

[Note: The items included here were copied or extracted from letters received at the Greenwich Hospital's London headquarters.]

1 Dec 1775 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

[Note: Stanhope Mill was run by the London Lead Company.]

Mr. Mulcaster,

Farnacres 1st Decemr 1775.

We have now before us your several Memorandums and Letters home to yours of the 29th Ult. which we have just received, and having added what remains not sufficiently answered, you have the whole as follows.

You mention your Smelters having got very badly on with Greengill Ore; and mention that Washed or Unwashed they have not made better of it than 5 ¼ Bings to a Fodder; we have a return from Mr Hilton, from Stanhope Mill, that upon a Quantity of almost fourteen hundred Bings the produce of Lead is such as to have very little exceeded 4 ½ Bings p[er] Fodder it seems therefore as if our People had not been so fortunate as to fall into the best method of it: but as we are promised by Mr Hilton, a couple of Smelters from Stanhope Mill, for a few Weeks, to Langley Mill, we doubt not but the difference in the Working, will by this means be ascertained and that our Men will be profited thereby. You mention also, that according to the progress you have made for some Weeks past our Smelters will be as late the year coming as the finish was the last; and as we dont find that we are likely to fall short in Ore the next year, we think it will be proper when the Stanhope Men go away, to have a couple of new Men ready to put in. What you have done as to Assistants to the Slag Smelters we think very proper.

If it has not been already agreed to, we now acquaint you that John Mulcaster may have leave to Plow his North Meadow Close, and go on with his Husbandry in the manner you have mentioned.

In respect to Troughs for the Refinery, we desire you will bespeak a set of new ones of Mr. Labourne, to be of prime Stuff and no Sap on any Acct. or Shakes to be made ready for fixing and deposited under cover at the Mill and there to lie til they are wanted so that if any accident should happen to the present ones, they will be in readiness, otherwise we shall wish them not to be fixed til the dry Season the next Year.

You have desired instructions about the Eastern Water Race: as near as Mr Smeaton can at present remember, his directions about it were, to begin to take up the Level from the Mill Ground where the Quarry is; to make a cast equal in depth and width to that for planting a Quick Hedge, and to throw all the Stuff up on the Downhill side where the Road crosses it and to conduit it for 20 yards in length, so that the Carriages may not be confined to a place, this Conduit to be 14 Inches in width and the Floor of it laid rather lower than the general bottom of the Race above and below. You must

enlarge the Race upon the Sloping Bank on the outside of the Fence where the Water is taken off the Common, in proportion to the rest of it and make a good Stone head, that the Water of the Burn may be effectually turned into the Race; not only as to the common run of it, but to convey a great quantity in time of Sudden Showers in the Summer. Mr Smeaton ultimately preferred this way, not only because the deep cutting and new passages would be avoided so that this would be done as easily; but because he observed some Springs would be brought from the Common by this last passage, below the Level of what was before proposed by this passage, which would not by the former. The above Mr Smeaton is obliged to tell you by memory, but if you would observe that when he mentions any thing in the Engineering way, which arises from a view of the Premises, his Ideas are the most perfect in their first delivery, and would therefore wish you to remember what he says upon the spot.

Respecting the maintenance of the Dogs, we wish you to make the Cottagers an allowance that will be adequate to the Expenditure they are at, and what will please them.

In regard to Ash Shafts for Shovels and Helves &c you must endeavour to supply yourself as well as you can: we have hitherto been too busy, but as soon as time will give leave, we shall assign some proper Wood for that purpose, but which will not be ready for service till next year.

As one of the Experiments in which Charcoal was used turned out considerably better than any with Coal; we shall send you an account of the whole, when we get the result of the further proposed Experiments and shall be glad to hear from you.

With respect to the Trials for Coal we entirely agree with you in opinion, that for the present it is not right to oppose the People in what they are doing; but it will not be amiss to get what intelligence you can; and if you find it not difficult to get them and think them likely, to get as many as will Work off a Batch of Work in the Reducing Furnace with them: that is as to what is to be mixed with the Litharge; for as to what is used upon the Grate, we don't apprehend the quality of Coals, is any otherwise concerned than by producing more or less heat, or being more or less lasting.

We think what you propose as to Bedding for the Smelters to be very proper; and you may proceed to procure them as soon as you have an opportunity: We do not look upon it of less consequence to have the animal part of the our Machinery kept in order, as that composed of inert Materials. We are etc

N[icholas] W[alton] J[ohn] S[meaton]

PS. If you can hear of a good Mastiff or Bull Dog and can purchase him for half a Guinea or a whole one we desire you will do so and after you get one, let Turpin, that frightful looking Beast, be hanged.

5 Dec 1775 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Mulcaster Farnacres

5 Decr 1775

Mr Mulcaster

We have duly rcd. yours of the 2d inst and we think that what you propose of letting the Refiners Work upon the Slag Lead and set the Silver Pieces by as you propose will be a furtherance to the Work: and as we have no doubt, that when you clearly see a thing advantageous to the Work, but that it will meet with our concurrence; we desire that you will put it in immediate execution, whenever you see it condusive so to do. With respect to the rest, when we have your account of the supplemental Experiments you will hear further from us. We cannot wonder at your Peoples having had the Cold, as it has been so universal, it seems that the Smoke even of a Smelt Mill will not blunt its effect; but we are glad you have escaped so easily, and would not have you believe that every body must have it severely; the Family here have had it very slightly, and Mr Smeaton not at all, and he hopes to go off entirely Scott free. We are &c

NW Junr JS.

6 Dec 1775 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

[Note: Happings is a dialect word for bed clothes or blankets. Mr Hilton was in charge of the London Lead Company smelt mill at Stanhope.]

To Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 6 Decemr. 1775.

Mr Mulcaster

Mr. Hilton we have desired to write to Stanhope for Two Smelters to be with you on Monday first and we think it will certainly be proper for them to work at least Two Shifts before our Men Try and what you propose as to the weighing and delivery of that Ore to the Smelters we think very proper.

The Eastern Water Race you are desired to make Three Feet wide at Top, a Spades breadth or rather 12 Inches broad at bottom and Two feet Deep except near the Conduit for the Lime Carts and there for about Twenty Yards at each end let it be four feet Wide at Top by 2 ½ Deep.

The Blankets for the Smelters Bedding we wd. have you get from Mr. Coats, if they can be had there of suitable kind and with regard to the Happings Chaff Bed Ticks and Bolsters we have given directions to Mr Labourne to make enquiry at Newcastle, and Corbridge where we hear there are Happings made and to let you know the result of his enquiry.

We are concerned to hear of Jno. Robson being so poorly & heartily wish him soon well. We are yrs. &c W & S

12 Dec 1775 Nicholas Walton to John Ibbetson

To John Ibbetson Esqr.

Farnacres 12 Decemr 1775

Sir

By the Boards Minute of the 12th April last we are ordered to provide a good and sufficient Iron 'Chest as soon as possible for the use of the Agent at Langley Lead Mill to deposit the Plates of Silver in during the time they shall be in his custody'. In thinking upon the proper way of executing this order, we considered that if the Chest was made so small as merely to hold a single Cake of Silver, which is all the Agent has in his hands at one time, and seldom keeps it more than two or three days, that a Robber might carry the Chest and Silver all away together; and as we apprehended that there was an equal necessity of securing the Silver pieces, which are now kept in progression to the length of a Month, and sometimes more, in a Wooden Chest under Lock and Key, in the Refinery; it appeared to us that an Iron Chest would be of the most utility, that would contain the Silver pieces as well as the Silver Cakes; which Silver pieces consist of a piece of Lead, taken from each Working Silver Test, after having Worked the whole Quantity of Lead that can be conveniently done in one Test; that is generally from 84 pieces of Lead of 1 Cwt. each; so that all the Silver being contained in the piece of Lead drawn at last from the Test, it will, in consequence, contain the Silver of all the rest; that is it will be 84 times more rich in Silver than the Pigs are in their natural State before they enter the Furnace; and these pieces of Lead so drawn, are called the Silver Pieces: and which contain at a Medium about the Value of £10.10. worth of Silver each; and as we frequently collect above 20 of those Silver pieces before the Fine Silver is extracted by an entire separation from the Lead, and which is done in a Test at one Operation; we have frequently more than £200 worth of Silver on hand in these Silver pieces at once: we therefore fixed upon the dimensions necessary for containing the Silver pieces, as well as the Silver Cakes; and as on enquiry, we heard of nobody in those parts, capable of executing such a piece of Work, we made enquiry, as to the prices paid for such kind of Things, and from the information we received we had reason to expect a Chest of proper dimensions, for about £30 we therefore gave an Order, to a principal Ironmonger of Newcastle to send for one from London. The Chest is now come and will undoubtedly answer the purpose intended very compleately, but we are most exceedingly chagrined to find that the expence of it, will far exceed our utmost expectations. It is an excellent piece of Workmanship, and done in the manner it is, we don't apprehend it over -charged; for it is finished in a manner fit for the Treasury or the Exchequer; that is, with a degree of nicety and exactness no way necessary for Langley mill, and as it is of a size not likely to be saleable at NewCastle or in the Neighbourhood; we do not see our selves intituled to return it: We have therefore previous to applying it to use, thought proper to acquaint the Board herewith; that in case such a Thing should be wanted, for depositing any of

the Valuables of Greenwich Hospital, there will be no loss attending it, but the Frieght by Sea hither and back again; If therefore the Board are pleased to order it to be sent to Greenwich, we will endeavour to supply the Mill, with what may answer the End at a cheaper rate.

