

11 Sep 1656 William Wentworth to Thomas Wentworth

[Note: appears to be notes and covenants related to a sale or lease of woodland from Earl Strafford presumably to his relation Thomas Wentworth, as the document is filed with other papers of Matthew Wentworth, brother of Sir Thomas, 1st baronet.]

11 September 1656

639 Acres price £6000 to bee payd in Mich[aelm]as Tearme

Logg-woode att 6<£/s> per Corde, to bee payed, as it shall bee – yearly taken, Vizt The woode cutt and corded to bee measured, upon or before each firste day of May, after the winter it shal be cutt & corded.

Streames for ffurnace & fforges & Timber for Buildinge & repairnige both, beeinge to bee allowed, Vizt included in the sayd rates for woodes.

And for the Stone Delph £10 per Roode for what shal be gott yearly, unlesse my Ld of Strafford bee pleased to give it into the Bargaine.

And if hee doe give his Iron-stone <whiche> his owne woodes are spending, that afterwards however he is to have £10 per Roode.

Eight years from the firste of May 1657: for the taking the springe woodes.

Two of the Beste Weavers to be lefte for Timber in every Acre, & sett forth by my Lordes directions – before the woode bee felled.

And the Woodes to bee lefte sufficiently weavered and sufficient Log-woode to bee allowed.

[in a different hand:] The broys or rubbidge to be burned immediatelie after the wood shall be cut and the least spoyle that possible may be in the burning of them to the spring woods

6 Jun 1673 George Villiers to Thomas Wentworth

[Note: This command and authority/letter patent was accompanied by a similar one from Buckingham to Wentworth of the same date enabling him to appoint a quartermaster to his militia troop of horse, the space for the quartermaster's name being left blank.]

George Duke Marquis and Earl of Buckingham & Lord [Lieutenant?] of the Westrides [?] of the County of Yorks and of the City and County of the City and Aynsty of York

To Sir Thomas Wentworth Kn[igh]t & Baronett Captain [?]

By vertue of the power and authority now given by the statute of Letters pattent under the Greate Seale of England bearing date the two and twentieth day of November in the nineteenth year of his Majestys raigne I doe constitute and appoint you Sir

Tho[mas] Wentworth Kn[igh]t Barronett and you are hereby deputed constituted and appointed Captaine of the Troop of horses in the Militia already raised in the West Rideing of the County of York and County of the City and Aynsty of York for the service of his Ma[jes]ties you are therefore to take into your charge and take this said Troop as Captain thereof and truly to exercise the inferior officers and soldiers of the same in Armes And also to rise your best endeavour to keep them in good order and discipline commanding them to obey you as their Captain, And you are likewise to observe and follow such orders and directions as you shall from time to time receive from his Ma[jes]ties selfe the Deputy Lord of the West Rideing of the County of York and of the Citty and County of the Citty and Aynsty of York or any two or more of them in pursuance of the Trust reposed in you and your duty to his Ma[jes]tie Given under my hand & Seale this Sixth day of June in the five and twentieth yeare of the Raigne of our Sovereigne Lord Charles the second [?] by the Grace of God of England Scotland France Ireland and King – defender of the faith Annus Dei 1673

Buckingham

4 Apr 1674 Thomas Wentworth to Matthew Wentworth

Brother

My cozen Wentworth desires upon the sight hereof you will you will repaire to Sir Francis Burdett and receive of him for my cozen[s] use the sume of 136l [£136] due to him at or before this time upon accompt and when you have received it, make up that money out of what is due to me 206l [£206] and goe forthw[i]th to my cozen Kampden and paye it to her as a debt due to her from my cozen Wentworth and tell her that upon the receipt of her letter I repaired to Mr Wilkinson according to her directions he tould me her bond was not in his hands but said that <if> the fiftie pounds she returned up to London he would receive that as p[ar]te paym[en]t and he would write to his Brother Mr Matthew Wilkinson to receive the rest and put it forth in the contrie and give my cozen Kampden her bond be carefull to see these directions p[er]formed wth all possible speede is desired by

Yor affectionate brother

Tho: Wentworth

Aprill the 4th 1674

Give me an accompt of This soe soone as you can

[on cover:] To Mr Matthew Wentworth att Bretton Hall give this w[i]th care and speede

Leave this at fferiebridge in Yorksheire to be sent to Mr Edward Smyts house in Wakefeild to be delivered as above and postpaid

12 Jul 1674 William Wentworth to Matthew Wentworth

[Note: Wm Wentworth of Wentworth Woodhouse was the 2nd Earl Strafford]

W.W. 12 July 1674

Good Cozen

I find by lettr received yesterday from Irland that there is extraordinary great occasion for my sending thither wth the utmost speed I can & all I can for the <presem doe it falls> out to make use of kindnesse you offerd mee here the other day of goeing presently to bring mee a full account of all my concerns there. I therefore desire you will imediately by return of this footeman send mee word the very time you can be ready that I may know it before I send away my letter this post, & I heartily wishe you could come for mee upon Munday or Teusday next & be ready to goe straight away the next day or day after. You will not need to be much longer I suppose stayd in Irland than yourselfe imagind, unlesse it be for your owne service as well as mine, w[hi]ch according to my power you shall always find in my aime as well as my owne – my affectionate service to Sir Thomas & my Lady Wentworth, so in hast I rest

Good Cozen

Your affectionate Faithfull Cozen & Servant
Strafford

[on cover:] For Mr Mathew Wentworth at Bretton

[annotated in a different, later hand:] Ire for comeing to Ireland

1 Jan 1676 to Matthew Wentworth

[Note: This ode has the name William Ratcliffe at the foot, but probably added in the 1820s when Ratcliffe, of the College of Heralds, undertook genealogical work for Col and Diana Beaumont. The document is undated, but dated here to 1 jan 1676, ie. shortly after the death of his brother the previous month]

An invitation to Sir Mathew Wentworth to haste out of Ireland into England, with a congratulation for that great estate that falls to him by the death of Sir T. W. [added in a different hand:] who died 5 Decr. 1675,

Thrice honour'd Sir, arise now spur away,
We have no patience for your longer, stay,
Old Holofernes now is dead, and gone,
His land is all away and flown;
He is gone. Yea farewell he,

He is <...> that great many nobility;
Adieu hath put him in his boat, but where
Charon led him, there's many do not care;
[Lord] Strafford now his keyes, his sword and all,
<missing word> your own our countrey now doth call,
<missing word/s> hands with Ireland never more to see
<missing word/s > country, the <3-4 words obscured> there be
<missing word/s > as safe, and pleasant, you may make:
When you have sent away a female snake:
Mount a swift steed on of an aery kind,
A Spanish Gennet gotten with the wind,
Come to the fore with all the speed you may,
Ride faster than the wind can blow away
<word obscured> be ready to receive him there!
Great Neptune now comand thy wavs to cease
Rebuke thy <Gillows>! let there be a peace,
And Aeolus keep fast within thy fist!
Thy blustering winds lock them in iron chest!
Come forth, ye scaly troops of fish and strong,
Put too your shoulders Drive the ship along
Welcome to Lverpole! bait your feet, and stay,
But for a night, things new give no delay;
Hoyland! and Silkston! now your bells prepare!
To welcome home a wisht and joyfull heir:
Hoyland! ring till thy tott'ring steeple shake,
What if it fall great Wentworth now can make
A better new one! there is wood enuff;
The old Srs bargains <2-3 words missing>
Ringers shew skill, and make the bells to dance
A hy Levanto for Mathews advance;
But take of[f] hands! the bells themselves will play!
To welcome to in this great Sir Mathews day
Welcome to Brittain! I congratulate
Your safe return to your great estate;
You have been lost on seas, and troubled <missing>
Now for an harbor safely you are come <missing>
Turn out the Madam! The great butter to <an .. missing>
And let her make her packs, and to be gone
But stop her too, Divide her baggs and staff
The half is yours, some say tis just enuf!
Let her be gone to seek some other joy!
Some sanguine darling, or some active boy!
Her rusty wealth long hid in blackest night:

Presto – great Madam now you may be gone
To dance your jiggs with Mab or Oberon:

Welcome your friends! let all your spouts run wine.
Let there be no sad hearts but only mine!
And let some noble herald at your door!
proclaim, exit Sir Thomas, and say more
Intrat Sr Mathew Wentworth, Lord of all.
Thanks Death! Thanks Death! That did the old Sir call;

Give God his glory, a firme pillar raise,
In golden letters write there his due praise;
Fear God, and keep his laws most carefully,
You shall be <rest of line obscured>
Train up your son in wayes where he should go,
When he is old he'l not depart therefro:
Let such as serve the Lord your servants be,
The wicked ones before you never see:
May you bless God, and God bless you again,
And may these prayers of mine not be in vain:
I write no more, (when I have kist your hand)
But that I am your servant to command:

Vive vale o' Sir Mathew. x

[added in a different hand]: this Sir Mathew brother of Sir Thomas, Died 1st August
1677

[another different hand:] William Radcliffe Rouge Croix

[annotated on cover in a later hand, possibly Alexander Sinclair's:] Decr. 13th 1826
An old Letter [sic] to Sir Matthew Wentworth on the Death of his Brother Sir Thomas
Wentworth by the Chaplain to bring him from Ireland

19 Aug 1685 Alexander Montgomerie to Grace Montgomerie

[Note: Letter from Alexander Montgomerie, 8th Earl of Eglinton to his (2nd) wife
Grace, Countess of Eglinton (widow of Sir Thomas Wentworth, née Grace Popeley, d.
1698. Lady Kaye was of Woodsome Hall, Yorkshire, and was later to be Eglinton's
third wife, and he her fourth husband when aged over 90. A memorial stone for Francis
Thorold (d. 1696) is on the floor of Wakefield Cathedral.]

London Agust 19 [16]85

Dearest Heart

I cam hear yisternaight leat [late] and found Mr Wentworth wel but Madam
Wentworth is at Fishlok [Fishlake] I am agoing to moro for <tur. er lr> to D il..nb<lon
and wil staie only one night and next daie in my bakcoming I wil wat upon my Ladie
Key [Kaye] and the next daie I am god wiling for winson for I doe ashour you I wil
neglect no taim [time] hear so that I maie heasten bak to you for god knoweth that to be
with you is the only happiness of

Dearest Lyf

your affectionat and most loving

I prairie you let me hear from you and I...[rest lost]

[on verso:] For the Countes of Eglintoun at Bretton hal to be left at the post hous of
feribridg to be sent to Mr Thorolds in wakefild York Shier

[on cover:] copied by Alexander Sinclair 24th April 1829

6 Jul 1693 William Creagh to Francis Radcliffe

[Note: The date and it being found at Dilston indicates this was addressed to Francis
Radcliffe, 1st earl of Derwentwater. Creagh was a Catholic merchant in Newcastle]

May it please your Lordshipp

I make bold to give your Lordshipp the Trouble of these Lynes, Rather then be
so Rude as to silence the Least of your Favours, and most particularly your Lordhsipps
Extraordinary kind Rememberance, by your Fine present of Fowle, which I have now
Received, att the consumation of which, I do assure your Lordshipp, your Lordshipps
health shall be dranck over, and over, And were it in my Power to make a more
Suitable returne, no time should be Lost In the execution, But I hope your Lpp.

