blackett, several years ago, purchased a moiety of an undivided pasture at Middlehope Shield, near Westgate in Weardale in the County of Durham of one Featherstone or some such name for £30. His motive for the purchase of it, was on account of the Lead contained in it; which has long been exhausted – That moiety of Pasture is held with Mr. Challoner, which, Mr. C is desirous of purchasing as the present undivided state subjects his Tenant to great inconvenience and has injured the other Grounds.

Mr Challoner No. 239 Oxford Street

25 Jul 1785 Patience Stead to John Erasmus Blackett

[Note: Incomplete letter from JEB's daughter Patience, with the earliest page or pages missing, and therefore the date is also unknown. The apparent reference to an unsuitable match for the daughter of Sir Edward Blackett can only refer to Anne Blackett, who married William Scott in November 1785. Patience married Benjamin Stead in August 1782. The burial of Mrs Mary Laurens, widow, took place on Thurs 21st July 1785 (South Carolina Gazette and Public Advertiser, 23 July 1785) so the letter appears to have been written within the following week. Monday 25th is used here. Benjamin Stead was involved in a protracted dispute to have a debt settled in Georgia, USA, (where his father had owned a plantation before the American War of Independence) to which end he appears to have travelled there at some point after June 1783, evidently with his wife.]

dissipated? and if his Character was the [missing word] irreproachable – I don't think him a proper [missing word] for the daughter of Sir Edward Blackett fact I am angry at him for his presumption, and [missing word] don't <allow> him <mind> that he may really [word missing] I hope however that he will [scratched out: 'not'] he <...> nearly related to me. You must not send my sister their letters for she will perhaps be angry at

me for differing in opinion so widely from her – but <indeed> she must not. I am sorry to tell you my dear Father that the affair in Georgia is not decided – nor might not till April next – we are very cruelly used by those in power there, who certainly have suffered their class to be tricked. This is the very worst country in the world to settle business the people seem to be very backward – Ralph Izard in particular has much indolence, unsteadiness or I don't know what in his character that it is hardly possible to get him to talk of business.

The affair of <Ryal> is not concluded, and I dare say he will put it off till the instant of our departure from their country – but this is between ourselves. & There is a great deal of writing here – I might be engaged some where every afternoon – but you know <the ill will> I have to Tea drinking parties – I fancied greatly a drive in the Phaeton round the Race ground, which we <indulge> ourselves in as often as possible to conceive how delightful the <freshness> of the evening is after a hot day – one meets all ones acquaintance – for There is only one rode out of town, and the number of carriages driving about – the gay dress of the Ladies make it a pretty scene.

I was on Thursday morning at a dismal ceremony the only one of the kind I was ever at – we were particularly invited to attend the Funeraille of Mrs. Laurence – widow of Mr. Laurence's Brother who only arrived from England 2 months ago – and not being aware of the danger of staying in the country till the middle of July – she caught the Fever, came to town & died in a few days. It was a very pompous Funeraille – and so much <burst> wine, cakes, etc that I thought it never would have been over. There was a great number of people. They all walked in procession after the corpse to Church - but it was so dreadfully hot - and having been very ill lately with a Fever – I asked old Mr. L. if it would be a want of respect to go in the Carriage – he assured me not, and he insisted on my getting into the coach, which I had ordered to wait at the door and having an idea that every body would walk. It happened very lucky that I did – a most <...> storm of rain came on, which continued 3 hours - many Ladys got wet – (& of course a <...>) - the Grave was filled to the top with water.

I am mortified that my aunt never receives my letters, and when you tell me she is hurt at my silence – what can I do? – I have got acquaintance with a very agreeable good man – a countryman of hers. and an intimate acquaintance of Dr Carlyles. Dr. Baron – he attended me during my last Illness with great attention – he knew my connection to them, and thought me very like my aunt – he has been an unfortunate man – he was not on the right side, that is, he refused to take the oaths – for he was perfectly <disoffensive> on both sides – He was banished from this Country & has been wandering about <Augustin> some time – He is now permitted to come back for one year only – but I am in hopes his <merit> will make such an <unperson> that he will still have some favor shown him. He is in a great way of business here. In a former letter I suggested my Sister would order a cloak & muff to be sent over for me – has she received my letter and can it be done without much inconvenience to herself.