The Chest is 4 feet long, 2 ½ wide and 2 feet deep, is made double, outside paneled, Inside plain, so that papers &ca intended to be preserved from Fire will have the best chance. The Lid is made in Two parts, the Lock very curious with 3 bolts and 2 Keys, it weighs 13 Cwts. 12 Lbs and the price altogether £53. It is charged at 8d. p[er] Pound at London exclusive of charges amounting to £4:1:4 of which the Freight, Cartage and Quay Dues £<2>:16:6. We are

Sir Your most Obedt Servts.

N.W. Junr. J. S.

12 Dec 1775 Christopher Stevenson to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 12th Decemr 1775

Sir

Mr Walton being very much engaged in business, by his order I acquaint you that on Saturday last was sent by the London Carrier a Box directed to you containing Six Hundred and Eighty Eight Ounces of Silver Bullion.

I am Sir your most hble Sert

Chr Stevenson

15 Dec 1775 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr. Mulcaster

Farnacres 15 December 1775.

The two Cakes of Bullion last sent weighed as follows. That for Operation ending 4 Novr 824 Oz & 10 Dwt

That for Operation ending 30 Decr 688 Ounces

The Assays for the 4th Novr. Operation prod. 862 Ozs.8 Dwt. which is more than the real produce 37 Ozs & 18 Dwt. Silver left in the Lead after Refined is at the rate of 13 dwt. 11 4/10 Gr[ain]s. P[er]Fodder.

The Assays for the 30th December Operation prod. 749 Ozs. 14 Dwt. which is more than the real produce 61 Ounces 14 Dwt. Silver left in the Lead after Refined by one of the Assays, is at the rate of 12 Dwt. 6 Gr[ain]s and by the other Assay 18 Dwt. 9 Gr[ain]s.

We did observe that the produce of Lead after Refined in Operation ending 4th November was considerably short of what had been usual for some time but as we see the produce by the two Experiments 7 & 8 to be less than a Twelfth, we hope you get

better coals again than you had in the Operation where the produce fell short, and even this last Operation (wherein the Charcoal Experiments have some of them been made & by which There has been a falling short) there is not an eleventh part loss whereas in the Operation of the 4 Novr. there was a loss of between a Tenth and Eleventh.

You receive herewith an Account of the several Experiments from which we think it will not answer to make use of Charcoal in any way unless it is by working off the Furnace in the same manner as done in Experiment 9 and tho perhaps it will be using more Charcoal than you have done in any other of your experiment we would have you try one more almost in the same way as 9 – Viz Mix the Litharge with Coal and work down the Furnace with Charcoal in the doing of which we would not have you break it except any of the pieces shd be large and employ all the Charcoal you have left in this last Experiment.

Mr Walton will be glad to see you at any time, whenever it is convenient to you only would like to know a day or two before lest he should be out of the way.

We are Your hble Servts NW JS

PS. We would have you be very attentive to the examining places for Slag Hearth Stones when your Nephew Plows his N Meadow Close. Glad to hear you are getting forward as to Bedding for the Smelters & with the Water Race.

[Note: This table of results of experiments is undated, unaddressed and unsigned but is assumed to be the account of experiments referred to in the letter of 15 Dec 1775]

November & December 1775.

Result of several Experiments to Reduce Litharge of Lead with Charcoal, Coal and Charcoal mixed, and Coal alone as hitherto used.

No of exper i- ment	Litharge how mixed before put into furnace	Litharge with what worked down after put into Furnace	Weight of Lead before refined			Weight of Lead after refined & reduced			Loss by refining & reducing				
			Cwt	Qr	Lb	Cwt	Qr	L b	Cwt	Q r	L b	being	Hundre d parts
1	Charcoal	Charcoal	83	3	27	75		23	8	3	4	1/9th	55
2	Charcoal	Coal	84	1	23	75	2	20	8	3	3	1/9th	62
3	Charcoal & coal equal	Charcoal	83	3	13	75	1	19	8	1	22	1/9th	92
4	Coal	Charcoal & coal equal	84	1	16	76	1	4	8		12	1/10	41
5	Charcoal & coal equal	Charcoal & coal equal	84	1	27	76	1	20	8		7	1/10	47
6	Coal & Charcoal equal	Coal	84		6	76	2	8	7	1	26	1/11	23
7	Coal	Coal	84	3	24	77	3	27	6	3	25	1/12	18
8	Coal	Coal	84	1	6	78	1	25	6	3	9	1/12	48
9	Coal	Charcoal	83	1	22	77	1	19	6		3	1/13	84

27 Dec 1775 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr. John Holmes

Farnacres 27 Decemr. 1775.

Dear Sir

Yesterdays Post brought me the favour of your Letter of the 23d Inst: and this day I have drawn upon you for £200..9.. payable 30 days after date being the amount of 688 Ounces of Bullion at 5s/9/ 3/4d p[er] Ounce after Adding 10s short drawn for last Cake, & we are obliged by your taking notice of this Error.

I am &c N:Walton Junr:

Farnacres 27th December 1775.

Sir Thirty days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint Two Hundred Pounds Nine Shillings..Value received as advised by Sir Your Humble Serv. Walton & Smeaton
To Mr. Holmes London

5 Jan 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 5th January 1776

Dear Sir

This Weeks Carrier will bring you a Box containing 608 $\frac{3}{4}$ Ounces of Bullion I am &c NW Junr

5 Jan 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 5th Jany. 1776

I have just now received your Letter of the 2d inst, and think we should rather be put to a very great Inconvenience than recieve assistance from either Mr Wm. J - - n or Wm B - - n the latter in particular, and I do desire that he Brown may be made to understand, that his even coming about the Place I mean Langly Mill, can never be understood as either of the least use or considered as a Civility – when, Mr Mulcaster, we are under a Difficulty, we ought certainly to do the best we can, to relieve ourselves and let us remain in Difficulty I beg of you rather than suppose it likely that we shall benefit by the Proffers of either a Johnson or a Brown but at the same time it is necessary that we should have proper Persons to do our work, and on receiving from

you an account, that you are under a Difficulty, and cannot be supplied by offers from proper Workmen I shall think it right to advertise, for I have no Idea of being held under the Thumb of any man, or being obliged by either Johnson or Brown. I am sorry to hear of the accident you mention, as also for the State of poor Wilkinson. I am &ca.
N.W. Junr.

1 Feb 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr. John Holmes

Farnacres Febru.ry 1st 1776

Dear Sir

We rec'd Yours of the 22nd Ulto. and this day have drawn upon you for £175..9..10 payable Thirty Days after date being the Amount of 608 $\frac{3}{4}$ Ounces of Bullion at 5s.9 $\frac{3}{4}$ d p Ounce

We shall have occasion for some street Pipes of Seven Inches bore and desire you will be so obliging as let us know the price p Yard

The Thermometer was at 11 On Monday Morning

20 On Tuesday Do.

16 On Tuesday Evening

13 On Wednesday Mornng

11 this Morning

We are &c NW Junr JS

Farnacres 1st.Feby 1776

Sir Thirty Days after date pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint One Hundred and Seventy Five Pounds Nine Shillings and Tenpence Value Rec'd as Advised by Sir Yours &C W & S

To Mr. Holmes London

1 Feb 1776 Thomas Fall

[Note: The petition is undated but from its position in the letter book is given the date of 1st February 1776, and is referred to in the subsequent letter from Walton to Ibbetson of 3rd Feb.]

To the Honourable the Commissioners Governors and directors of the Royal Hospitall for Seamen at Greenwich

The Humble petition of Thomas Fall of Langlee Castle in the County of Northumberland Husbandman

Sheweth

That Mr. George Thompson some Years ago took a Farm of your Honours at Langlee Castle aforesaid for the Term of Seventy One Years of which there is Fours Years to go from the Twelfth day of May 1775 which said Farm he the said George Thompson did Lett to your petitioner To hold from the Twelfth day of May 1769 for the remainder of the said Term

Sheweth that shortly before your petitioner took and entered upon the said Farm Your Honours had Built and erected a Mill for the Smelting of Lead Ore adjoining to your petitioners Farm, and near to a Field Containing about Fifty Acres of Land which from the Nature thereof your petitioner is under the Necessity of Continuing and using the same as a pasture for his Cattle – And that by the Poisonous and Distructive Quality of the Reek or Smoak of the said Milln your Petitioner has suffered great loss by the death of his Cattle haveing lost thereby Eight Galloways Two Cowes and one Foal worth at least Forty Nine pounds besides great Loss and Damage done to his Sheep by his Ewes picking and loosing their Lambs – before their Natural Lambing time, which Loss he is not able to Ascertain. And that during the Winter Season your petitioner is wholly debarred of the Benefit of the Eatage of the Said Pasture he not daring to put any Cattle into the same to Graze by reason of the Reek or Smoak being of a more poisonous and Deadly Nature almost occasioning instant Death to such of them as are Seized with it during that season of the Year. Sheweth that this last Summer (1774) when [blank] Ibbetson Esqr. Your Honours Secretary and [blank] Stewart and [blank] Hicks Esqr. Two Commissioners were in the Country your petitioner made his Complaint and Loss Known to them. They shewed Concern for his loss and were Sensible of the Injury his Farm must suffer by the Reek or Smoak of the said Milln, but said they Could not of themselves give your petitioner any redress but recommended it to him to petition your Honours in General for Relief in the premises And were pleased at the same time to Assure your petitioner, If his being Employed with his Wains and Carts to Lead the Coals Lime &C made use of at the said Smelt Mill would be of any advantage to him (which no doubt it would) Your petitioner declined having anything to do with it saying that as his Neighbours then had the Carriage thereof he would not take the Employment out of their Hands. But your petitioner is now given to understand that your Honours are now going to Employ other persons in such said Carriage as abovementioned Your petitioner therefore Humbly prays that your Honours would be pleased to take his Case into Consideration and give him such Redress for the Loss he has suffered as above Complained of as to your Honours shall seem just and reasonable and also Employ him in the Carriage above mentioned

And your petitioner as in duty Bound shall ever pray &C

Thos Fall

3 Feb 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Ibbetson

To John Ibbetson Esqr.