[Lordship] with all your Noble Family, and my Selfe, may Live to see Better Times,
which may capacitate me to Renew my acknowledgments, By some small Novelties
from the other side of the water, . This hopes, and the continuance of your Lordshipps
Freindshipp, which (by the grace of God) I shall never forfeit, are amongst the greatest
Comforts which Cheareth up and upholds the Thoughts of

May it please your Lordshipp

Your Lordshipps ever oblidged and most faithfull humble servant

William Creagh

Newcastle, the 6th Jully 1693

[on verso:] Found at Dilston in the cellar Given to Mrs Beaumont by Mr Walton at Newcastle July 1800

16 Jun 1699 William Creagh to Edward Blckett

Newcastle 16th June 1699

Honoured S[ir].

Upon Consideration of the Coale Trade being so bad and the long Expectation of a Settlement of Trade twixt England and France being allmost despaired of which gives so small Incurragement That the workings of winlington Coallery (which had its greatest vent by that Trade is now so diminished that it makes The Proffitt accruing to me Little or nothing, so if it Be no Inconveniency to you, I begg the Favour that you will take your proportion of the Coallery (lett to me) Into your owne hands and Being given to understand that Sr. W[illia]m. your Bro.r that can vend more Than his proportion of that Coallery I doubt not butt his manngment will make you much more of it than I have done, as for the Lease when I can come by it, It shall be delivered you by Honoured S. Your most oblidge and most humble servant

Wm Creagh

[cover:] For the honourable Sr Edward Blckett Barronet These Present

15 Jan 1715 L. Skipwith to Elizabeth Wentworth

[Note: The writer was possibly the wife or daughter of Sir Fulwar Skipwith, an MP until 1715. Mrs Wentworth was possibly Sir William's mother Elizabeth nee Osbaldeston.]

Jan[uar]y 15th 1714/5

I return Dear Mrs Wentworth a great many thanks for the best Venison, & Pye that ever was eate [eaten] my Mother joynes with me to Sir William & your self, how often I have wish'd to see you is more than can be expres'd, so gaye & fond as this is you ought to shine in. Mrs Condon wrote me word your Brother & you was expected at York. I was told the Assembly there very near comes up to the diversion the Prince & Princess afords themselves at the Town once a week at Somerset House my Lord Staffords Papers was last wednesday seized on by an order from Council but tis generally supos'd he has taken care of them if there was any cou'd have done him hurt. my Lady is near her time, that <Morn[in]g> my Ld desired to be made a Privy Counceler he so Little expected being ill at <Tours> we are come to our new house in Dover Street, my Brother's not yet Married nor do I know when he will, my Lord Harford is to be married to Mrs Thyn a great fortune & her sister to the Duke of Devonshire's Son. I

wish Dearest Mrs Wentworth as good a match as she deserves & that all things conspire to make you Perfectly happy in the hopes of

Your oblig'd Humble Serv't
L Skipwith

My humble Service to Sr. William. My mother is both yr. hmble serv't

[on cover:] To Mrs. Wentworth at Sir William Wentworth's House at Bretton near Wakefield Yorkshire

5 Oct 1715 L. Skipwith to Elizabeth Wentworth

I take this oppertunity to assure dear Mrs Wentworth I am & always shall be her very Humble servant, Mr Osbaldiston will give you an account of our both diversions where I often have wish'd you. I am consern'd to find Sir William gives me no hopes of seeing you this Winter in London, I am at this time very happy in Mrs Bell Condon's company, who I find I must Lose so soon, her Mother being resolv'd to live on at York, I am sorry there's so many charms in that country to keep you all there, we have been in great expectation of the Pretender but I believe all there plots are discover'd tho this place is mightily affected towards him, here is not a world of people of quallity but the Town is mighty full. Your Cousin Condon's dancing is admird beyond all description. I hope Dear Mrs Wentworth has a large share of pleasures in the country for I think one may be perfectly satisfied there --- and you give, content to others that you may ever find it yourself in the desire of

Your Affectionate Servant
L Skipwith

My Mother & Mrs Condon very Humble Serv't

[on cover:] To Mrs Wentworth

1 Apr 1716 L. Skipwith to Elizabeth Wentworth

[Note: The letter is not dated but reference to the trials of Lords Kenmure and Derwentwater and the inference that their executions had taken place (24 Feb 1716), and to a comet (possibly the particularly bright northern lights of March 1716) and looking forward to the spring suggests a date of late March/early April of 1716. Mrs Wentworth could not have been Diana Blackett for she did not marry Sir William until 1720, nor his mother, who was already dead, but possibly his aged grandmother Anne

nee Osbaldeston, if she survived until then. The writer is possibly the wife of Sir Fulmar Skipwith, an MP until 1715]

To Mrs Wentworth at Sir William Wentworth's House at Bretton Near Waikfield Yorkshire

I won't think of excusing my fault of being so very Long in Dear Mrs Wentworth's debt but own it with shame & trust to your good nature alone for a pardon. in yours you mention seeing me in the Spring if I am so happy it must be in London we having no thoughts of the <..th>. Miss <Dye> Condon writ her sister word they were in great affliction to part with you at York the Town had been so taken up with Pollitics, divertions has been but scarce, the Princess Looking every day to be brought to bed has prevented any Ball at Court except this on her Birthday, she Masqueraded at <Mountigue> House has made all the Lady's Long for another, but I fancy, the Tryalls at westminster Hall will give folks full employment, tis said the rest of the <condem'd> Lords will impeach & so be pardon'd poor Lady Derwentwatter has miscarried my Lady Kenmure has kept her bed ever since her Lord Sufferd & has not bread to eate, the extraordinary comet I suppose you had in the country if not you have had several accounts of it for my part I saw not much of it many people thought the day of Judgment come but I seeing nothing frightful was in no apprehentions, Mrs Condon is still with us & I hope we shall keep her a month or two but her mother grows very impatient for her we both have often wish'd to see Dear Mrs Wentworth who I sincerely value & am her very Humble Serv't

L <Skipwith>

I am Sir William's Humble Serv't. My Mother & Mrs Condon are so to you both

[annotated on reverse:] Sir William Wentworth once paid his Addresses to this Lady

7 Apr 1748 Walter Blckett

[Note: This appears to be a draft of an agreement regarding the settled Blckett estate anticipating the possible eventual inheritance by Sir William Wentworth's son Thomas under the terms of the will of Sir William Blckett (d.1728).]

Blckett and Allgood

Sir William & Mr. Wentworth & Sir Walter Blckett propose & agree that the Estates in the Counties of Northumberland & Durham of the late Sr. Wm. Blckett & part of which were intended to be sold for the Payment of the said Sr. Wm Blckett's

Debts according to the Directions of his Will shall not be sold or any part of them without the Consent of the said Mr. Wentworth or his Issue Male but that the Mortgage & other Debts affecting the Estate shall be continued thereon during the Lives of the said Sr. Walter. Blackett & Dame Elizabeth his Wife & the Survivor of them, unless they or either of them shall have Issue Male that shall arrive to the Age of 21 Years, & in cons'n thereof the said Mr. Wentworth the next and immediate Remainder Man now being under the Limitations of the said Will to take after the respective deaths of the said Sr. Walter Blackett & Dame Elizabeth his Wife without Issue Male being satisfied of the great sums of Money that the said Sir Walter Blackett has laid out in his Buildings & other Improvements on the said Estates & being desirous that the same Estate should be preserved & not disposed off; Therefore he & the said Sir Wm. Wentworth agrees that if it shall happen that the said Mr. Wentworth or his Issue Male shall at any time hereafter come into possession of the said Estate under the Limitations of the said Sir Wm. Blackett's Will that they or their heirs Executors or Admors shall then pay to the said Sir Walter Blackett his Executors Admors or Assigns the sum of £10,000 in Case no parts of the said Estates shall then be sold without such Consent.

And the said Sir Walter agrees & undertakes that no part of the Estate shall be sold during his Life unless he have Issue Male who shall attain to 21 Years without the Consent of the said Mr. Wentworth or his Issue Male & that in case Lady Blackett, shall survive the said Sir Walter Blackett & any part of the Estate shall be sold (unless she have Issue Male who shall attain to 21 Years) without such consent That then the said £10,000 shall not be payable.

Also agrees the Leasehold Estate to be comprised in this Agreement. & the Lives & Terms of Years to be renewed according to an Agreement. signed by the said Sir Walter. [Note in the margin:] This is explained by the memorandum on the other side.

This Agreement. Is to be put into form & vested with proper Recitals by Mr. Denton & Mr. Wilson.

[the 'memorandum on the other side':]

I do hereby declare & agree that the several & respective Leaves for Lives and Years granted by the Bishop of Durham to or in Trust for me of any Tenements or Hereditaments whatsoever wherein Sir Wm Blackett Bart deceased was in his Life Time Interested are part of the Trust estate given by the last Will of the said Sir William Blackett & as such are to be renewed from time to time, & to continue & be subject to the several Trusts & Bequests mentioned in such Will Witness my Hand this day of April in the year of our Lord 1748

The above Declaration is indorsed by Mr Denton.

Mr Blacketts Declaration as to the Leasehold Estates being part of the late Sir William Blacketts Estate.

7 April 1748

Sent Sir W Blackett docs to sign and then to send it to Mr Wilson at Pomfrett

16 Mar 1762 William Darwin to Henry Richmond

[Note: Recipient is unstated but letter appears to be in response to letters from Richmond to Darwin of 1st & 9th March 1762 (NRO 672/E/1E/2)]

Sir

I have looked over my papers & don't find that Sir Walter upon his entering upon His Receipt of the Rents and profits of the late Sir Wm. Blacketts Estate entered into any Agreement for renewing and keeping on foot all or any of the Leases, neither does it appear to me he was bound to do it either from the Will or other Decree, there being no Trust in the Will for such Renewals to be paid out of the Rents and profits.

On the other side I send you a Copy of a Sketch of an Agreement that was prepared (or rather proposals for an Agreement) in Octor. 1751. A Copy whereof was sent by Mr. Denton to Sir Wr. Blackett on 10 Octor. 1751 from Pomfret where Mr. Denton then was, and I supposed, called there on Mr. Jos:Wilson about it and in consequence of which proposal a Draft of a Deed was prepared a Copy of whereof you had I sent you on the 8 of Feb 1752 & which I think you inquired about last year & that I wrote you word I believed was pritty certain the Deed was never carried into execution.

The short Declaration on the other side I do <cinecquae> Sir Walter signed and sent Mr. Wilson for Mr. Wentworth and it is recited in the draft of the Deed above mentioned to bear date the 13 April 1748. & in the said draft of the Deed, It was thereby intended Sir Walter should covenant in cons[ideratio]n of the £10,000 proposed to be secured to his Exe[cuto]rs, Adm[inistrator]s or Ass[ignee]s that he should renew and keep on foot all the Leases – this confirms me that he was then under no obligation for that purpose, because if he had there would have been no occasion for any new provision of that sort – If you have not a Copy of the Draft of this intended Deed now by you I will send you a Copy of it.