I hear bad news my dear Father – that very shortly there will be no vessels from Eng[lan]d to this Part – Is this true don't tell me if it is – I am pleased that you had my letter from Baltimore but I shall be really vexed if my Journal is lost – not for its merits

– for it had none – but I have no copy. You dont know how often I wish myself in your library – I have no books here – and they are such a price – and such lumber when read that I dont Buy any. I never had so strong an inclination to read as now – The heat will not let me work – It is too much excercize to play on the Harpsichord – in short one can do nothing but lay on the Bed & read. I wish I may receive your letter with the newspapers & that book you mention – a thousand thanks for your kind attention. I am very much obliged to Mr. Staniforth for some newspapers he sent me with your letters – to be sure the Liverpool papers only tell one where there is a <turtle> to be dressed – I love the Newcastle papers a thousand times better. Stead writes God bless you my Dearest Father. I am <interrupted> with Company or I should have filled another sheet – accept my dutiful regards and believe now and ever your most dutiful – and most affect[ionate] Daughter

Patience W. Stead

6 Oct 1792 Mark Skelton to John Erasmus Blackett

Dear Sir

Your Favors of the 29th. Ult. & 4th. Inst with the Acc[ount] were rec[eive]d. & I have wrote to Mr. Beaumont but as he cannot ans[we]r in Time before the next meeting of the subscribers to the intended Turnp[ike] I sho[ul]d think, for the reasons given by you & Mr. Hunter, that Mr. B must Subscribe such sum as may Command attention & give weight to the agents proposals respecting any Clauses to be inserted in the Bill, & in the Business of the Road at future meetings, you will therefore please to give them directions accordingly, to act in this matter as you may judge most proper for Mr. Beaumont's Interest, & to his voting for a Solicitor, if Mr. Peter Hunter is a Relation or Friend of Mr. I: Hunter I dare say he wo[ul]d wish to oblige him

The damages by the Flood must be very troublesome to repair but Mr. Hunter will doubtless get it done with all possible expedition, & I hope you have finer Weather, as it has been so here for the last three Days, & given the Farmers an opportunity of getting almost the whole of their corn, which does not seem to be so much damaged as expected.

I had a Letter from Mr. B on his arrival in Town he found Mrs B well

I remain Dear Sir (with respect)

Your very ob[edien]t Serv[an]t

M Skelton

J Blackett Esq.

[on verso:]

John Erasmus Blackett Esquire / Newcastle Upon Tyne

[annotated in JEB's hand:] M. Skelton/ Oct: 6th: 1792

17 Dec 1793 James Lee to John Erasmus Blackett

London 17th Dec. 1793

Dear Sir

I take the liberty of addressing myself to you as one of the Trustees under the Will of Sir Thomas Blackett upon a subject most interesting to myself and Miss Wentworth As you may most probably have heard of our mutual attachment, I flatter myself you will be neither surprized nor displeas'd by our application for your consent to our union which by the Will you know is necessary. That my pretensions in point of fortune are not adequate, I must admit, but as Sir Thomas in his life time, was pleas'd to approve of the marriage of her Sister with my Brother, I trust you as delegated by him will not feel it your duty to make that an objection which was none to him. In other respects I trust my Character and Connections will bear the strictest scrutiny. Let me hope ther[e]fore you will not withhold your consent to our Union upon which our mutual happiness in life depends.

With respect to Miss Wentworth's fortune, I wish to have it settled in any way our friends shall think proper. Miss Wentworth authorizes me to say that your favourable answer, will confer an everlasting obligation upon her as well as upon Sir

Your most obed[ie]nt Serv[an]t
James Lee

P.S. I shall leave Town on Saturday next, and shall be oblig'd by the favour of your Answer directed to me at Leeds.

[on verso:]

John Erasmus Blackett Esq. / Newcastle upon Tyne / North

[annotated in JEB's hand:] Mr James Lee's letter of 17 Dec 1793 & a <lost> of JEB's answer thereto of 20th Decr 1793

23 Feb 1794 William Lee to John Erasmus Blackett

Leeds 23rd February 1794

Dear Sir

Mrs Lee & all the Family here are so much distress'd by an Event that took place yesterday, that I cannot without great Desolation inform you the particulars, what I allude to is the Elopement of Miss Wentworth with a Mr. Stackpool, an Affair that we had not the smallest Idea of, for Miss Wentworth's acquaintance with him, has only been about a months standing, & their having seen each other as far as we can learn, is very seldom Indeed. I thought it right to acquaint you with this Event, as you may then use your own discretion. On Thursday last she went to a Concert at York, with Mr. &

Mrs. Fenton of the <Glasshouse>, being going there for a few days into Lodgings very kindly invited her to go and be with them, which she accepted, but contrived to <settle> with Mr. Stackpool to go off on Saturday Morning which was effected yesterday at Ten o'clock, by making an Excuse to my Aunt Fenton, that she was walking out to pay a Bill for some of her Servants Cloaths, a Chaise being ready at Micklegate Barr, she accordingly decamped: I am sure you will feel great concern at the Receipt of this Letter. All the Family there join me in comp[limen]ts. I am

Your Most humble Servant

W[illia]m Lee

[on verso:] John Erasmus Blackett Esq.