Farnacres 3rd. Feby. 1776

Sir

We now come to report upon the Petition of Thomas Fall of Langley Castle respecting the Damage that he sets forth to have been done to his Cattle by the Lead Mill Smoke; upon which we think it necessary to observe that the Lead Mill was chiefly built in 1766 was compleated in 1767 and begun to Work in June 1768; Whereas Mr. Fall sets forth that he did not enter till 12th. May 1769 we would therefore infer that the Lead Mill was either at Work or erected ready for that purpose when Mr. Fall viewed the condition of the Farm and made his Bargain with Mr. Thompson for the same; nor was any complaint made to us or came to our knowledge of any Injury he had received from the Mill, 'til he made his complaint to the Gentlemen upon the view in the year 1774. We do not doubt that he may have had the Losses he has specified, but whether some of them might not be owing to other causes and might have happened tho' no Lead Mill had been there seems reasonable to us to suppose; but whatever part of the Loss sustained that has been in reality owing to the Mill, we have reason to think might have been less, had Mr. Fall made a more early representation of the Injurys he was from time to time receiving or supposing himself to have received, because the principal part of the little Farms appurtenant to the Smelt Mill which are occupied by the Mill Agent and Smelters, are much nearer the Mill than the Grounds occupied by Mr. Fall; those are eat chiefly by Cows, and the Mill Agent keeps a Horse. The Smelters Farms having been occupied since Mayday 1773 and the Mill Agents almost ever since the Mill [struck out: 'Agents almost ever since the Mill'] began to work; yet we have never heard of any disaster to their Cattle. It is true that this is owing to their care and attention, never suffering their Cattle to graze upon any part where the Mill reek is driven by the Wind, or upon which it has been for some Days preceeding; and had Mr. Fall applied to the Mill Agent he would have been instructed in the same method, which if it had not prevented the whole, might have prevented a part of the Damage, at a much less expence than the Value of the Goods; the principal attention being to observe the course of the Wind, and to take the Cattel out or put them in accordingly. It is also to be observed that the reek or Smoke of a Lead Mill is of such a Nature as not very readily to mix with the air, and frequently is driven in an unbroken Column or Current upon the Earth's Surface to a Miles distance, nay we have ourselves seen the Smoke of Lead Mills at the distance of 6 or 7 Miles; it seems therefore that the Mill Reek is capable of affecting or of [having the appearance of affecting] so large an extent of Surface that tho' Mr. Falls complaint was ever so well founded, yet it must appear a ticklish matter to enter into those kind of compensations. Soon after the Mill was set to Work Gabriel Wren one of the Hospitals Tenants living lived then at the Dean Raw, about a Mile from the Mill; but some of his Cattle happening to stray upon a part of the Common where the Mill reek was one of his Cows Died, and he came to us for pay for her. On examining into the circumstances of her Death, we

were by no means convinced of its being in fact owing to the Mill Reek, and seeing the necessity of discouraging these kind of applications we observed to him the absurdity of such a supposition, as Mr Mulcasters Cattle that were still nearer ailed nothing; and that it behove him to take care that his Cattle did not stray where the Mill Reek was; since which Time we have had no further applications, nor have heard of any 'til that of Mr. Fall; where as had we been willing to take it for granted, that Gabriel Wrens Cow had Died of the Mill Reek and had paid him accordingly we have reason to suppose that not a beast within two Miles of the Mill, could possibly have died of any other distemper but the Mill Reek. As therefore Mr. Fall took the Farm after the Lead Mill was erected and since has omitted to put himself into the way of information how to avoid those Injurys as much as possible, we must leave the compensation that he ought to have to the Equity of the Board; but it seems to us that if a full determination upon the matter was postponed to the end of his Term which will only have three years to go at Mayday next, and in the mean time admonished to advise with the Mill Agent how to avoid these accidents, it would avoid the Example; and in the next general letting, it should be clearly understood that this kind of risque every Tenant must take upon himself to guard against in the most effectual Manner. Respecting the Leading of Coals Lime &ca for the use of the Mill, we beg leave to observe that we have always endeavoured to keep the Business of the Mill distinct from the Farming Interest, by giving no preference to the Hospitals Tenants considered merely as such, but have endeavoured to employ such persons in every Branch as were most likely to answer the purpose. No change has as yet been made of the Person employed to do the above Business and when there happens to be occasion, we beg to be at Liberty to employ Mr. Fall or any other Person that is likely to do it with the most punctuality or cheapest; for by this means we apprehend we shall be able to give the best Account to the Board of the Profit attending the undertaking; we must however observe that Thomas Brown Farmer of that part of Langley Castle Farm on which the Mill is built having with the greatest chearfullness accommodated the Hospital with every convenience that was required for the use of the Mill, it was on that Account in the first instance thought proper to employ him in carrying Coals &ca. for the Mill rather than any other Person, and as the Mill has been well served by Mr. Brown & since his Death by his Widow we have never had a wish to make a change.

We are &c N.W. Junr. J.S.

6 Feb 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 6. February 1776

Mr. Mulcaster

I reced. your Letters of the 29th Ult. and 2nd. inst. both together and on reading the first was much concerned, to find you had got a hurt in your foot and that the Mill had got stopped by the severe Frost, but both these matters being set right in yours of

the 2d. inst. I am made quite easy only that I wish you may not have gone out too soon after your Accident. I am glad to hear that Wilkinson has got to work again. I have wrote to Mr. Charnley desiring he will not fail to send you the Lead Book and Paper the first opportunity. I have not yet heard whether the Bullion is arrived at Newcastle but suppose it is not, as I understand the Road to Hexham is still unpassable.

Cowhill &c Veins Lead a Chip from each Pig	5: 7:19,2 p[er] Fodder
Do from the Hearth	3:15:22,8 Do
The Refined p[er] last Operation	9: 3:18 Do
After Refined	:13:11,4 Do
Caple Cleugh North Vein Lead	6: 9:20,4 Do

I would have you not to refine any of the Cowhill &ca. Veins Lead, 'til you can get an Assay a Chip from each Pig after all is Smelted, & then we can have a Tryal of the whole together. The Operation I find to be quite right in every particular. I am &ca. N.W. Junr.

9 Feb 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr. John Holmes

Farnacres 9 Feby. 1776

Dear Sir

This Week a Carrier will bring you a Box containing 684 $\frac{3}{4}$ Ounces of Bullion which we hope you will receive safe & we are Dr. Sr. &ca.

W.& S.

PS. A Mistake having happened in the casting up of the last Cake amounting to £1:8:6 Mr. Holmes must when this is drawn for be drawn upon for £1.8.6 more than the Amount of this Cake. We are much obliged by your Accots. of the prices of Elm Pipes, which came after the above was wrote

19 Feb 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 19th Februy. 1776

Mr Mulcaster

Above and on the other side you have an extract of so much of Mr Smeaton's Letter as relates to the New Bellows & I shall take care to order a New Pipe Stone to be ready against Fryday if possible, We Certainly understood at first that the New Bellows answered better than the large Ones. If you are under any difficulty as to Mr Smatons [sic] Directions pray let me know, but I think they are so perfectly clear that they

cannot be misunderstood – Yours of the 12th. was duly recd and as the Quantity of Cowhill &ca Ore was so Small there is no matter as to its being Refined. The Wind was very loud here and has done a Good deal of Damage to the Roofs of Houses in this part of the Country.

I am &c NW Junr.

19 Feb 1776 Nicholas Walton to Mr. Lightfoot

To Mr Lightfoot

Farnacres 19th Febr. 1776

Sir

I desire you will Order a pipe Stone to be ready against Fryday so as that it may be forwarded by Corbetts Hexham Waggon to Mr. Mulcaster at Langley Lead Mill, and to be of the Dimentions following

Length 29 Inches

Square 7 ³/₄ Inches

Pipe hole 2 Inches Wide barely and 1 ⁷/₈ Inches deep that is to the Top of the Round – The Round to be in the same manner as the Model you shewed Mr. Mulcaster & I when we called upon you last.

I am for Mr. Smeaton & Self NW Junr.