I think I sent you a Copy of the proposals on the other side when I wrote upon this Subject before & the paragraph (which is now explained, by finding the Dr[af]t of the above Declaration or Agreement) was then somewhat mysterious, but the above Declaration explains it & the Draft of the Deed explains the Declaration (tho it seems apparent & clear of itself) that Sir Walter was not nor is not bound thereby to keep the Leases on foot, only that such as were renewed should be considered as part of the Trust Estate.

Inclosed you copy of the expences that have occurred here relating to Kirkheaton.

I am Sir Your most hble. Servt.

Wm. A. Darwin

Grays Inn 16 March 1762

31 May 1753 Walter Blackett to Lancelot Allgood

London 31st May 1753

Dear Sr,

In the first place excuse brevity & believe sincerity, & so to business which will not detain you long from your Country amusement nor me from Vauxhall.

I paid a visit to Ld Carlisle some days since when I shewd him your letter to me, upon which he said he <wd> speak to Lord Northumberland which I find from Mr Ord his Lordship has done, & Ld Northumberland's answer to him was the same as to you; upon which my Lord Carlisle's advice is, that you should should immediately begin your circuit and engage your friends which I think is perfectly right, & if you think this advice right, I should advise you to begin in that Quarter where you are to imagine that such as vote for you aft the last session may be supposed to be doubtfull as to the next occasion by the change of Interest & Persons so you may be sure I do not mean by this Tindale Ward, for you must not pick and chuse in the Quarter where you goe but pay your compliments indiscriminately. I hope you found all well (because I wish you & yours well) & if so I doubt not but you are in health & spirits, which is a pleasure to

Dr Sr, yours faithfully

Wr Blackett

[annotated on reverse:] London May 31st 1753. Sir Walter Blacketts letter with his opinion & Lord Carlisle's in the method Mr Allgood is to proceed for his standing again for a Representative for the County of Northumberland

5 Jul 1756 William Wentworth to Diana Bosville

Dear Daughter

It gave me great pleasure to find by yours that your daughters were in so good a way & Billey so well. I suppose by this you will have seen Mr Willson & his two younge daughters, I desired him if he had any money to spare that he would leave thirty pounds in your hands for me, to pay for Annabellas schooling, her half year being up the 21 of last month. if he cannot let me know and I will get you a bill and send it by the first opportunity. the country are very angry at Bing but I hear nothing of his being burnt in Effigy, but I believe no body would be sorry to hear that he was hanged if he has acted what is said of him. On thursday last Miss Spencer was married to Mr Graham and they set off that morning for his mothers at york, in a post chaise and four. he is a man of few words but may make it up with thinking. I dined at Cannon Hall the day before the weding where I was entertained in a very genteel manner.

we expect Miss Cotton will be married this week and her sister Hall is to come along with her, to the Haigh. if Mr Cotton gets Mr Hall's receipt for the management of

his will I donot doubt but he will be very happy. we have had of late warm weather with rain and sunshine and are beginning with our hay [?] and shall have great plenty if it proves a good season to get it. My blessing attends you all.

adieu W Wentworth

Bretton 5 July 1756

my sister thinks as the weather is so warm it is not proper to send venisson to London

1 Apr 1760 William Wentworth to Diana Bosville

[Note: signature missing but in Wm Wentworth's hand. Date torn, but Wortley Montagu's Reflections on the rise and fall of the Ancient Republicks was first published in 1759. Date partially visible, apparently April 1760]

Dear Da [ughter]

On Monday Julia set forwards for Bath by Dr Daulterys advice, & Betty is to go with her part of the way. your Aunt and Miss Cotton went in my Chair yesterday to Sheffield to meet Betty and return home to day. I was left with Annabella & your two little ones who look very well & do everything I bid them. 10000 pounds may have great charms with many people & may think it will give wit & good sense to Miss Kittey, whose Mother when a young woman was reckond a wit.

I return you thanks for the Drawing you sent me for a Coffee pot which I like very well & desire you will bespeak it for me, I suppose the handle to be wood. On Thursday morning I had a letter from Mr Spencer to desire leave to make brick upon the waste at Cowthorn he has agreed for Miss Grammers estates he proposes to make a Park, new Gardens & a Pinery. our weather here is much the same as with you which prevents the farmers plowing and sowing the Clay ground being so very hard.

I have this week read a book printed this year. Reflections on the rise and fall of the Ancient Republicks by Wortley Junior. if you have not seen it, if you [page torn & 1-2 words missing] your self the trouble to peruse it, I think it is [1-2 words missing] more pleasure than a winters a[1-2 words missing] at Routs can do

my blessing tends you & yours Adieu

Bretton

[most of date missing] il 1760

[on reverse:] To Mrs Bosville in Great Rusel street London

24 May 1760 William Wentworth to Diana Bosville

Dear Daughter

yesterday I received the favour of Mr Bosville's who informs me that my Coffee pot is made which I desire my Crest may be put on, I would have the feet of the Griffin all standing upon the ground, & no Crownet upon the neck but plane & I desire you will bring it down with you. I hope you have sold my Blanks, out of which pray pay your self, & let me know what may remain in your hands.

we have had some very fine rain, with hail of late which has made the corn and Grass look very well & there seems to be a prospect of plenty. the cold Easterly winds has destroyed most of my old Bucks in the park this winter & I have had very few pine apples, & very small & bad.

Mr Phipps is now got to Banks the wife Mr Greens, & the country says he is to marry Mrs Stanhop. Mr Ord & his Lady are expected at Mr Allots the next month, as she is very musical it will be a great misfortune if Julia should be from home when they are in this neighbourhood.

we shall be very glad to see you all in the country your son & daughter are both very well. my blessing attendg you & family.

adieu WWentworth

Bretton 24 May 1760

To. Mrs Bosville

22 Feb 1764 Thomas Wentworth to Diana Bosville

[Note: 'The Jealous Wife' by George Colman was a play which opened at Drury Lane in London in 1761. Diana was Wentworth's sister]

Bretton Feb. 22d 1764

Dear Dy

You may not think me Serious enough, but I can not take things in so serious a light as you seem to do, You are present & I at a Distance, that may make some Difference, However to speak my Plain Opinion, it seems to me that Mr & Mrs D.r have in their minds to endeavour to make a Cat's Paw of you to insinuate that they can not be easy in their Minds, except I will see 'em & be thoroughly reconcild to 'em, which will certainly happen when the North & South Poles meet together, let whatsoever happen as I am resolved to have no Business with them but paying their Money punctually.

Their Noble Contempt of me authorises a Return & if Kirkheaton had not remain'd in her memory, none of these Fits would have happend in your Presence, nor myself spoke of nor thought of, It puts me in mind of Mrs Pritchard in the Jealous Wife I own I am like the Major

My Mind will not suffer me to write any thing that might be agreable to Her, so the Less is said about me, the Better, & as to the Doctor's asking her what was the Matter, it

seems nothing else to one, than his giving her an opportunity to open the Scene, & repeat her Part, before rehears'd between 'em. I would sooner be reconciled to Her upon my own account, than for her continual ill natured Behaviour to my Aunt Betty, of which I was several times Witness, & which I can never forget; & I am sure she holds Anna as cheap as Dirt. Indeed Dy, I took nothing amiss from your Writing, you speak your Sentiments & according as Incidents appear to you & I do the same.

When the Wood Work of the apartment is finish'd I will then think more about the Green Damask & tho' the joiners are at hard Work perhaps I may be in Town, before they are ready for the Damask. I never heard that you had been ill & as you don't say of what, I hope it is nothing but a little natural Cause & all over. I went with Pleasure to Gunthwaite & met J. Hatfield, All Vessels were ready and clean, I ask't J. Hatfield if He had any particular good Brewer of his own Knowledge, he said, no & desired me to recomend one, so I send him a New Man, who has brew'd for me, & I gave him Strict orders against too much Hop for myself & he has promised to follow J. Hatfields orders, about putting in Hop. J. Hatfield will attend and will see that no more than Five Pounds of Hop to the Hogsh[ea]d is put in which has been your Constant Rule.

The Rain has wash' your Floor at Gunthaite

inc Compts to Dr. James & am obligd to Him but think myself very well at Present in all Respects.

I suppose I shall see you in London, in April which will be before you'll think of the Country Mr Wood is now here and We have been very busy in setting out a New Garden, We have plac'd it on the Right hand going up Bretton Lane in part of the Six acre & the Grives & We have almost fix't a Plan for the Water in the Cow Close & Low Park, but the Road before the House perplexes us, & I must have a writ ad quod damnum this Summer to turn the Road or all my Scheme is spoilt, I shall be very glad when We all meet again there; to see the Improvement Walls will tumble down like bewitched.

My love to all & let me hear from you soon I am Dear Dy Your affect. Br.r

T. Wentworth

Your Cellars & Walls were working.

18 Nov 1774 John Wentworth to Godfrey Bosville

Portsmouth N Hampshire: 18 Nov 1774

My dear Sir,

I forgot to mention one jar preserv'd Cranberrys, which belongs to Mrs Bosville's parcel.

I have just received the inclosed pamphlet of the proceedings of the grand Continental Congress; which is herewith forwarded for your amusement.

As Masquerades are now in fashion I've herewith sent you, the [underlined: 'whole'] dress of a South American princess; which may possibly suit some Eve, or Iphigenia; It cannot but be perfectly fashionable, as it was actually worn & [underlined: 'all'] that was worn, by a tawney Beauty, in the Royal presence, in the Regions of fashion and politeness, a Court. I have only time to add, that I am very truly

My dear Sir

Your sincere & affect friend

Wentworth

Mr Macdonagh presents to you & your family; ten thousand grateful sensibilities

Godfrey Bosville Esq.

[On verso, possibly in J.E.Blackett's hand, & despite the first sheet bearing Godfrey Bosville's name:] Novr 18th 1774 – Governor Wentworth to Sir Thos Blackett

14 Jul 1776 Roberts to Mowbray

[on cover]: Mr Mowbray's resolution at the last meeting

Mrs. M Roberts and her Sisters present their Compliments to the Gentlemen in the Copartnership in Fallowfield Lead Mine & take this Opportunity of acquainting them that it is not in their power to continue any longer to advance any further Sums of Money on the working the Mine therefore humbly intreat the Gentlemen to let them know if they will please to take their Share which is a ninth of the Whole into the Copartnerhship and clear them of all Incumbrances upon it or to say what they will be so good as to allow them for their Share.

July 14th 1776

Mr. Mowbray said he was sorry so few of the Proprietors was at the pay therefore he could only say for himself and it was his opinion that the Grove should be only worked with 6 Men to the end of the Lease and gave warning that the new Smelt Mill should be give up.