Charlotte Square / Newcastle / North

[annotated in JEB's hand:] William Lee Esq./ 23 Feb[ruar]y 1794

30 Mar 1799 Read Lucas & Read to John Erasmus Blackett

Sheffield Mar 30 1799

Mr. Blackett

Sir,

In Mr Crawhalls Letter of the 26th Inst, he advised us to acquaint you with the price of silver plated Dishes & Covers for side Dishes 11 inches long We have therefore inquired this morning of some of the best makers & they inform us that the price of plain, oval, side Dishes & Covers 11 inches long will be from 70 to 80s a pair (that is the Dish & cover) & if made with silver edges about 12s a pair more We shall be happy to render you every service in our power either in this or any other occasion & am

Sir Your Obdt

Read Lucas & Read

[annotated in JEB's hand:] Two oval Plated Dishes with Covers 11 ½ Inches long with silver edges ____

[on verso:] John E Blackett / Newcastle upon Tyne

[annotated in JEB's hand:] Reed Lucas & Reed / 3rd March 1799

10919

338

10581

219

10800

7 Aug 1799 John Ellison to Thomas Richard Beaumont

Vicarage, Newcastle upon Tyne

August the 7th 1799

Sir,

We, the undersigned Executors under the will of the late Mr. Newton, have perus'd, & maturely considered, the acc[oun]t remaining unsettled between you and him, sent to his Daughter; & are truly concern'd to hear that you express great dissatisfaction at some of the items of his charge. We freely admit that we have no other documents to produce for the justice of them, than those which Mr. Newton's ledger, in his own hand-writing, furnish us with: And we are inclined to think it would be a departure from our duty & of that trust which has been repos'd in us, if we deviate farther than justice to you & his family will warrant. We are likewise free to confess that, of ourselves, we are not competent to judge of the propriety of the charges to which you object: and therefore, with a due sense of your kindness, to our departed Friend, & anxious to avoid the least occasion of difference take the liberty of suggesting a mode which <morally> meet this difficulty & give you & us mutual satisfaction; & that is that each party nominate an Architect, in order to determine whether the charges are just, & can or cannot, be justified by the general practices of Men of this profession, in this Country.

This mode, if adopted, we are led to hope mat remove every present appearance of difference between you and us; And under this hope we have the honor to be, with due respect

Sir, your very obed.[ien]t h[um]ble Ser[van]ts,

John Ellison

Tho[ma]s Harvey

[annotated in JEB's hand:] J. Ellison & T. Harveys Letter to Col Beaumont 7th August 1799 Hexham Abbey Repairs

7 Apr 1804 Anne Blackett to John Erasmus Blackett

[Note: Anne, nee Douglas, was the widow of the recently deceased Sir Edward Blackett. JEB was her brother-in-law.]

Thorpe Lea April 7 1804

Dear Brother

I am much obliged to you for your kind letter, w[hi]ch should not have been so long unanswered, but really my spirits are so low, I am incapable of doing anything as I ought to do. I had a very kind letter from Admiral Collingwood, w[hi]ch I did not

Answer as I soon after saw by the papers that his ship had sailed, I will beg of you to make my excuses when you write to him for my neglect.

I hope Mr Bates has waited on you before this time, to beg your acceptance of a frill for mourning, as I know that, and many other things woud have been done, had not the contents of the will been forgot, as it had been made so many years. I am sure if I coud guess, at anything that was intended to be done, I woud doe it immediately.

I look upon it very unfortunate my Daughter being Absent at this time, and I see not the least likelihood of her return at present, she must come by Hamburgh, a long Journey for her and her Daughters without anyone to protect them, as she cannot have a man Servant come with her, tho she has two English Servants there, who are both with Gen. Scott. he has been making applycations for leave to go to Versail[l]es to console his wife in her affliction. but he coud not obtain it, nor coud he get leave to come upon his Parole, to see his family safe in England, and return immediately. I think this is very hard considering her situation, we had a letter from him at Verdun, the other day with this account, we have had no letter from her these six weeks, it is very hard to have only our Daughter, and be deprived of any comfort from her, in my situation. she was very much [word missing] to stay after Lord Whitworth left Paris, they all ought to have return'd at that time.

I hope Mrs. Collingwood and the young Ladys [are] well, I beg to be remembered to them. I am sorry to hear that Mr Stead is ill at Bath, <pitty> but she was with him, I think it woud be a satisfaction to them both. My Son & Daughter & the little Boy are come to stay a little time with me, I think I never saw a finer child. my Son & Daughter unite with me in Loving affection, believe me, Dear Brother

your affectionate unhappy Sister,
Ann Blakett

[on verso:] John E. Blakett Esq / Newcastle

[annotated in JEB's hand:] Dow[age]r Lady Blakett / April 7th 1804

[Staines postmark]