PS Be very carefull as to the Dimentions of the pipe hole

23 Feb 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Mulcaster

Farnacres 23rd February 1776

Mr. Mulcaster

I am concerned to find Thomas Elliot is so poorly and doubt his years do not present a probable prospect of Recovery but I notwithstanding hope he may get the better of his complaint. It seems necessary to have some person to make up the deficiency if Thomas <shd> continues so as not to be able to go thro' the Duty; pray what do you advise on this Occasion?

The Walling I should have no objection to its being repaired at the Hospitals Expence if it should not be drawn into a precedent, and if it is clearly understood that nothing of the kind is to be expected in future you may get it done when you find a proper opportunity

You did properly in employing Fall in Leading the Stones for the Conduits.

It will undoubtedly be right to change the sides of the reducing Furnace and I desire it may be done.

I approve of what you have done as to the Shotleyfield Clay.

Cowhill Cowslitts &c. and Carrs Slagg Lead is not refineable so you will of
Course report it for Sale

I am &c NW Junr.

PS The Lead Mill pay is to be on the 15th. of May.

The pipe Stone is gone from Newcastle by this days Carrier Corbett

1 Mar 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Mulcaster

Farnacres 1st March 1776.

Mr. Mulcaster

I have recd. your Letters of the 21st & 24th ulto. and duly observe their Contents.

With regard to what you Propose I have, so farr from objecting, a wish that you shou'd Try the method you propose as to the Bellows and of your employing any Person you think most proper in making this or any other alteration you Judge necessary, but the New Pipe Stone shd. certainly be Tryed before you make any alteration in the Pipe of the Bellows.

As to the shifting the Men, knowing our sentiments about it, you will do the best you can.

I am glad to hear Thomas Elliot is better than he was.

I have not heard from Newcastle this Morning so cannot tell you whether the Silver is arrived or not as to the accident you mention relative to it we must make ourselves Content and hope nothing of the kind will happen again.

I wrote you on the 23rd to which I referr and in addition thereto, desire you'l not cut the broken Quicks yet & the Walling having been hurt by a very extraordinary fall of Snow you will get it compleatly repaired at the Hospitals Expençe. I am Your Humble Servt.

N. Walton Junr.

1 Mar 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr. Holmes.

Farnacres 1st March 1776.

Dear Sir,

I have this day drawn upon you for £201.17s:1d being the Amount of 684 $\frac{3}{4}$ Ounces of Bullion at 5s/10d $\frac{1}{4}$ and adding thereto £1..8..6 short drawn for on the 1st Ultó.

This Weeks Carrier will bring you another Box of Bullion weight [blank] Ounces.

I desire you'l be so good as send my Watch by my good Brother Smeaton & am with best wishes to him & yourself and Family.

Dear Sir Your most Humble Servt.

N:Walton Junr.

Farnacres 1st March 1776.

Sir Thirty Days after date Pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint Two Hundred and One Pounds Seventeen Shillings and one Penny – Value received as advised by. Sir your Humble Servts Walton & Smeaton
To Mr. Holmes London

3 Mar 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Mulcaster

Farnacres 3d March 1776.

Mr Mulcaster

I have reced. yr. Letter of the 26th & yr. two Letters of the 28th with the several Inclosures mentioned therein.

I like yr. Proposition as to Thomas Elliot very well, & think exactly as you do about it, but I would have this Matter to be kept going as has been hitherto done 'til Mr Smeaton & I are together at the Mill – So you will make a Memorandum to have it talked over then.

Notwithstanding the discovery of the Clay you mention, I would have you get a Ton of the Shotley Field Clay. I find the Clay we get at Newcastle costs 38s pr. Ton besides Carriage to the Mill. The Experiment may be made of our own Clay and the Shotley Field Clay together, I don't mean mixed.

For the Reasons you mention, which did not occur 'til I read your Letter we must let alone fixing the Pay, 'til we see when all last years Ore will be finished, & not report any new Ore as recieved till after the Ending of the Account.

As long as the Hearth at the new Mill seems to answer, it certainly will be right to keep it as it is, & I am not only glad to find it appears to answer better than it did, but that your produce from CapelCleugh is better than usual & very good. I am

Yr. Hble Servant

N. Walton Junr.

PS I shall be at Mr Tweddells or at Hexham on Sunday next in the Evening

22 Mar 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr Holmes

Farnacres 22d March 1776

Dear Sir

Last Saturdays Carrier from Newcastle will bring you a Box of Bullion weight 571 ½ Ounces. There is a little Bit of the Silver in a piece of Paper in the Box. I am &c
NW. Junr.

22 Mar 1776 Nicholas Walton to William Brown

To William Brown

Farnacres 22d March 1776

William

When you had your discharge given you, it was done in consequence of our being satisfied you were not a proper person to be employed by Greenwich Hospital; you will therefore not give yourself the trouble of making any further applications to be employed at Langley Mill.

We are Yours &c W & S

23 Mar 1776 Nicholas Walton to Robert Mulcaster

[Note: Robert Mulcaster was Walter Blackett's smelting agent at Blaydon.]

To Mr Robt Mulcaster

Farnacres 23 March 1776

Mr. Mulcaster

I recd your Letter of the 17th. Inst. on my return from Hexham and am obliged to you not only on Accot. of what you have done as to Ned Elliot but also with regard to William Liddell. As the former cannot be at Liberty 'till Christmas and we cannot wait till then, he is out of the question, and as I think Liddell appears to be a proper Man for us if he can be satisfied with taking the best wages we can afford him at Langley Mill as set forth in the inclosed Letter I must beg of you to assist us in getting him immediately I dare say two Lines from me to Mr. Bell might be of service in procuring him a discharge and if he is desirous to serve us at Langley Mill pray send him here this day if you can & I will give him a Letter. I shall certainly insist on Liddells having half of Elliots Farm if that shall be found agreeable to Liddell on his examining into the circumstances of it when he gets to the Mill. I shall be glad to hear from you & desire you will return the inclosed Letter If Liddell cannot come this day I desire to see him tomorrow morning at seven OClock.

I am &c NW Junr.

23 Mar 1776 Nicholas Walton to Matthew Bell

To Matt. Bell Esqr. Junr.

Farnacres 23rd. March 1776

Dear Sir

As the Work at Langley Mill is at present much in want of a proper person to be employed in Reducing Litharge into Lead, an operation which the Bearer has been used to, I am confident you will oblige the Commissioners of Greenwich Hospital by permitting him immediately to leave your service as a Skipper and enter into the Service of the Hospital and you will by that means also oblige Mr. Smeaton and myself. I am with best wishes to yourself & Family Dear Sir &c

N.W. Junr.

P.s Our present want is occasioned by a Person who we have had for some Time failing by reason of age and Sickness, and we must depend on you for relief

26 Mar 1776 Nicholas Walton to Henry Errington

[Note: Recipients not entirely clear, but Henry Errington was proprietor of a smelting mill at Feldon near Edmondbyers at around this time, and the son of Thomas Elliot – the subject of this request- was clearly a smelter or refiner.]

To Messrs. Errington & Ward

Farnacres 26 March 1776

Gentlemen

Thomas Elliot one of the Workmen at the Lead Mill belonging to the Commissioners of Greenwich Hospital having by age and Sickness become incapable of going thro' his business, as he used to, and the Work there being increased, it is become necessary to engage another person directly, and as the bearer, who is Son to Thomas Elliot is desirous to enter into the Hospitals Service, not only as the Branch his Father is Employed in is known to him, having himself had some experience in it, but from a Wish which he has to be usefull to his Father by taking on him part of his duty at times when he cannot himself go through it. On this Account as well as its being a Convenience to Greenwich Hospital I take the liberty of desiring you will permit the bearer to leave your Service immediatly if that can be done without inconvenience and in doing so you will very greatly Oblige

Gentlemen yours &c

NW Junr.

PS I shall take it as a favor to have your most early answer

26 Mar 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 26 March 1776

Mr Mulcaster

I have yours of the 21st. 23rd and 24th and the several things they inclosed now lying before me, and am obliged by yours and your Brothers Attention as to finding out a proper Successor or Assistant to Thomas Elliott – Wm Liddell came to me on Saturday and seemed very desirous at that time of entering into the Hospitals Service, and I gave him a line to Mr Bell his Master, but yesterday he returned & Declined going to Langley Mill saying that his Wife and all Friends dissuaded him from going there on acct. of his Brother having Died there, saying and persuading him that he certainly would dye if he went there; this being the Case I begun again to read over the whole of the Letters on this subject and tho' I observed something look rather odd as to the Elliots in the last Paragraph of your letter of the 24th., I thought it right to send for Ned Elliott to be here this morning, who appears to be very hearty in his wishes to be under your care. I have therefore wrote to his Masters and if he can be got immediatly I will send him up to you, and his family may come afterwards. So you see nothing further can be done as to Dixon 'til you hear something more about Elliott. I gave no assurance as to Wages.

The Bullion is I suppose arrived at Newcastle but I have not had time to weigh it or the Assays yet, the Produce in Quantity is very good being 12 ¼ Ounces p[er] Fodder.

I am yours &c

JW Junr.

PS I should suppose it quite necessary to have Half of Elliotts Farm for the new Reducer let him be who he will. Ned Elliott, if he comes, has a difficulty how to get his Goods up; I think Pattison might bring two long Carts to Newburn with Lead and return with the Goods.