11 Sep 1782 Mary Wilkes to Diana Bosville

[Note: Mary Wilkes was the daughter of John Wilkes, the radical MP. Although the recipient is not named it is clear from the contents that it was Diana, nee Wentworth, wife of Godfrey Bosville of Thorpe Hall in the East Riding of Yorkshire]

Dear Madam,

The favour of your letter gave me great pleasure and I beg you to believe how much I shall always be flatter'd and oblig'd by the repetition. I have been told that in Yorkshire the seasons have had their usual course, which makes me hope your place of residence has not experienced the dismal weather we have had in and near Town. The arrival of the Comte de Grasse very luckily took from it some attention, and you have heard of the distinguish'd reception given him by all ranks. I was the more pleas'd with the generality of it, as I did not think there had been so much liberality remaining among the inferior orders of this Town after the shamefull conduct of such members in the summer of 80. There was really great merit in their behaviour to him, his presence here being a gratification to the pride as well as to the patriotism of the country. All you have read in praise of his conversation, manners and person, I can have the pleasure of confirming, having had the honor of being in his company twice at my father's. A foreigner of your acquaintance has lately been much the subject of conversation, the Duc de Sangro. He appears to have a great inclination to take a wife from England, but his affections are so easily transfer'd I cannot wish him success, nor will, I dare say, Miss Wentworth, tho' she form'd a favourable opinion of him at your house. The first object of his addresses was Miss Vernon, the maid of honour, with whom a match was so nearly concluded that she spent £200 in wedding attire & the writings were drawn up. The Duke then chang'd his mind, and paid his homage to Miss Clavering, whose Brother, Miss V happening to sit next at a supper, she told him, she had heard his sister was going to be married to the Duc de Sangro, and desir'd to know if it was true. Mr C said he was sorry to confirm it, for the family & himself did not at all approve the affair. Miss Vernon replied he had very much surpriz'd her for she knew a Lady to whom the Duke was engaged. Mr Clavering, much displeas'd at the news of such conduct to his sister hurried home & found her & the Duke together; he was very warm in his reproaches, but the Duke denied having any engagement. Mr C on that, determin'd to desire a further explanation of Miss V and went immediately to her appartments where after much entreaty (on account of the time of night) he gain'd admittance: in return to his enquiries Miss V said 'if he must know who the Lady was, it was herself and then shew'd him several Letters from the Duc de Sangro. This conference made Miss C give him an absolute dismissal, and he is said now to be addressing a Miss Ford who is reported to have £25,000. Some say the Duke denies the Letters shewn by Miss V and I have been likewise told she has declar'd, that 'making love in Italian was to her irresistible'.

Lord Effingham is gone to Gibraltar, from whence I wish him as safe a return as the chimney sweeper kill'd in the riots had a resurrection.

Mr. Fox's popularity appears much on the decline, and tho' his talents must always be admir'd, so little judgement has of late accompanied them it is not thought he will influence many votes the ensuing session. He continues to console his disappointed ambition in the society – and, I suppose, the arms of Mrs. Robinson.

I am sure you rejoice in the report of Abbe Reynal's death being contradicted; we do very sincerely. I have just made a packet of French literature for your perusal, all of which have made much noise at Paris: the 'confessions' &c are undoubtedly

Rousseau's, many parts are admirable, others strange, & some that will give you a fresh concern for the unfortunate mixture to be found in human nature & in one individual. I will say no more on the subject, but shall be very glad of your observations at your convenience. Give me leave to request you will read Rousseau & Les Liaisons dangereuses, before you let them go into other hands in your house, and when if you lend them to the gentlemen of your family please not to say they are mine for reasons you will find by the contents. I hope to hear of your being amus'd with what has much interested and entertain'd me, or I would not offer them to your attention. At your leisure, I beg the favour of the Books by the same conveyance that I send them. I add a bagatelle you were so obliging as to lend me, which by mistake I did not return with some other pamphlets.

My father is greatly oblig'd to yourself & Mr. Bosville for the friendly share you took in his reelection; he desires to make his best compliments, and allow mine to attend the family. We are going to make some excursions in the course of the present month, but they will not be distant. In all places I must have a deep send of your kindness to dear Madam,

Your affectionate friend,
And very humble servant,
Mary Wilkes

Prince's Court,
September 11th, 1782

Wednesday night

I have just seen a letter from Portsmouth which mentions all being order'd on board the ships that were to sail from thence, so that I hope Lord Howe is now on his way to Gibraltar.

4 Dec 1783 Thomas Blckett to unknown

[Note: Year not given. Arthington was taxed in Yorkshire in 1785. Dec 4th fell on a Thursday in 1783]

Sir

Mr. Arthington is Here and We want to have a little Conversation with You about Mr. Allott, so that if you will be at Home tomorrow morning, We will call upon You in our Way to Mr. West.

Yours &C
T. Blckett

Bretton/ Thursday/ Decr. 4th [added in a different hand:] 1790?

1 Sep 1792 Mark Skelton

[Note: These are rough notes scribbled onto the back of summary accounts and from the date assigned to the accounts mentioned could have been taken by Mark Skelton perhaps on being sent to Newcastle for an early inspection of the northern estates inherited by Col Beaumont and Diana from her father in July of that year. The accounts were presumably presented to him by those he met on his journey]

1777 to 1791 incl[ose]d: Allenheads Land Accounts &c

Mr Foster recommends to have a Kay [quay] for Gunpowder (to be got from London) at Blaydon & dd [delivered] by Mr Mulcaster to the Miners – thinks it wo[ul]d save 15s p[er] Barrel

The candles we got from <straker & [co]> are bad.

Pringles not proper to be Carriers - the Carriage ought to be Let

Hunter & the Mill Cl[er]ks also Carriers

23 Aug 1793 Jemima Bigge to Diana Beaumont

[Note: Undated, but reference to her 'sweet boy' suggests that TWB was very young at the time. Jemima's husband died at Bath in October 1794 and her references to 'we' might indicate that he was still alive at the time. The Beaumonts were in Hexham in July 1793 and in Bretton in September, and there is mention of shooting so this perhaps dates from later in the preceding month. 23rd August was a Friday]

If the efficacy of good wishes express'd with sincerity & attested by a bumper, does not fail, you must be quite well by this time my dear Mrs Beaumont, & indeed I have the satisfaction of thinking they are of some avail, as a Letter from Miss Lambert received this moment informs me (as being the best news she could send me) that you have been to call on her since your confinement, tho' she adds what I am sorry to hear that Wednesday next is fix'd for your departure from Hexham. May we not hope to see you en passant? That day we have company at Dinner & if you will be so good to join our party (which is not a large one) & accept of Beds here, we shall be happy to receive you & Mr Beaumont & your sweet Boy, or if you rest in Newcastle that day, will you spend the next with us? However it be you carry with you our sincere wishes for your health & happiness. I was much concern'd to hear of the <event> of your indisposition, <and can only pledge how> much I have been accessory to your fatigues, which may have occasion'd this misfortune, therefore I shall not be quite in charity with you or myself,

till the cause of regret is done away by your future good conduct, in which I shall take great interest. It was not only those of this House who joined in the Chorus of your health, but our Neighbours & Mr Griffith who were doubly united with us on the subject by our good will & your good Moor Game; you was very obliging in thinking of us, & we agree that Lead is very good food in all senses, the Birds were most excellent, & are great rarities for none are to be kill'd at Whitfield this year, which is a secret your Birds have not found out, or they would have taken their flight from the Allen to the Whitfield Water in time. I hope the Bishops blessing & Lady Liddels conversation did not counteract each other, but that rather they made a kind of neutral, which did not destroy the efficacy of the one & assisted you to support the other, if you ventured to encounter it, as I fear'd by your last you meant to do notwithstanding your weakness. Report says you are going to Scarborough; if I was selfish I should wish it was Tynemouth but as I know what it is after sickness to drag ones weak Legs up the Hill from the Bathing place, I content myself with the hopes of hearing of the improvement of your health at a distance. I have often thought there is something in the impression that one mind makes on another like the effect of the steel in the Flint in inanimate nature; when these meet, they produce sparks which neither do with other substances, tho' more precious than the stone which contains the latent fire; this do I feel with respect to many people I meet with, dull as the untouch'd stone but you my dear Madm. Draw forth the warmth of my heart towards you in a manner peculiar to such natures as your own, & as long as you permit me to do so, I shall be happy to rank myself in the number of your Friends, tho' I cannot hope to benefit often by your society, which I should be more sorry for, if the duties of my life did not occupy so much of my time as they do at present. I enclose you Dr. Browns extempore lines, but I flatter myself you will give me an opportunity of shewing you a little collection of views which Mr Griffith has given me taken at Whitfield, among them a sketch of the spot where these lines were spoken. I am sure Mr Beaumont will think it necessary you should rest after your journey from Hexham & I trust he will agree with me in thinking you can be quieter here than at Newcastle, add to which the pleasure you will give to all here, especially to Mr Bigge & my Dear Mrs Beaumont Obliged & affecte Friend
Jemima Bigge

Benton House Friday

9 Nov 1796 William Bosville to Diana Beaumont

Welbeck Street Novr. 9th 96

Dr. Mrs. Beaumont,

I enclose you a copy of the Music of Tookes Song it was done in a hurry by a person not used to Music, it is six quavers in a bar you will observe these should be single & not <tied together>, the <ties> are marked out with a pen. It is a very fine song

the tune goes excellently well with it, do let me have your opinion of it. My old friend Major Cartwright was at the dinner he came to town on purpose, the crowd was so great & he a little infirm that tho' he mad[e] several efforts to speak to me he could not get up. I wish all the apostates from the cause of liberty could have seen the dinner & that we could have seen them, with each in large letters on his breast the price Mr. Pitt obliges the plunder'd nation to pay him for his apostasy from his own opinions. Some it would appear are bought cheap, others horridly dear, it shews some conscience not to vote away the lives, liberties & happiness of their Countrymen cheap the worst are those who would sell us all for a mess of potage. I have heard many of our most violent people speak well of Ld. Fitzwilliam, he is not an apostate from his own opinions as Pitt is, he has been perfectly consistent, he tells us all plainly what his opinions are we understand, I sincerely believe they are his opinions, they are very wide of mine yet I am always happy to hear him spoke well of, he is a civil man & I hope he will weather the storm Pitt is steering us into. In this morning's True Briton I find my name at full length & called the Citizen President of desperate Vagabonds – I am glad to see it, nothing enrages the delegates & I suppose whole body of the Corresponding Societys as being told how they are spoke of in aristocratic Societys – Rogues, Thieves, <.....>, Cowards, Cutthroats & such like Aristocratic language – I hope the True Briton will give them some more of it – A great number of our people will be in this new Militia either as principles or substitute[s], some time ago a man durst not keep a pike in his house, houses were search'd for arms, now those very men may arm according to law. Let me know what you think of the Branches of Housekeepers, they <increase> fast, those who recruit fifty good men, Housekeepers that they can answer for & the Committee <approves> after the necessary enquiry are if they choose to be of the sub committee & those who get one hundred are of the Gen:l Committee, I know some of the Gen:l Committee, they are very active men & staunch. I wish to have your opinion about them, it is getting forwards in several parts of England & Scotland as I am inform'd – I got John Milnes into it.

Yours most sincerely

One of the Eighty four

12 Nov 1796 William Bosville to Diana Beaumont

[Note: Letter may be incomplete]

Novr: 12th 1796

Dr. Mrs. Beaumont,

I am sorry to find that Mr. Wests eyes are so bad, many thanks for the trouble you have. What a strange advertisement there was in the Morn[in]g Chronicle front page. Burke & Owen the Book<sellers>.