When I was at Hexham on the 11th inst Mr Tweddell of Unthank and Mr Smith of Whitfield Hall promised they would each of them send us some Coals to try at Langley Mill and would not expect any pay for them or the Carriage I told them that we certainly should give them a fair Tryal, and in Case any of them proved, and could be had on such Terms as were more elligible to us, than we could be otherwise supplied, we certainly should get the Coals where we found that to Answer, and I must beg of you if they do send any to be particularly Carefull in the Tryal but I dare say and am sure I need not to have desired this. I hear they have got some very good Coals at Corbridge South Fell, and should be glad if you could get some of the Carts to

get a few Loadings as they return from Newburn to try them; You'll give directions to get them as Clean as possible The sooner you do this the more agreeable.

29 Mar 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 29th March 1776

Mr Mulcaster

I have rece'd your letter of the 27th and think there is not the least objection to the Two Smelters being permitted to attend their own Horses (in our Carriage only) at times when they can be spared from the Hearths because it may be of great use to them as to their health and enable them to work better for themselves and us at times when it is necessary that we should have them employed; I therefore desire you will fix this matter in such way as shall by you be thought proper

The whole of your proposition as to the weight of the Ore is founded in rectitude but I must have a little more consideration upon it before anything Ultimate can be resolved on and am in doubt whether the whole can be carried into execution; at the same time I have not the least difficulty in striking out something in your Plan which may be usefull and I have much satisfaction in this as well as every other instance of your attending to what appears the most likely to produce an agreeable as well as in every other respect a desireable effect for the good of the Hospital and to adopt such things, as are found to answer that end.

Ned Elliot has been with me this day and as he has at my instance got liberty from his Employers he will certainly be at the Mill on Sunday to begin Work on Monday. He seems hearty in coming I am glad of that and I hope you will have no difficulty in Settling every thing with him agreeably to yourself, but at all events I beg it may be so to you let the consequence be what it will as I am determined that Thomas Elliott and his Son John shall not dictate to us nor shall any Man or Men do so at Langley Mill while Mr. Smeaton & I are concerned

I am & NW Junr

9 Apr 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 9th April 1776

Mr. Mulcaster

Your letters of the 30th Ult & 1st & 5th instant are received and I am glad you have got Ned Elliott into the Service and hope he will take care to do his Duty

The Corbridge Coals must be no further Tried unless we hear they get into a better sorts.

I have examined the Operation and after you have made your Copy to Agree with the inclosed it will be right and you are desired to return the inclosed after you have done so.

After you are enabled to let me know the quantity of Wood you have got I wish to know as soon as it is convenient to you.

I am concerned to see the produce of Lead in proportion to the Or Smelted so very bad last operation and something must be done to prevent the falling short of the Ore, but that must be let alone til Mr. Smeaton and I are together; I will however in the meantime give Mr Hilton and you my Sentiments about this matter so far as that something may be done but cannot now enter into it my hands being otherwise so filled with business that I have not time.

I need not desire you will make the best you can of Rampgill Ore because I am sure you will do that and I hope it will prove better than the first Assay gives reason for.

As to the Opening the Mill I leave that entirely to yourself and I think you judge very properly in not Allowing the Country People to come to the Mill in Seed time and pray let that be over before you begin after which shd be glad Atkinson might be encouraged

I wish you and all the Country Rain and am
Yours &c NW Junr

9 Apr 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr Holmes

Farnacres April 9th. 1776

Dear Sir

I have this day reced. your letter of the 6th inst and am much surprized to find the Quantity of Bullion to vary from the Weight I gave you an Account of, I Weighed the Bullion myself at Newcastle which agreed with the Weight as sent me an Account of by the Mill Agent within half an Ounce so I am doubtfull you may have made some Error in the Weighing and I shall not therefore draw upon you for this Cake 'til I hear again from you acknowledging the Recet. Of a Cake now on the Road weight 980 Ounces at which time desire you'll let me know whether I am to draw for 571 ½ Ounces or 574 ¼ - I am much obliged to you for paying the Money for the Quicks's and shall allow that and for my Watch the first time I draw upon you & am wth best respects

Dear Sir Yours &c
NW Junr

16 Apr 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 16th April 1776

Mr Mulcaster

I have rece'd yours of the 11th and am exceedingly concerned when you inform me of the ill state of health of the three Workmen you mention & heartily wish them a Speedy recovery but as I expect to be called into the South on the Hospal's Duty for some days probably not less than fourteen I must beg you will do what you in your own judgment shall think proper by way of supplying any deficiency which may be occasioned by those Workmen being prevented doing their duty and in Case of Death, which I shd be sorry for you will yourself appoint such Successors as you judge Proper. I am in the Utmost haste

Yours &c NW Junr.

6 May 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr Holmes

Farnacres 6.May 1776

Dear Sir

Last Evening I arrived safe here and had the pleasure of meeting my Family in good Health; I have also the satisfaction of acquainting you that I saw Sister & Miss Smeaton at York & all our Friends there are well Bror Smeaton is at Austhorpe, & I hope to see him here on Wednesday

I have in the name of Messrs Walton & Smeaton this day drawn upon you for £439-8-9 payable Thirty Days after date being the Balance of Accot. below mentioned and considering the allowance of 1/4d p[er] Ounce upon the lesser Cake and our being Longer in drawing than usual. I think our Errors are all got pretty well made strait and the difference made good on accot. of the dull Markett.

Pray my best Compliments to all your Family and believe me with regard dear Sir Yours

NW Junr.

Due from Mr Holmes

To the Commissioners & Governors of Greenwich Hospital

1776 May 6

For 574 1/4 Ounces of Silver Bullion	at	5s/10 1/4d	£168- 1- 9
For 980 Do	at	5/10 1/2	£287-17- 6
			£455-19- 3

Deduct payment to Mr Maule on Messrs

Walton & Smeatons Accot.	£15-15-	
Repair of N Walton Junr Watch	10-	
Do of Mr Hiltons Watch Case	5- 6	£ 16-10- 6
Balance due from Mr. Holmes		£439- 8- 9

Farnacres 6 May 1776

Sir Thirty days after date pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint Four Hundred and Thirty Nine Pounds Eight Shillings and Nine pence. Value received as advised by Sir your Humble Servants W & S
To Mr Holmes London

6 May 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres May 6th. 1776

Mr Mulcaster

Having got Home last night from London I take the earliest opportunity of answering your several Letters and am glad to find your workmen in a better State than when you wrote me some time ago.

I would at all events have a new Smelter in the Room of Edward Wilkinson and from the behaviour of the Company to us I do not see it at all necessary that we should be nice.

With regard to Brown's Family if they cannot themselves see they are already under the greatest obligations nothing that can be said would have the least effect, we must therefore do what we think is proper by way of having the Work compleatly carried on and in Case that Family should forget the obligations they owe to Greenwich Hospital I doubt not Persons may be employ'd who will be more gratefull.

I would have you let the Tails, which Thomas Paddison has gone through, at the Price of £9;9;- p[er] Fodder in Case you cannot let them on better Terms, as I have no Idea of anything lying still which we can turn over to advantage.

I have received your letter giving me an accot. of a Cake of Bullion being sent to Newcastle but have not had an opportunity of seeing it nor have I had any time to weigh the Assays

It gives me pleasure to find the Lead Carriage gets so well on and I hope you will soon have so much Rain as to enable you to Smelt the whole of the Ore now on hand by the Middle of June or Sooner

The steps you took towards effecting a discovery of the person who cut the Bellows of the Lead Mill I very much approve of but greatly doubt we shall fall short of Proof notwithstanding a person is now in Custody, but this to yourself

When in London I order'd 100 Casks of Bone Ashes to be sent with as much expedition as possible but notwithstanding I would have you apply to Mr

Monkhouse's Agent for payment in kind of the 10 Casks which were borrowed of us and to desire they may be delivered us either at Newcastle or Langley Mill without delay.

I would not chuse to have any difficulty with Simpson on the account you mention

I am Yours &c

NW Junr

PS Mr Peters is now on his Road for London and will take the first opportunity after he gets there of letting the Commissioners of the Hospital know what has been done as to the Bellows Cutter

7 May 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Salter

To Mr John Salter

Farnacres 7th May 1776

Dear Sir

Instead of One Hundred Casks of Bone Ashes I desire you will order us One Hundred and Fifty Casks and as I find we are in immediate want beg we may have Fifty with all possible expedition.

I got home very well on Sunday and had the pleasure of to meet my Family in good Health I am

Dear Sir Yours &c NW Junr.

PS Be so good as forward the inclosed by peny post

23 May 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Tweddell

[Note: Although not named, the mention in a subsequent letter of Mr Tweddell of Unthank suggests this was the recipient. John Tweddell was the owner of Unthank]

Messrs Walton and Smeaton present their most respectful complements to Mr Tweddle, are much obliged to him for his attention to them, in transmitting a copy of Mr. Lowis's Information Mr Peters will as they expect most certainly call at Darlington on his return from London & they doubt not will have from Mr. Lowis himself a Confirmation of what is set forth in his Affidavit Mr Smeaton being in the Country is glad to have the opportunity of returning his particular respects

Golden Lyon Hexham

Wednesday Evening

23 May 1776

23 May 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Ord

To John Ord Esqr. Morpeth

Hexham 23d May 1776

Sir

From a Conversation we have had with Mr. Tweddell of Unthank, this Morning we are brought to think that Fenwick Martin now in Morpeth Jail standing Charged with Cutting the Bellows of Langley Mill, will prove an alibi, and thereby acquit himself of the heavy Charge laid against him; we think it therefore due to humanity that the rigour of Martins Confinement should be softened as much as the Case and circumstance will properly admitt, 'till such time as this affair shall be fully cleared up; we therefore, in case it stands with your opinion, desire you will give the proper intimation to Mr Kent the Goaler: And shall be glad you will inform us by the return of the Bearer whether you have bound the Accuser Ridley by recognizance with proper security to appear to Justifie the Charge laid against Martin, and if not will it not be proper to have him taken into Custody & if so will you be so obliging as send us a Warrant by Which Ridley may be taken up and confined, 'till he has made good his Charge; we hearing that he is at large in the Country also whether Martins Comitment is of such a nature as that the Tryal will be at the Assizes or at the Quarter Sessions. We expect Mr Peters from London in a few days with full instructions in this Matter. We are

Sir yours &c W & S

23 May 1776 Nicholas Walton to William Peters

[Note: Peters was the Greenwich Hospital's court keeper for the manors in Northumberland and Durham]

To Mr Wm Peters

Hexham 23d May 1776

Dear Sir

Having had some conversation with Mr Tweddell of Unthank and been shewn by him a Copy of an Information made by Mr Lowis of Darlington by which Fenwick Martin appears to have been at Darlington when the Damage was done at Langley Mill this with other Circumstances inducing us to suppose Martin to have been unjustly accused we have thought it necessary to Write to Mr Ord of Morpeth intimating our wish that Martins confinement may be more lenient than it is at present for as we understand he is now confined in the Dungeon every Night.

As soon after you come from London as your convenience will admitt of it we must beg to see you here to consult with you what it may be proper to do further herein. And are

Yours &c W & S

PS If you cannot come here before the 29th inst we must desire you will write to us fully directed to the Red Lyon in Penrith and acquaint us with the Directions you have rece'd in London respecting this business.

9 Jun 1776 Nicholas Walton to William Peters

To Mr Wm Peters

Langley Mill 9th June 1776

Sir

We received your Letter of the 30th Ultio when we were in the West Country, from whence we are just returned. When we departed from hence West having had some intelligence of a Cart Saddle that had a piece of Old Leather nailed upon it by a Sadler that had dealings with Fenwick Martin; we left Orders with Mr Mulcaster and John Turnbull a Carpenter frequently employ'd about the Mill, to go to View it; and we inclose you a Copy of Mr Mulcasters Letter which we received at Alston from whence you will perceive that nothing is to be expected to Arise out of this, and more especially as Mr Mulcaster now acquaints us verbally, that notwithstanding John Turnbull's opinion was different yet that in his own Opinion the Leather seems so Old and Cracked that it must have been in Wear a longer time than the Supposition of its being the Leather of our Bellows will Admit of. And this is all the fresh intelligence we have received. A Copy of Mr. Lowis's Information had been communicated to us by Mr Justice Tweddell of Unthank, previous to our Writing to you, and as we understood from him that Martin had complained of rigourous confinement in the Dungeon at Nights and had thrown out some intimations of Prosecuting the Justices for false imprisonment; we thought proper to write to the Justice Mr Ord to Acquaint him that as we apprehended Fenwick Martin would clearly prove an Alibi, we thought it would be well that he should intimate to the Goaler to soften the Rigour of his confinement as much as the Nature of the Case would admitt off 'till the Affair was further sought into. It was also suggested to us by Mr Tweddell, that as Ridley Swears himself to have been present at the Cutting of the Bellows; that as Martin proves an Alibi that it must be supposed that Ridley himself was the perpetrator of this Deed; and that not only on that Account, but in Order to Secure him to give his Evidence, that he ought to be taken up and Committed, it being reported that he is or was then hovering about in the Country; that this properly Speaking should be done by Warrant from Mr Ord, but in Case Mr. Ord refused that he would himself grant a Warrant for the purpose; we mentioned this also in our letter to Mr Ord and at the same time wrote to you, but as we only got a Verbal Answer from him (tho' we sent a Special Messenger from Hexham) that he was blind and incapable of business; we were therefore very desirous of consulting you in person that the proper and necessary steps might be taken and as the situation of our business is such as not to admit our returning to Newcastle for

some time we still desire that you will take an opportunity to do it we shall be at Hexham on Thursday Evening next where you will find us and in the mean time if any thing can be done by way of getting the Man admitted to Bail we think with you it would be well that it should be done. We are

Yours &c. W & S

9 Jun 1776 Nicholas Walton to William Brown

[Note: Splint coal is a hard bituminous coal which gives intense heat]

To Mr Wm Brown Junr.

Langley Lead Mill 9 June 1776

Dear Sir

As we wish to make Tryal of the Splint Coal at Throckley in three different ways beg you will be so obliging as in the first place to send us Six Fodders of Clean Splint 2ly Six Fodders of the Small Coal produced from this Seam and 3ly Six Fodders of the whole of the Coal mixed together. We are with best Complimts

Yours &c W & S

PS We desire the greatest care may be take to observe the above directions and the persons who come for the Coals will have directions to apply to you

30 Jun 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 30th. June 1776

Mr. Mulcaster,

We have reced. your Letter of the 20th and now take the first Opportunity of answering it.

The Parlour you are desired to get Sealed, and also to get the Yard before the Doors Walled in, as you propose, but it must be Walled with Lime, and Coped with Flaggs laid with a Drip from the Houses so as the Water may run off on the Outside of the Wall. We are

Your hble Servants

Nichs. Walton Junr. J. Smeaton

P.S. We propose being at Hexham on tuesday Sennt. but if not there, then shall be there on Wednesday Sennt. and desire to see you if you are not otherwise engaged.

14 Jul 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 14th July 1776

Mr Mulcaster

Your letters of the 27th. Ulto and 3d inst. are now before us and in Answer we take this opportunity of acquainting you that we think it very proper to have the reducing Furnace rebuilt.

Notwithstanding Wm. Leighton is Dead we would have you get some Cynders at the Greymare Pitt if even they shd. come to 5d p[er] Sack we hope however they may be had at 4d

We wish you to encourage the Bagraw People so far as the same can properly be done.

We are obliged by your forwarding the Packet to Mr Hilton

It will be absolutely necessary to have two Opperations for this Month.

Not having had an opportunity of inquiring at Newcastle yet, whether the Box of Bullion is arrived, we do not know whether it is come to hand or not.

We would not have you make any further Tryal of the Throckley Coals 'til you receive fresh Orders, except that we would have you use them in fining the Silver; and no new Tryal is to be made in the reducing Furnace 'til it is presumed all the Cracks or Openings are filled up.

The enquiries you have made abt Fenwick Martin turn out exactly as we expected.

We cannot yet fix a Time for the Pay. We are Yours &c

W & S

PS Since writing the above we have heard that the Bullion is safe at Newcastle.

20 Jul 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr. John Holmes

Farnacres 20 July 1776

Dear Sir

We have this day drawn upon you for £392..18.. payable Twenty Days after date for the Balance of Account as below mentioned, and when you give us advice of the arrival of the next Cake of Bullion desire youll be so obliging as let us know what we are indebted to you for the Elm Pipes and that youll send us a Receipt for them & the amount shall be deducted out of the Bill for the Cake of Bullion which weighs abt 628 Ounces & will be sent from Newcastle next Saturday. We beg leave to return you our best thanks for the Trouble you have had on our Account both as to the Payment you have made Mr Everest, and in regard to the Pipes and are with respects to yourself & Family

Dear Sir Your most Hble Servts
N.W. Junr. J.S

P.S. We expect you to charge Commission upon the Pipes.

Due from Mr John Holmes

	To the Commissioners & Govrs of Greenwh Hosl	
For 664 1/2 Ounces of Silver Bullion	at 5s.11 1/4 d	£197 5 5
For 669 Do	at 5..11	197 18 3
		395 3 8

Deduct

Pd. Mr Tristram Everest what he pd. for	
Spindleston Tythe Corn Fee Farm Rent	2 5 8
Balance due from Mr Holmes	£392 18

Farnacres 20th. July 1776

Sir Twenty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Three Hundred and Ninety Two Pounds Eighteen Shillings. Value recd.as advised by Sir Your Humble Servants W & S
To Mr Holmes London

20 Jul 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 20th. July 1776

Having gone through the several Operations we do not find it will be necessary to make any Alteration or Addition to any of them except that ending 25 May, in which you have omitted the Stock of Refined Slag Lead being 103 1 ½ Cwt pieces.

We doubt not you have had, and continue to have plenty of Rain; the Hay in this Part of the Country is almost spoiled. We are

Your Hble Servants
N.W. Junr. J.S.

P.S. We have just reced. yr. Letters of the 16th & 17th Instant and are glad to hear you are getting on with the Dam & Furnaces & also that you find you are better supplied with Cynders than you used to be. We cannot yet say when the Pay can be.

23 Jul 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Ibbetson

To John Ibbetson Esqr.