Tho' you have read so much about the dinner on the 5th you may not have heard of the suppers that took place on that night – It was suggested by the Committee from the

delegates of the Corresponding Societys that those who wished to celebrate the day & could not spare eight & sixpence for a dinner might bespeak rooms & sup together – they did & a vast number of Public & some private houses furnished supper all on the same plan – Eighteen pence a head including a pot of beer each man – Mr. <Bonny> the attorney has sent about in his neighbourhood which is <Piercy> Street, Charlotte Street & Tottenham Court Road & has discovered about thirty houses who furnish'd suppers. I was in [the] City on purpose to enquire about these active suppersmen, I call'd at a Warehouseman in Cornhill, a great democrat he said most of his Workmen were at one or other of the supper parties, at some houses they took in near a hundred at others fifty or Thirty, supper hour was eight or nine, at some houses in Stepney Parish, the Minories & about Tower Hill there were most houses that furnish'd some very large rooms, I got the toasts of one of the largest meetings, they are very strong. <A.....> revolution & may none but the Guilty suffer, if that was given it is too strong & dangerous – They had one from the New Testament in the Words of Christ – Love your Enemies – that was received with great applause as we are fighting Republicans – an other religious one – The day of Resurrection – of the British Nation – You will observe that we dinner men are small indeed very small in numbers to these enthusiastic supper men – If I was to serve in the new supplementary Militia I should <choose> to serve with the parish of Stepney, where the men I am told are determined not to send substitutes but to serve they will arm to any extent Mr. Pitt <chooses> in that parish, the London Corresponding society are strong<est> there in proportion to the number of inhabitants than in any other parish. I do not think Pitts arming goes to a sufficient extent – as exercising is only on Sunday every man should learn the use of arms & have them. This arming is the best thing Pitt has ever done. Washingtons <retiring> without a large <portion>, the corrupt here will think a dangerous example, for examples sake such conduct would not have been allow'd here. Pitt is to do something <violent> on the 30th I suppose as I am told he has ordered all the <sw....> of the House to attend, he can't want their assistance for any good, those domestic enemies as <Tooke> call[ed] them in his Hustings speech deserve their pay for they now risque their lives for it. How do you like <Tookes> song, is the music correct do you think it good? Have you read the bloody <Btt....> all that was produced by the prodigality of those in power it should be a lesson to Pitt. The Branches of house keepers augment fast , what do you think of them? <And> Beaumont of Whitley <BO.> are his opinions popular in his neighbourhood is he a leader or more of a driver, all men are Jacobins according to him, having voted for the Lock Jaw bills will not prevent BO from calling a man Jacobin, I wish to know what he calls me, I should have a rank above that, he gives <me one I suppose.>

12 Jun 1798 Thomas Crawhall to Mark Skelton

[Note: Recipient not named but context suggests it was being sent to Bretton, and therefore probably to Mark Skelton]

Newcastle 12th. June 1798

Sir

In Mr. Straker's absence I write to you to inform you that the Box containing the papers you mention in your Lre arrived safe. Mr. Blackett has examined them but found most of them of no use at present, the Papers that he wanted were those that related to the Winlaton Estate &c. but is of opinion with you that they ought to be here & not at Bretton – Mr. Straker went to Rothbury the latter end of last Month; when we heard from him last week he was rather better – On board the Good Intent, Capt. Fletcher for Hull, are Shipp'd Four Casks of Lead Fume directed for Mr. Beaumont, which I hope will arrive safe –

I am For T R Beaumont Esq Sir Your Most Obd. Servt.

Thomas Crawhall Jr.

11 Sep 1798 Thomas Crawhall to Mark Skelton

[Note: Recipient not named but context suggests it was being sent to Bretton, and therefore probably to Mark Skelton]

N.castle 11th. Sept. 1798.

Sir

By Mr. Blackett's direction I write to inform you, that as he understands Mr. Beaumont intends to send Mr. C. Blackett & him some venison, he desires it may be quite cold before it is sent of from Bretton, otherwise it spoils in the Carriage & that he expects it to be here by the 19th. Inst.. By the Leeds Waggon is a Box directed for Col. Beaumont, containing Guns &c. which I hope you will receive safe –

I am Sir Your Most Obedt. Hble. Servt.

Thos. Crawhall

22 Jan 1799 Thomas Crawhall to William Tweedale

[Note: Incomplete. The first portion of the letter has been excised. The end of the letter possibly also missing. Although annotated on cover '22 Jan 1799 Mr J Straker', contents suggests the covering letter was actually written by someone in Straker's office in his absence, presumably Thomas Crawhall.]

Mr William Tweedale Bretton Near Wakefield Yorkshire

[up to first 10 lines missing, cut out] I have continued to pay I. Littlewood since I saw you at this place. I don't perceive that any thing has been paid by the Overseers of Rexborough on her Account for some time by Mr Straker's papers, the only one that I have seen relating to it is a Copy of a letter to Mr Noble, (a Copy of which you have on the other side) & if nothing has been paid since, the Arrears now due will be in all £13 -

- which if right, will be much obliged by your receiving [rest missing, = reverse of excised section to front Copy letter referred to is as follows:]

Newcastle 28th Jany 1799 [sic –dated later than the one referred to in covering letter]

Dr Sir,

I sent you by Col B's Servant I. Littlewood receipts Amounting to £5.17.- & enclosed I send you two more which will make £7.3.- which you'll please to receive of the Overseers of the Parish of Rexborough & remit me the same & likewise inform them that as they are so inattentive to the Repayment of the Money that I shall certainly make no more payments to the Woman on their acct. They are people I have not the least acquaintance of but was induced to do it at the request of your Father

I am etc J. Straker
(a copy)

Mr Rich. Noble

31 Mar 1799 John Bell to William Tweedale

[Note: Recipient not stated, assumed to be Wm Tweedale at Bretton, who was dealing with the preparation of Col Beaumont's tax return]

Newcastle 31st. March 1799

Sir

I am now here to assist in making out a Statement of Coll. Beaumont's Income and Mr Blackett has shewn me the Acct. which you have sent from Bretton which is much too general

A Rent-Roll comprising the Name of each Tenant the Name of the Farm in what Parish it lies and the Quantum of Rent is what is wanted and with respect to the Outgoings it is required that you be more particular saying whether Mr. Howland's £10 Mrs. Helliby's £8 and in short all the other Payments you have put down are for Annuities or Interest of Money or on what other Acct. – If Coll. Beaumont pays or allows his Tenants the Land <tax> it must be added to the Deductions – The Land tax of £10 – 19. 4 ½ I presume is for the House at Bretton the Gardens and the Lands on Hand there – How much is the House and Offices at Bretton charged at to the House Duty – I mean at what yearly Value – There should be a Deduction of £10 <p Cent> for Repairs of the Mansion House and <three p Cent> upon Town Houses – Should you be at a Loss for anything you had better apply to Coll. Beaumont's Law Man at Bretton with the Schedules to the amended Income Acct and take his Instructions and be as particular as you can – Be pleased to let us hear from you by Return of Post if possible with the several Matters wanted as Friday is the last day fixed for delivering in

Statements of Income - Upon what principle have you deducted only the Half of £231. 16. 10 ½ for House Duty Male Servants &c – In your Valuation of the Lands in Hand are they charged according to the Schedules in the amended Acct – Is the Average of Woods for three or five Years or what other Period –

I am Sir Your most obed. Servt. J Bell

[Postscript] Please to inform us if there are any other Annuities chargeable on Col. Beaumonts Estates – Has not Miss Hallet an Annuity of £100 <pr ann>? & has not Mrs. <Laycarths> Daughters annuitys? Please to be very particular Yrs. &tc J E Blackett

1 Apr 1799 John Erasmus Blackett to William Tweedale

Newcastle 1st. April 1799

Mr. William Twedale

You would receive a letter by the last post from Mr. Bell from this place since which I received a letter from Col. Beaumont saying that in your statement of his Yorkshire Income that you had omitted a Farm of £144 pp Ann of which he had acquainted you.

It will be necessary that the Return you make of the Amount of Col. Beaumont's Income (of which you shall be informed) to the Assessors should be signed by him, or by you as his Agent specifying the several Names & ages of his Children for whom he claims an allowance & stating that he makes his option of making the Payments at Hexham in Northd. The said return to be enclosed, sealed up & directed to the Commissioners of Income. The statement of Col. Beaumont's Income & it must be delivered to the Assessor in your Division not later than Friday the 5th. inst. If anything has been omitted let me know by the return of post. I am

Your Humb. Servant

John E. Blackett

20 Apr 1799 Peter Hunter to John Erasmus Blackett

Durham 20th. April 1799

Sir

If you'll have the Goodness to look to any one of the Newcastle Papers of this Week You'll observe an Advertisem't of certain Resolutions adopted at a Meeting therein ment[i]one[d] for the opposing a Clause in a Bill now pending in Parliament for continuing an Act for the making of the South Turnpike Road from Gateshead to Hexham By which Clause it is intended to erect a Tollgate at a place called High Team near Gateshead the consequence of which would be as described in the Advertiserment. At which meeting Lord Strathmore presided & I had the Honor of being appointed Solicitor for the purpose of such Opposition & have it in Charge from the Gent[le]me[n] present at the Meeting to communicate the proceedings to you, the Members for this

County & City & many others materially interested in such opposition & on behalf of the Persons opposing to beg your Interest & Support, In case you cannot attend the next Meeting (the 26th. Inst:) Your Answer addressed to me so as it may come to hand on or before that Day will oblige my Clients as well as <me.>

Your most Obed. Hble. Servt.

Peter Hunter

23 Apr 1804 Lorraine Baker & Co to John Erasmus Blackett

[Note: Marked '(Copy)']

Newcastle 23d. April 1804

Dear Sir

We have considered the several conversations we have recently had with you on the Subject of Colonel Beaumont's Lead Pay to be made the latter End of next Month: we feel we shall be much inconvenienced by the Shortness of the Time allowed us to prepare the Notes: but to shew our Disposition to serve Coln. Beaumont, we will undertake to make the Pay, on Condition that Sir R.C. Glyn & Co. agree to pay your Drats. at sight for the Amount.

In Answer to your Application for the Loan of five Thousand Pounds, we will discount London Bills to that Amount, not exceeding three Month's Date, which will lessen the Advancement to be made by Sir R.C. Glyn & Co. –

In Regard to any Remuneration to be made to us, we wish that to be postponed 'till we have made the Pay & experienced the Effect, when we shall be better enabled to judge of it. –

This is nearly the Substance of the Plan we submitted to Messrs. Davison Noel & Co. in December last. – We shall be glad to have Sir R.C. Glyn & Co.'s Answer as soon as Convenient for our Government.

We are Dr. Sir Your faithful Obedt. Servants

Signed, Baker & Co.

John E. Blackett Esq.

7 Sep 1804 Elizabeth Stead to John Erasmus Blackett

[Note: Postmarked Welwyn 25. Elizabeth was JEB's daughter.]

Pauls wolden 7th. Septbr. 1804.

My Dear Sir

I have received both your very kind letters and am particularly obliged to you for the advice contained in the latter respecting my health, it would I have not the least

doubt suit most constitutions, but I have uniformly found that whenever I drink more than 3 or 4 glasses of wine I am very much heated and irritated with it.

I imagine that my last letter to our dearest Patience will be the means of prolonging her stay with you, as I do not think that there is any likelihood of our friends arriving so soon as she imagines, and indeed if they were to arrive she would hear it the vessel being in the channel time enough to be here before they could be ready to set out and I have desired Mr. Timms to write to Newcastle the moment he hears of the vessel being seen, and likewise to me and if it is not a Post day to send a man & horse to Pauls wolden. I think at any rate she might remain till the 25th.