Farnacres 23d July 1776

Sir

The drought having continued this Summer to a very uncommon length and Water being on that account in great Scarcity at Langley Mill we looked out for a place upon Langley South Common for a proper Reservoir and having pitched upon one of the Content of about an Acre we have thought it adviseable to order the immediate execution thereof as it probably may be of use before the Summer is over. It is now in Hand and we apprehend will Cost about Thirty Pounds. This tho' Very farr from a Compleat remedy will be an Aid farr more in Value to the Mill than the Amount of the Expenditure.

Some Damages having accrued to the Cows of Mr Mulcaster this Spring which were undoubtedly owing to the Mill Reek, and further Damages being complained of by Mr Fall at Langley Castle Farm, we have mutually considered how, as much as possible, to prevent Damage to the Farm of Mr Fall; and having Advised with Mr. Mulcaster and him, are of opinion the best thing that can be done will be the building a Wall by which the Ground in the said Farm that is most likely to sustain damage of this kind will be seperated from the part much less liable to be effected and which now lying open and undivided from the rest subjects the whole of the Stock thereon to the same chance, whereas being separated by a Wall both may be occupied to greater advantage. It is proposed by the Tenant Mr Fall to keep such kind of Stock upon the Ground most subject to be affected as is found by experience to be least hurt by the Reek; as for instance Sheep as we understand may be fatted on such kind of Ground only they must not be continued long upon it for if they were they would be considerably hurt at least, if not killed; the Sheep therefore intended to be fed on this kind of ground ought to be nearly fat before they are brought upon it and then they will be fit for the Butcher as we are told before anything disastrous is to be expected. The Expençe as p[er] Estimate inclosed, we Compute will be about £140 - and we shall be glad to receive the Boards Directions herein with all convenient dispatch. We are

Sir Yours &c

NW Junr J S

Estimate of the Expençe of Walling off Ground near Langley Mill to prevent damages by the Smoke or Reek &c. of the said Mill as also by way of improvement to Mr Falls Farm at Langley Castle as follows

Winning Stones for and building 263 Roods of Wall including

Carriage of Stones at 9s

£118 7 -

Winning Stones for and raising 26 Roods of Wall already

Built Carriage of Stones included at 2s/

2 12 -

Fencing off the Buddle Water by a Low Wall on the South side	
of the Mill Burn carriage included about 90 Roods at 3s/6d	15 15 -
Three Gates including Posts Loops Crooks & fixing	3 3 -
	£139 17 -

Farnacres 23d July 1776 N.W. Junr. J.S.

27 Jul 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Tweddell

To John Tweddell Esqr.

Farnacres 27th. July 1776

Sir

We were acquainted by Mr Peters on his return from the Sessions at Hexham that Fenwick Martin was discharged there and that he was desired by you to name it to our consideration that in your Opinion a Satisfaction should be made to Fenwick Martin.

That somebody Cutt Langley Mill Bellows we know; we cannot expect that any one would inform against himself; and that no one but a Vile Fellow could be an accomplice; therefore we should naturally expect that the information must come from a Vile Fellow; and yet tho' from such a one it might nevertheless be true; and it was particularly lucky for Fenwick Martin, that he could so clearly prove an alibi; from so respectable a Master; or he might have been under great Difficulties, tho' innocent.

Now Sir as nothing has been done by or against Fenwick Martin, but according to regular Course of Law on supposition of his having really been the atrocious person that destroyed the Bellows of Langley Mill; and the very day that we had reason to believe otherwise from your intimation we sent a special Messenger to Morpeth, to have his confinement made as easy as possible 'till Mr Peters returned from London who had transacted this Business; and as soon after Mr Peters returned as possible he was admitted to Bail, and Mr Peters went over to Morpeth on purpose on that Business; so that there has been no durance Exercised that could properly be avoided and Fenwick Martin may in reality impute the Hardships he has suffered to his ill fortune in having such acquaintance and connections as his Accuser Ridley. However as it is your opinion, and we are sensible that the Commissioners of Greenwich Hospital do not desire that any Man should directly or indirectly suffer hardship on their account; it is probable that (having already been acquainted with the circumstances of this case) on further application they may think proper to make Fenwick Martin some allowance for his loss of time: but prior to that it seems it would be well if we knew what would satisfy him; otherwise were we to make a voluntary offer, wherewith he was not satisfied instead of putting an end to it might only be the Cause of litigation. We should therefore take it as a favour if you would suggest your opinion to us, as to the Quantum and when that is known we shall have a proper Ground, to apply to the Directors of Greenwich Hospital. We are

Sir yours NW Junr. J.S.

24 Aug 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 24th. Augt. 1776

Dear Sir

I was duly favoured with your Letters of the 10th & 12th inst and have this day drawn upon you for £183.6.3 – being the amount of 628 ½ Ounces of Silver at 5s/10d I desire you'll will be so obliging as send the Charge of the Elm Pipes as soon as convenient after this Time as the Work in which they are employed will I expect be compleated in a Week or little more and we shall want to Settle the Accot. of the whole expenditure therein as soon after as possible.

By this Weeks Carrier you will receive a Box Containing three Cakes of Bullion as follows.

One Cake	477 Ounces
Another Cake	201 1/2
A Third Cake	9 1/2
	688

I am with best respects to yourself and Family Dear Sir
Yours &c
NW Junr.

PS The Bill is payable Twenty Days after Date

Farnacres 24 August 1776

Sir Twenty Days after Date pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint One Hundred and Eighty three pounds Six Shillings and Three pence Value reced. as advised by Sir Your Humble Servants W & S
To Mr. John Holmes London

30 Aug 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 30th. Augt. 1776

Inclosed you have the pticulars of your Accot. which I doubt not you will find right and the Cash is now right within one penny or rather within ¾ as you'll remember I won a farthing of Mr Hilton.

Pray desire the Carriers to be as expeditious in getting the Lead to the Warehouse as possible

I shall be glad to hear from you and am in great hurry

Yours &c NW Junr.

PS I desire you'll be endeavouring to find out some good Workmen to undertake the Building of a Wall between the Mill and Thos Falls Ground and so as to inclose the parcel of Ground as set out by me some time since for a fatting pasture for Sheep & let me know how much you find it can be done for p[er] Rood to turn Sheep effectually including Carriage & all expences. I wish to have the Wall very well done.

Corbet & Johnson being agreed you'll let them have lead as usual till further orders.

Account of Cash Paid Mr Peter Mulcaster at the Lead Mill pay 27th Augt 1776

Bradwell and Ward for	Smelting	£1	13	7 ½
J & E Elliott	Weighing lead		1	4
J Stokoe	Furnaces		1	8
Fr Davison	Do		1	8
J Davison	Do		7	6
M Thompson	Do		19	2
W Elrington	Clay	1	18	-
J Elliot	Carpentry	6	19	6
Geo Hunter	Charcoal	4	1	-
Jno Davison	Hedges	1	3	9
do	Water Races	2	10	1
do	do	2	18	-
do	do		9	-
do	Slag hearths	1	15	11
do	Bingsteads		14	2
Thomas Nevin	Thatching	1	3	
Jno Davison	Repairing Buddle			10
H Robson	Labourage		2	4
Geo Coats	Do		4	8
R & M Graham	For brooms		4	
J Fidler	A Mastiff Dogg		15	
J Todd	Hog Lard		4	4
	Bedding	7	10	3 ½
	Fern Ashes	10	4	3
J Pigg	A Sieve Tub & Sieve		4	6
H Atkinson	Wood carriage		5	
J Atkinson	Do		5	
Mr Mulcaster's	Salary	25		
	Letters messengers & c		5	6
	Bellows Cutting	1	8	4

	Contingencies	5	6
		73	16
28 th pd	Mr Mulcaster on acct	60	11
	Expenses & Notes	2	7

Reced of Mr Mulcaster as follows.

What was pd him on Accot. 2d Novemr 1775 £100

For Old Iron £ . 12.6...For Lead Sold £3.5 3.17.6

Turn over

[The account appears not to be finished as it does not continue on the next page.]

30 Aug 1776 Nicholas Walton to James Johnson

[Note: Possibly James Johnson and John Corbett, named amongst the GH carriers in 1769]

To Messrs Johnson & Corbet

Farnacres 30th Augt. 1776

Messrs Johnson & Corbet

I am happy to find you have reconciled your differences and you will give me much pleasure by continuing as good friends, as long as you do so, and behave yourselves properly as Carriers to the Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich Hospital, you may depend upon having every encouragement which can be given you consistent with the Interest of the Hospital and I have this day wrote to Mr Mulcaster to continue to employ you as usual til further orders. I am &c
yours NW Junr.

PS as we want Lead down as quick as possible I desire you will both be as Active as you can in bringing it to the Warehouse

31 Aug 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 31st Augst. 1776

Mr Mulcaster

On examining the whole of the Recets. and Payments at the Lead Mill and Lead Carriers Pay I cannot by any means prove the Cash to be right or wrong save that when compared with what we did at Hexham after the Lead Carriers were paid the Cash is within three farthings but as to what was done afterwards we were in such a Hurry that I can Scarcely remember anything about it. I desire therefore you will let me know whether I gave you Rectes. for the Lead and old Iron sold by you and for your

Rent amounting together to £7.2.- for at present I do not recollect either your paying the Money or my giving you Receipts but apprehend both was done. I desire you'll let me hear from you about this as soon as you can, as also that you'll let me have the Operation to the end of last Years Accot. with a Computation of what may be expected from the Tails &c & expence of bringing the same into Lead.