I observe what you say about Mr. Hargrave, I have no objection to taking Twenty Thousand for the Estate & think he ought to pay one half down & the other in Instalments, of course every possible precaution to be taken to secure regular payments. I place the utmost confidence in your & Mr Thomas's opinion & rely on your decision.

I enclose you a line from Miss <Finweeke> which I received with the particulars of a place which I before knew of, Patience will derive some comfort from seeing that <Mereneale> could not sail so soon as she expected, I dare say not till the end of Augst. I will write to Patience tomorrow or next day desire her to let me know in her next her determination. I am rejoiced to find the Cold Bath agrees so well with her.

Pray make my best love to her & my sister & all friends. and I am always My Dear Sir

Ever <affty. Yrs> <Bessy> Stead

14 Sep 1804 William Hargrave to John Erasmus Blakett

[Note: Postmarked Alnwick 310]

Shawdon 14th. Sepr. 1804

Dear Sir

I am favoured with your Letter of the 10 Inst. by which I find that Mrs. Stead accepts my offer of Twenty Thousand Pounds for Ryal. I have sold Property to the amount of near £ 40,000, for which I am to be paid by instalment; I am to be paid £ 10,000 in the course of next year 1805, and the remainder of the purchase money in the two succeeding years 1806 & 1807. I hope this may suit Mrs. Stead: it will be my inclination as well as interest to pay the money sooner and I have reason to expect that it will be in my power to do so.

I am with regard Dear Sir Your most Obedt. Servt.

Wm. Hargrave

21 Sep 1804 William Hargrave to John Erasmus Blackett

[Note: Postmarked Alnwick]

Shawdon 21st. Septr. 1804

Dear Sir

After giving six months notice I am to be paid £ 10,000, therefore I shall be entitled to receive that Sum in May next; but lest by any unexpected event I should be prevented from receiving the Money in due time, I would not engage to pay it before Martinmas following; though I should wish to pay the money to Mrs. Stead as soon as I may receive it. For the same reason, I would not engage to pay an additional £ 5000 before Martinmas 1806, and the remaining £ 5000 at Martinmas 1807 I am with much Respect Dear Sir

Your most Obedt. Servt.

Wm. Hargrave

13 Dec 1805 Rowland Burdon to Christopher Blackett

Chrisr. Blackett Esqr.

Newcastle 13th. Decr. 1805

Sir

The Committee met this day to decide on your proposition respecting security to a certain extent to Col. Beaumont out of Mr. Burdon's private Effects – They conceived it to be their duty, notwithstanding their sincere desire to promote any wish of Col. Beaumont's to refuse their assent to the proposition in the shape of a measure confined solely to Col. Beaumont's Debt. 'tho they think that a scheme of a general nature may be adopted, which, to the Colonels satisfaction may effect his objects – They are firm in the conviction that the manner in which their trust is executed is in reality the most advantageous to the Colonel & to the Creditors, that can under the peculiarities of our situation be devised: and they please themselves with the hope that consistently with the calls of his private Interest and the public convenience, his influence will continue to be beneficially felt by them in the execution of their trust – They hope that he will contribute his utmost endeavours to tranquilize the disposition, and to allay the inconvenience of the public by the continuance of his countenance to their measures, and by a liberal and candid interpretation of their Conduct. – They entreat his Countenance on the present occasion with the more confidence, as they are about to take a measure of a general nature, and to insert speedily in the Papers a preliminary advertisement. We entreat that Col. Beaumont & you may consider this communication as perfectly confidential, and we persuade ourselves that, when beginning with Col. Beaumont, we shall offer securities different from those which you claimed on his behalf but substanti<ally> good to their extent, you will feel the earnestness of our wish to do the Colonel all the Justice in our Power. It is our misfortune that our Power is

limited. We cannot conclude this letter without remarking that in the [3-4 words illegible owing to paper fold] painful Duty which we have imposed upon ourselves, and which we fervently believe, after having surmounted all difficulties, we shall finally execute to the satisfaction of all our Creditors, we have much more consulted their Interest, than our own ease – We hope to see you as soon as you return, And are Your most Obt. Hble. Servts.

Surtees, Burdon & Bran<dling>

Dr. Sir Above you have the Copy of our letter to you in December.

I am Sir / Yr. faithful Servt.

Newca Jan. 15. 06 – R. Burdon

1 Jul 1808 James Smith to Diana Beaumont

[Note: no date given within the year 1808, so given here as 1st July, the middle of the year]

Subjects of the Bas reliefs at Bretton Lodges – built 1808

Madam,

The Subjects of the Bassreliefs for the Lodge at Bretton Hall are taken from the Roman History one representing Coriolanus at the head of an invading army before the gates of Rome where he was met by his Mother & family who in tears beseech him to spare the City, overcome by their entreaty He exclaimed Mother you have prevail'd; but in saving Rome you destroy your Son

The second Commemorates a singular instance of patriotism M[arcus] Attilius Regulus a Roman Consul being taken prisoner by the Carthaginians & <used> with great severity during a Long Captivity, they at length being tired with a long <and expensive> war in which they <had exhausted their <... ... > treasure <made> an offer of Liberty to him on Conditions of using his <intrest> with the Senate to obtain for them a peace, he accepts the offer and departs with their ambassador to Rome for that purpose, but when in the Senate he made the following Speech, Tho' I am a Slave at Carthage I am a free man at Rome, & as such I exhort you not to agree by any means to their proposals for their army is dispirited & treasure exhausted so that they must shortly yield to your Successful arms, he further added as I am now grown old & useless I wish you not to bestow one thought upon me, for I must return to Captivity according to my promise & let the Gods take care of the rest. The Senate endeavoured by all possible means to retain him, but all to no purpose nor that of his nearest friends nor even of his Wife & Children to dissuade him from keeping his word & returning to his Confinement.

which is the point of time the subject is taken [arrow - pointing at drawing perhaps?]

<.... ..> your obedt Humbl Servant

James smith

15 Jul 1809 William Bosville to Diana Beaumont

Welbeck Street 15th July

Dr Mrs Beaumont,

I returned a few days ago from my Yorkshire & Devonshire tour by way of Bath &c. I got your of the 10th yesterday. I am sorry you go so soon. The neighbouring farmers will regret your absence. You do not mention the garden. I hope it produced you some good fruit & presented by the present gardener with a better grace than it was by the late surly one. When changing Horses at Sheffield I spoke to Mr West who was doing the same. I proposed getting to York that night. Mr W was going for London – I suppose to get his lease. I thought from what he said that Old one was out. I told him that I did not desire a better tenant. I knew Mr West's uncle very well when a boy, but saw little of him after our family removed to Thorpe. My father had a great opinion of him. I never had an opportunity of forming an Opinion of Mr West till now, & now I have formed one greatly – greatly to his disadvantage. I never associated with Mr Wn hardly ever in his company. He had a most Vulgar manner & accent. Do you his neighbour think him a man of the world or an Interesting Companion? He has no more Claim on me than other farmers. He has acted under my most excellent friend Mr Hall & now you see how lucky I am in having Mr Hall & not a couple of West's. Pray talk this over with Hall & let me have another of your kind & sensible letters

Yrs sincerely

Wm Bosville

[on cover:] To Mrs Beaumont / Thorpe Hall by / Malton / Yorkshire

7 Jan 1818 Thomas Richard Beaumont to Unknown

Bretton Hall Jan. 7. 1818

Sir,

Understanding from Mr. Wheat that you wish me to relinquish my trust under Your marriage settlements, I beg leave to inform you that I shall at any time be ready to do so, & as Mr. Wheat is coming over here on Monday next the 12th inst. Mrs. Beaumont & myself shall be glad if you will accompany him to dinner & take a Bed, when we can converse on this Subject & some other matters which occurred previous to the Death of Sir Thomas Blackett respecting which Mrs. B and myself [wis]h to be more fully informed –

I am Sir, Yours faithfully

Tho. Rd. Beaumont

1 Jul 1823 Reid to Diana Beaumont

[Note: The document is undated but was no earlier than 1822, when John Clifford married Diana's sister Louisa, the Mrs Clifford referred to here. Louisa was 19 when she married William Stacpoole early in 1794, and is said to be 'in her 50th year' when this was written, which could therefore mean it dates to between 1823 and 1825. In describing the intended disposition of the Beaumont estate it could perhaps have been drawn up as background to the preparation of a marriage settlement, and it is likely that one was contemplated in the summer of 1823 when it appeared –for a short while– that Thomas Wentworth Beaumont was to marry Elizabeth Swinburne of Capheaton Hall in Northumberland. It is therefore tentatively dated to July 1823. It was possibly mainly prepared by the man referred to as 'Reid' at the end and given to Diana Beaumont]

In the Year 1763 Sir William Wentworth Bart. Died & left all his Estates which were situated in the County of York to his only Son Thos. Wentworth who was never Married, there was not any occasion for Recoverys being suffer'd yet he chose to do it in the most complete Manner, which has been proved by The Heirs at Law having made various attempts to gain possession of Property &c - in the Year 1777 Sir Walter Blackett Died & Sir Thos. Wentworth became possessed of Estates & Lead Mines in the Counties of Northumberland & Durham in <Right> of his Mother Diana Blackett, who was Married to his Father Sir Wm. Wentworth in 1720 – he changed his Name to Blackett on the Death of Sir Walter Blackett, & suffer'd the necessary recoverys wh. was proved by attempts to take the Property from Mr. & Mrs. Beaumont on the Death of Sir Thomas Blackett in 1792 who left all his Estates in Northd., Durham, Yorkshire &c also his Lead Mines, to them for their Joint Lives (his Eldest Daugr. Diana Wentworth having Married Thos. Richd. Beaumont in 1786,) he left the power of appointing an Eldest Son to the Survivor, wh. [inserted text: power of] appointment has since been barr'd under the advice of Mr. Sugden & others which was taken in 1816 & afterwards completed, the Deed of Settlement is in the Evidence <Room> at Bretton Hall, also the Recoverys they suffer'd & Mr. & Mrs. Beaumonts Marriage Settlement <are there.> Sir Thomas Blacketts Will made in 1792 is in London under which Will Mr. & Mrs. Beaumont take all their Property. Sir Thos. Blackett left all his Personalty to Thos. Richd. Beaumont, who has settled the whole of his Personal Property on Mrs. Beaumont if she survives him by his Will made in 1805 which is in London, & in that Will he leaves £150,000 to his Younger Children, which Sum was in 1818 & 1820 given to Mr. Wentworth Beaumont to purchase the Estate of Bywell &c with an understanding that [inserted text: the same] Sum for his Brothers & Sisters Fortunes should be settled on the Yorkshire Estates & [inserted text: . It is proposed that] a further Sum of £500 p. Ann: on each of the 3 Daugrs. as long as they remain unmarried, & the House in Portman Square, & these provisions to take place after the decease of

Mrs. Beaumont, there is a Lease remaining of about 40 Years of that House, Mr. & Mrs. Beaumont have not a Mortgage on their Estates in Northd. Durham or Yorkshire; there are 2 Payments of £3000 p Ann: each to Mrs. Lee, & to Mrs. Clifford, the latter it is believed will cease & fall in to the Property being forfeited at her Death, She is now in the 50th Year of her Age, if Mrs. Beaumont survives her Husband she will have the power of making her Will & leaving the Personal Property as she chooses, but which it is to be supposed will be left to her Eldest Son, knowing the absolute necessity there is that a very large Sum of Money should always be at the command of whoever is in Possession of the Lead Mines, & it has always been her wish to leave her Eldest Son perfectly free from any Debts or embarrassment of any kind whatever, & hopes there will be sufficient in the Funds to answer the demand of £150,000 for the Younger Childrens Fortunes yet she considers it right to prepare against all Contingencies –

[The document then appears to continue in a different & less legible hand]

Col. Beaumonts <wish> to remain as before 500£ per ann. to be settled on the daughters with the House in Portman Square [inserted text: as long as each shall remain unmarried] in addn. to their respective shares in the 150,000 £- the 500 £ per ann. to commence when their [inserted word: Younger] Brothers fortunes become due on Col. B's decease –

All the settlements to be made upon the Yorkshire property <Ld.> Mines, if <requisite> for sufft. & ample <security> - The Northumbld. estates to be unencumbered –

The Mortgage on Bywell to be paid off –

The arrangement contained in the paper delivered in by Mr. Reid to be completed -

19 May 1824 Charles Winn to Raine

Nostell 19th May 1824

Mr. Raine,

I duly received your letter of the 16th of last Month and am sorry I have so long delayed replying to it.

With respect to the Swans, I must own that I do not feel by any means satisfied that the six which came here some weeks since are those which are <missing> from the Bretton Water. The fact is there have been two flights, consisting of six each, seen at this place at the same time and this circumstance I mentioned to Colnl. Beaumonts Keeper when he was here. It is therefore possible that the six which are here may not belong to Bretton, be this as it may however, it is far from my wish to retain them as they certainly are not mine. They had however, perhaps better remain here 'till the return of

Colnl. or Mrs. Beaumont to Bretton, and I will give my Keeper directions to pay due attention to any orders they may think proper to give respecting them.

I am &c

Chas: Winn

6 Mar 1827 Diana Beaumont to Martin Morrison

[Note: undated copy in another hand, possibly that of John Bell junior, the agent in Hexham. Mention of the visit of Captain Beaumont (ie. Diana's son Richard), is also made in daughter Diana's journal as being on 3rd March, and returning to the family on the 9th, so this letter must date at some point between. Given here as 6th.]

I have received a letter from Mr. Bird respecting Warden, since his return, he is you know to hold that living for my Son Henry, who can hold it in 4 years, when he will be 24 – Captn. Beaumont arrived on Sunday from Portsmouth to see us, he was obliged to return the next day to pay his Ship off, when he will return here for good. He is looking extremely well and in good spirits – Mr. Bird passed a few days with the late Mr. Thompson Son, he found a few years ago, the boundaries between the Parishes of Warden & Simonburn were disputed between the Townships and brought before the Quarter Sessions who referred the division to Mr. Richmond & Mr Newburn & Mr Richmond being a Proprietor in the Township of Simonburn and therefore interested. They decided against the Township in Warden Parish upon very slender evidence on the part of Simonburn & against very strong on the part of the Township (Haydon Bridge) in their Parish, the determination however was final as to the Assess[ment]ts. but had properly nothing to do with the Tithes yet the Rector of Simonburn availed himself of the decision to claim the whole of the Tithe of that portion so detached, which had formerly and uniformly paid half of its Tithe to Warden – Mr. Thompson communicated the affair to Mr. Thomas but as no notice was taken of it, and he submitted to the loss, there are 2 large Farms the Chesters and Walwick Grange which pay each 2 Cart loads of Hay in lieu of Tithe, but as the Law never admits anything paid in kind to be a Modus, they might well be compelled to pay full Tithe. Mr. Bird says he thinks it right to mention these cases to me before he accepts them, and so confirm by his acquiescence those Illegal claims , he adds if I think fit to recover the right of the living, he will willingly give his labour and attention to the subject, and bear a fair proportion of the expence – this appears to me very fair, and I will agree to his proposal, when you have seen Mr. Bolam which I really will be obliged to you to do, & read to him Mr. Bird's com[municatio]n to me, he says the Manor of Warden must belong to us the Black Book recites it as belonging to the Abbey Mr. Bell said he knew nothing of it, except that he receives some quit Rents or Fee Farm rents from some Lands in nether Warden, I wish Mr. Bolam would enquire into this. –

I am Sir yours Faithfully

D. Beaumont

I am desirous to make Warden a good living for my Son Henry –

[on verso:] March 1827/ Extract from Mrs Beaumont's letter to Mr. Morrison as to the Living of Warden

[pencil notes given on left hand side of sheet in another hand:]

Mem. as to the subject of this letter

Also as to Mr Mewburn's letter

<F...> as to the damage of Ground

As to Jos Rowlan's application to purchase a site for a House on Ardley Allotmt on Hexham Fell 1 chain long & 1 wide £10

As to <newson Watlas> application for a site near <Kewtain> School <... Up> the Bank

[from another sheet enclosed with the above, possibly, given its heading and subject matter, a separate extract from the same letter, although this is unclear:]

Extract from Mrs. Beaumonts Letter to Mr. Morrison/ March 1827

I find Mr. Bird removes from Hoyland to Warden in May. He says there is a Copy of an Act of Parliament with an Award of Gunnerton Common in Mr. Bell's possession, I should be glad if you would authorize Mr. Bell to give it up to me, as I should probably find it useful in the way of distinguishing the different Fields in the Township. I will be obliged to you to request Mr. Crawhall to write to Mr. Bell to say he has an authority to <lend> them out of the Office to Mr. Bird taking his receipt for them. Mr. Bird has at present the Black Book of Hexham in his possession and I hold his receipt for it. He expects it may be of service to him in recovering rights in Warden.

8 Feb 1833 Henry Beaumont to Thomas Wentworth Beaumont

My dear Wentworth

I was just on the move from Bedale, when I received your letter, the advice which it contained I really thank you very much for. – You stated that you would have 30, or 40,000£ ready in May if I wished to accept it. I must thank you for your kind offer and will accept 30,000£ and will leave the 20,000£ in your hands for the current year, after which time I should wish to be able to call upon you for any portion of it (as might be convenient to me), on six months notice if wanted. –

I am sorry not to have answered your letter sooner, but I waited to see if the opinions of others on the subject coincided with my own. I hope this plan will not be otherwise than convenient to you, as it is particularly so to me.- We have got a nice house <hog> on the Cliff a very good sea view, and the only objection is the rooms are

so hot, which is seldom the case at Watering Places. Katy desires her best love to Henrietta and yourself and with mine.

Believe me Yours very affectionately
Henry R Beaumont

Digby and I were out yesterday and killed four Woodcocks. –
Scarbro' Feby 8th 1833

I open my letter again

2 Mar 1833 Henry Beaumont to Christopher Bird

I am writing to Sir George and therefore have enclosed this for him to <.....>, a journey will do it no harm. – No 9 Cliff Scarbro 2 March 1833

My dear Sir

I ought to have written you my thanks for your kind advice some time ago. I had made a mistake in the sum I wished to accept, I meant 30 instead of 35,000£. 20,000 on mortgage, and the other 10,000 for the marriage settlement; when I received your letter I was decided upon it, and wrote to Wentworth, upon which he gave me one or two of his good natured letters, calling me a <screw> &c, I was rather annoyed at him for it, and gave him a line in return letting him know pretty plainly that he ought not to charge me with a feeling of that kind towards him, we each had a letter and there the matter ended. He now says that he finds out that we must each of us receive an equal share, which is rather a nuisance as I was in treaty about a mortgage.

I have heard from Mr. Brackenridge to whom I wrote about the marriage settlement, The Trustees are <E> Slayley <JS> Stanhope and Dan Gaskell (who has not signed). I thought you had been one. The Trustees have the power to allow the <10,000> £ to remain upon the security of the <.....> entered <up for> the marriage settlement, or with the consent of the Party, to call it in and invest it in 'some of the Parliamentary funds of Great Britain or other Government or Real securities'.

Will a Mortgage come under that denomination? And will you tell me how the matter is to be arranged when I do receive the money, for at present I fancy I should not know rightly how to act, I mean with regard to the Trustees, what to say to them. –

Katy is still up and walking and driving about, we are all much surprised at it. Lady <Cayley> and one of the girls are staying with us.- Pray give my kindest remembrances to all your Party and Believe me my dear Sir with Katy's also very sincerely yours

Henry R Beaumont

27 May 1833 Armorer Donkin to Christopher Bird

Newcastle 27 May 1833

My dear Sir

I arrived from London on Thursday night, but having been attacked with a bowel complaint upon the Road, I have not been able to write Letters until this morning.

I arranged with Mr Ord, on my arrival in London, that the Bywell Title should be investigated by Mr Hall of the Chancery Bar, for the satisfaction & safety of the Trustees, though neither of us had any doubt that it would be essentially perfect, having previously approved of by Mr Williamson. The London Conveyancers are more particular about various Minutiae (which though not essential to the safety of the Title may yet in strictness be required to be done), than the Gentlemen in the Country, & I have consequently had a good deal of trouble which I did not expect = I need not however trouble you with a Statement of mere technicalities, as Mr Hall told me before I left Town that nothing remained undone of any importance = The Drafts of the various Deeds, (including Assignments of some old Terms which Mr Hall required to be got in,) have already been perused by the Solicitors of nearly all the parties, except Mr Beckett, & they will, I expect, be sent to Mr Rodgers in two or three Days, for the perusal of his Solicitor, after which they may be engrossed = I am most anxious to have them completed that we may be enabled to settle with Sir E Blackett.

I got Chollerton included in the Exchange to enable Mr Beaumont to convey it to You = Mr Hall thinks You run no risque as to the two large Annuities, for even in the event of the other prospects being insufficient to satisfy them, he knows of no mode by which the Annuitants could recover their Annuities out of an Advowson.

I was rather desirous that £12000, or £14000 worth of the Bywell Estate lying detached, & on the South Side of the Tyne, should be left out of the Exchange, in order that Mr Blackbirds Mortgage of £10000 might have been transferred to it, which would have left us that Sum to be applied in paying Debts, but Mr Hall being of opinion that the Wood upon Bywell & the Coal ought not to be included in the valuation, & that the Advowsons of Bywell St. Andrew & Bywell St Peter were not proper subjects for the Trustees to take in Exchange, & ought therefore to be excluded altogether out of the Exchange, we had only left a surplus of about £7000 value in Bywell, over & above the value of the Bosville Estates = The Trustees could not therefore in fairness be asked to concur in the plan above suggested, though they are in fact getting both the Wood & the Coal without any value being attached to them, & I do not apprehend that they would, in reality have incurred any risque = The Plan however was abandoned. <Bearl> was left out of the Exchange altogether, as Mr Moor valued it at little more than the amount of the Mortgage upon it; so that no advantage would have been obtained by including it =

Mr Hodgson & I have made such arrangements for the General Management of Mr Beaumont's affairs as will, I trust, be attended with beneficial results = I will be happy to communicate with you upon the Subject when we meet, but the details are much too long for a Letter = When do you expect to be in Newcastle?

I am my Dear Sir Yours very sincerely
Armorer Donkin

The Revd C Bird

27 Aug 1836 Thomas Wentworth Beaumont to Benjamin Johnson

[Note: The legibility of the handwriting in this letter is very poor, even by TWB's standards.]

Sir,

I have here so much received since my <.....> that I have omitted <telling you> that Mr Clerk (<... Here that ... already heard) will not take up <....> £2,000 he <... ..> cottage & about 2 acres of land adjoining. From Crawhalls estimate I conclude that the House may be estimated at about 1500, and the remainder at 500. Under all the circumstances I suppose we must close with Clark if we cannot <.....> his demand for the House, <situation> with immediate <recapation> are very desirable, and considering the <term> to be given the last may be insisted upon that is that the family of Mr Jasper may be removed before the Winter sets in –

Yours of the 26th is this instant received – You must make the best bargain you can with the Bishops – and your own tact requires no suggestions from me -

I have this morning <put> into execution a determination made at Allenheads to write to <Acorn>, the <Brewer>, a <very> strong letter upon the <meanness> & unwholesome quality of <his stuff>, with which under the name of <>true> Beer he <poisons> the hard –working inhabitants of Allendale. It goes with <this other

Post &

him with an opposition> establishment notwithstanding his possession of the Public Houses. My Game keeper <.....> who is not fastidious could not drink it – but the complaint is <universal> among servants and <Gentle[men]> - I am <proving> in the moral welfare of the <Miners> & establishing a respectable <hotel> at Allendale, and I will take care of <..... ical> welfare <& knocking> up the Poison brewery – Where there's a will, there's a way –

I trust that I shall deliver that district without a vestige of the old <guards> The Conservatives must be cast out root and branch –

Ridley must be knave or fool. He told me had bought a Poney, and asked leave to turn it out in the Park at Bywell to which I assented – Pray desire Nixon to have <this mistake of it to a mistake> -

We remain here certainly until Wednesday morning early – It is possible we may remain till Sunday 4th, indeed probable – and it is possible that Mrs Beaumont, who <has certain expression

>, might be confined here, which I should be far from <regretting> The lodgings are comfortable & airy. Medical advice good, and <..... linen of easy perseverance>. The sea bathing is of <infinite> service, and is <renovating> my Constitution marvellously. I <think all my trials>of it, & they <not pass for

nothing>, or are a foundation for more abundant strength. A Septembers bathing would, I am sure, make us, as the Jews watches, better than new. I believe I have answered all your points and shall into tomorrow <if be alter in places> - The odds are that <you will> find us here till Sunday – Send the enclosed list to Tom Lee - & tell him to send the <game> in <trellised> boxes, such as <.....> makes – are the salmon <having> a fair trial.

I shd like to have <... ..> way if you do not hear to the contrary that your coming either way write <...>. The boxes to hold 3 brace and the <service> ordered to be sent to Bretton to be held there till further orders.

[addressed on cover:] Mr <B.> Johnson. WB Lead Office, Newcastle on Tyne
Scarbro' Augt twenty seven 1836.
TW Beaumont

4 Sep 1836 Benjamin Johnson to Nixon

[Note: The original of this letter written by Benjamin Johnson, together with the accompanying letter by TW Beaumont dated 27 August 1836, were found bundled together and annotated as follows: 'August 27th. 1836 – Mr Beaumonts and Johnson letters respecting Ridley the Keeper'. The recipient appears from the contents, to be TWB's agent or steward at Bywell, & in Beaumont's earlier letter to Johnson he asked Johnson to get Nixon to deal with the issue.]

Scarbro' Sepr. 4th 36

Dear Sir

I have seen Mr Beaumont and he says he is quite certain that Tom Ridley said he had purchased a Poney and asked if he might put it for a time into the Park at Bywell and that he Mr Bt thought he had purchased it of some of the Lead Ore carriers and that Ridley thought he would be able to make a £5 Note of his Bargain by letting it run a few weeks at Bywell. Mr Bt. says he cannot have the Game at Bywell protected upon so expensive a scale. Roddam must look to the South Side and Tom Ridley with the assistance of his Son must manage the North side. The Game at Welton is to be managed and protected by the Tenants who are to have permission to Kill the Hares at all times and must discharge all persons sporting without a written leave and in case any person, after being discharged persists in shooting or sporting they are to be proceeded against as trespassers. Mr Bt. wishes you to make the Tenants acquainted with this arrangement. There is not more than three dogs to be Kept at Bywell and Tom Ridley must on no account hunt or Keep any dog for any person whatever. I think he may Keep four Pointers, but on no account more as strict enquiry will be made by Mr Bt. when he comes on this point –

You need not send any more fruit to Scarbro' – You must insist upon Ridley and Roddam making application to you for Gunpowder, Shot or whatever is wanted before it is ordered and they must receive a written Order from you where they are to get it a

copy of which you are to file in the Office. Mr Bt. made particular enquiry on this <head> and gave the above instructions. If Ridley and Roddam do not attend strictly to these instructions they will assuredly lose their situations.

Yours truly <Bjmn.> Johnson

3 Sep 1849 John Brackenridge to Christopher Bird

3rd Sept 1849

With regard to a Settlement betwixt Mr. Beaumont and myself nothing whatever has been done since I heard from you last. – Mr. Rodgers called upon me and said Mr. Edward Beaumont wished me (he intimated that he would <demand>) to give up all Mr Beaumonts letters to you. I told him I had no letters of the late Mr. Beaumonts except such as were more or less private betwixt him & myself, and these I should never part with, nor had he any right to demand them. Mr. Edward soon after wrote me to say that Mr. Beaumont wished me to send him such of his fathers letters (or Copies) as I founded my claim upon. I told him that I had already sent him & also Mr. <Hurst> Copies of the letters on which I made my Claim for <removing> at the time I did. – I however sent him another Copy or rather extract from the letter and informed him that the Chief part of my Claim did not depend upon Mr. Beaumonts letters, but on my rights as a Tenant – Stating also that I should be happy to give any explanation in my power to Mr. Beaumont if he wished it upon his signifying to me the points upon which he wished explanation. – Sometime afterwards I had a letter from Mr. Edward Beaumont to inform me he had forwarded my letters to Mr. Beaumont who had expressed a wish that the matter altogether should stand over till he was of age and could do legal acts, & then he would if I wished it, see me and take my Statements himself. – with this I of course complied – there the matter stands & latterly I have thought nothing about it.

There is still something most mysterious about the 759£ of which you are probably aware. I have never had any other means of being satisfied except the assurance of <Prest> & Mr. Edward himself that it does not appear on the <Books> in any form whatever – on the day I discovered the omission I had no time as it was <within ...ing,> to <search> the Books and as the day following was the first Rent day and I was called off to London before I had any further opportunity of <searching> I was forbid the office, - It occurred to me that probably it was not entered at all & would stand as if the Company – the <Barnsley> Canal Company – had paid it with Leathams without it ever <going> into my hands at all. – I wrote to Mr. Beaumont referring to his former assurance & <Prests>, upon which I paid the Money, asking if he was quite sure that this was correct & that it did not appear on the Books in any way. – In one of his letters he repeats the assurance & states that the Books had been again carefully <searched> and it was not to be found <.....> Now had Mr Beaumont not <.....> it in any <...> I went to the Bank & have their acknowledgement that on that very day I received it I

paid it to Mr. B[eaumon]ts Credit with them and it is entered 'by <Barnsley> Canal as Cheque 759£' & that if it does not appear in the Books at all, I shall be entitled to have the Money returned & I hope that Mr. Beaumont will not refuse me the satisfaction of seeing whether it is or is not entered. - I am prepared to shew him – notwithstanding Mr. Edwards assertions – that I paid it to his fathers Credit at Leathams Bank on the day I received it. –

I shall be happy to give Mr. Beaumont every explanation in my <power> & to shew him any letters that can with propriety be shewn – but there are many of them of such a character as I cannot shew them him and indeed such as he would not wish to see. – There are indeed connected with this business many things of such a nature as to make every reference to them more painful than I can describe to you even, and much less to anyone else.

I was interrupted on Saturday till too late for the post. – I have a letter from <William> this Morn[in]g & am happy to say that they are all well. – Are you not coming into Yorkshire soon – I hope you are & that we shall see you & I shall shew all letters that <have passed> on Mr. Beaumonts business & be happy to receive & act on your advice.

My kind regards to Mrs Bird yourself & family & believe me very sincerely
Yours,
John Brackenridge

Revd C Bird

[addressed on cover to:] Revd. C Bird, Chollerton, Nr. Hexham

1 Dec 1849 John Brackenridge to Christopher Bird

[Note: From the distinctive handwriting and the content of this letter there can be little doubt that it is from John Brackenridge. The reference to 'Mrs Bird with yourself and family' identifies Rev. C. Bird as the likely recipient.]

Manchester 1 Decr. 1849

My dear Sir,

Your letter of the 20th reached me here where I am engaged in a Reference on behalf of the Lancashire & <Yorkshire> Railway Co – I am glad to hear a good account of Mrs Bird with yourself and family and I hope Master <Hornsby> will soon be restored to his wonted good health & <frolic>king habits.

There is no great value of Property <unentailed> & Subject to the Payment of Col & Mrs Beaumonts Legacies. – There is only what remains of Wibsey, and <Blacken> Hall with two or three other small places – not altogether worth much more than 30,000£ But you know all the Estates purchased after Coll. Beaumonts death – or rather after the Settlement of 1827 are entailed Subject to a separate trust for the payment of Legacies. –

Mr. Beaumont may I believe, on his Coming of Age disentail the Estate, but, to do so he must pay off all the Legacies under the wills of his Grand father and Grand Mother & his father including his Mothers Settlement which he would probably transfer I am not sure whether the Consent of the Trustees would or would not be necessary – I think not so for as regards disentailing <.> of the trustees for Legacies and Settlements already due and payable but the Legacies <& paymts> Secured under his father & Mothers Marriage Settlement and his fathers Will to his Mother & Mothers Sisters, he cannot pay them off till they are of age without the Consent of the Trustees.

I have not heard anything about the Sale lately. Lord Albert <Davison> has been there once and Mr. Benbow his Trustee twice and I understand requestd to know the price asked for the whole Estate. – They are now engaged in Making a Valuation of the whole <Mansion>, Lands, Woods & Minerals – Mr. Hall has made his report of the latter – to enable them to ask a price, - I can assure you it is a great Mortification to me to hear people talking about the Sale of Estates that I had so much to do with & <tooke> so much pains to effect their Consolidation I purchased to the extent of 125000£ and Sold the <Fec....sse> Estates to the Extent of nearly 100,000£ - Bretton Hall and the original Bretton Estate has been with the Wentworth family since the Year 1387 when the first Mr. Wentworth tooke possession in right of his wife the daughter and heiress of Sir William Dransfield. I think it a Monstrous pity to sell such an Estate except under the most pressing necessity and that necessity I cannot discover. Besides the Mortgages on Bearl & Nafferton I cannot make out more than 300,000£ and with Mr. Beaumont's Income provision may be made for a suitable Establishment and a <sinking> fund of 30 or 35000£ a year which as Mr. Beaumont is still young would soon set him free.