I am Yours &c NW. Junr.

PS I inclose you the Lead Mill Pay Bill, all the Lead at Newcastle will be delivered in a few days (except the broken pieces) as we have sold above 4000 Pigs.

10 Sep 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 10th. Sepr. 1776

Dear Sir

I have your Letters of the 28th Augst. and 7th inst now before me and have this day drawn upon you for the Balance of Account as below; the Bill is payable Forty days after date and we shall draw the next Bill in the same manner which will in some degree make up for your not charging Commission and we must at the same time acknowledge ourselves very much Obliged.

My engagements have prevented my making any enquiry after Mr Wilson & Mr Harrison but as soon as I have opportunity I shall most assuredly do it, and let you know the result.

I am glad to hear Brother Smeaton is well having only heard from him once since he left this place. I am with best regards to you and yours

Dear Sir your's &c

NW Junr.

Due from Mr John Holmes To the Commissioners & Governors of Greenwch Hospl
1776 10th Sepr

For 688 Ounces of Silver Bullion at 5s:10 1/4 d p[er] oz	£201. 7. 8
Cr	

For Payment of Elm Pipes & Charges of Shipping	£10. 16. 6
--	------------

For Cash Reced of Mr Jno Harrison on his Accot. 4.16 -	£15:12: 6
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Balance due from Mr Jno Holmes	£185:15: 2
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Farnacres 10th Septemr 1776

Sir Forty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint One Hundred and Eighty five Pounds Fifteen Shillings and Two Pence – Value received As advised by Sir Your Humble Servants Walton & Smeaton

To Mr Holmes London

10 Sep 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Langlands

To Mr John Langlands

Farnacres 10th Septemr 1776

Sir

This days Post has brought me a Letter from Mr Holmes wherein he informs me I am to draw upon him for the last Silver sent him (and which arrived in London on Saturday last) at 5s/10 1/4d p[er] Ounce which I have accordingly done; the price therefore of the Cake of Bullion which I sold you weighing 420 Ounces will be 5s/10 1/4 d p[er] Ounce Amounting to £122:18:9 to be paid on the 10th of October. Mr Holmes seems to be of Opinion that Silver is falling. I am Sir

Yours &c NW Junr.

13 Sep 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Mulcaster

Farnacres 13th Septemr. 1776

Mr Mulcaster

Your Letters of the 29th Ultio. and 2d. 4 and 12th inst. are now before me. The Several Cakes of Bullion weighed as follows.

	Ounces
That taken off the 29th June	628 1/2
27 July	477
2 August	211
19 August	420

I have set the Weight of Lead, down in the Accot. you sent me as to the Rich Litharge Lead.

The Operations came safe to hand.

I am surprized the Iron wanted 8 pound. I am promised to have it made good the next order. It is all Sweedish Iron .

I have this day wrote to Mr Labourne desiring he will get the Outshot done agreeable to your desire. He is poor Man very ill.

What you have done abt. Wm Wilson is quite right and I desire Batey may have no more Lead either from the Mill or from the Carriers.

The Height of the Wall must be Six Quarters exclusive of Cope and I desire it may be set forward immediatly. <Sh>d. not have the Throughs to project beyond the Wall but to be flush with the Wall, for when they are left out they only serve to encourage people to Climb over the Wall, Whoever undertakes and Builds well may be

assured of work the Winter thro'. The Lead Carriage you are desired to stop immediately & let me know how much you have delivered since the Carriage begun afresh; and pray give Notice to all the Carriers to get in the Lead as soon as possible.

I would have you get some more Cynders from Greymare and employ whoever you think proper to bring them but if Isaac Burnhope will carry them as cheap as any body else I wd. rather have you employ him.

The Assays are all come safe, & the Silver is arrived at Mr Aireys.

Johnson and Corbet are to have the Carriage of the Bone Ashes between them.

The produce of Lead is very good and we must keep Ned Elliot. I am your &c
NW Junr.

13 Sep 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Salter

To Mr John Salter

Farnacres 13th. Sepr. 1776

Dear Sir

We are much disappointed in not receiving the Bone Ashes and I beg you'll give Mr Finch a rub about them and desire we may have them the very first Opportunity

I am with best wishes and Respects

Dear Sir Yours &c

NW Junr.

PS If we don't receive the Ashes soon we must order them elsewhere

1 Oct 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Salter

To Mr John Salter

Farnacres 1st October 1776

Dear Sir

On my coming Home from Hexham where I had been for a few days I reced. the favour of your Letter of the 25th. inst. inclosing one from Mr Finch and I desire you will be so obliging as Pay his Bill which I now return and Order us One Hundred Casks besides those contained in the inclosed Bill and we wish to receive them with all dispatch. The last 50 are arrived and very critically as we are almost aground. I desire you'll be so kind as excuse the trouble I give you & I am Dear Sir

yours &c

NW Junr.

PS My Wife & Father join in best respects & in every good wish to you & yours

4 Oct 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 4th Oct 1776

Mr. Mulcaster

I have reced your Letter of the 2d inst. but as I am much straitned for Time cannot conveniently send you a form of an Agreement, I must however in general tell you that it should set forth the dimensions of the Wall and that it is to be done in a substantial & workmanlike manner to the satisfaction of the receivers of the Derwentwater Estate or such Person or Persons as they shall appoint & as to the rest I dare say you'll have no difficulty in doing it very well.

The Lead being short 19 or 20 pieces I cannot give directions to set the Carriage on 'till the mistake is set right.

I should be glad to have an accot. of the Sorts of Lead which make up the 1<8>08 last sent from the Mill and to whom delivered. I am

yours &c

NW Junr.

PS you have given me an Accot. of the sorts of Lead as follows.

L 1470

LS 10

OS 28

1508

But there are some RS: pieces come to the Warehouse

8 Oct 1776 Nicholas Walton to Henry Airey

To Messrs Heny. & Son Airey

Farnacres 8th Octor. 1776

Dear Brothers

I cannot yet make any computation of this years Quantity of Lead as the Ore carriage is not yet finish'd I send you inclosed the Tickett which was given by <J> Carrick for Lead delivered Wm. Wilson, which Lead Wilson said he never delivered & which Tickett not being claimed by any other Carrier, it should be destroyed as being of no use. I am

yours &c NW Junr.

PS Mr Smeaton & I shall be glad to receive for the Lead delivered & Sold in June, on Friday the 18 inst at Mrs Marleys & I send you the Accot. herein.

8 Oct 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 8th Oct 1776

Dear Sir

As I knew nothing of Messrs Wilson and Harrison mentioned in your Letter of the 28th Augst. I have caused some enquiry to be made respecting them, and the following is the result of what has come to my hands. Vizt That Willson is reckoned an industrious sober Honest Man and tho' in a less way than Harrison is deserving and that Harrison who is a pushing Man is supposed to do a good deal of business and esteemed to pay his Credit well, at least nothing has yet appeared to the contrary. The latter has dealt with Webb and Lamb Watch Makers St John's Gate Clerkenwell whom he formerly lived with.

Since writing the above I have read over your Letter of the 5th inst and find there certainly must be a mistake in your weighing the last Bullion as it is no less than 20 Ounces short of the weight I made it come to which agreed exactly with the Refinery Agents weighing, I shall not therefore draw for it 'til I hear again from you. The weight according to my Scales was 581 almost 2 ½ Pwt to better.

What you have been so obliging as mention with respect to assays – has quite satisfied me that we must have nothing to do with them in our dealing & you may depend upon it we shall always to the utmost of our power take care to have the Silver made as fine as possible.

I have not heard from Brother Smeaton for a long time but I hope nothing except busyness prevents his writing, I have indeed myself been so extremely hurried that I have not been with my Family more than a Month in the whole since I had the pleasure of seeing you and in particular since the 21st Septemr so much that I had not an opportunity of Writing to my Brother from that day 'til yesterday & then a very short Epistle.

My Wife joins me in best respects to you and yours & I am your's &c
NW Junr.

17 Oct 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 17th Octor. 1776

Dear Sir

On Monday I was favoured with your Letter of the 11th inst. and this day have drawn upon you for £169:9:2 being the amount of 581 Ounces of fine Silver at 5s/10d p[er] Ounce & I am very glad the mistake is set right.

I shewed your Letter of the 11th to Brother Smeaton on Monday at Gateshead where he arrived about Six o Clock Afternoon

This Family rejoice with you and yours on your increase of Family and are exceedingly happy to be informed of Mrs Holmes and the young Boy being likely to do well & you have I assure you our very best wishes. I am

Yours &c NW Junr.

PS By this Weeks London Carrier you will receive a Box containing [blank] Ounces of fine Silver. The Bill is payable Forty days after date.

Brother Smeaton I have the great Satisfaction to say never better in Health than when he arrived at Gateshead, & he is since gone into Scotland
Bill delivered the Bank 18 Octor. 1776

2 Nov 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 2d Novemr 1776

Mr Mulcaster

We have reced yr. Letter of the 31st Ultio. and in Truth are very sincerely concerned for the Uneasyness that you have had, but most cordially hope you will very soon get well again, and beg you will not hesitate a Moment to come to NewCastle to get the best Advice if you see it in the very least Degree necessary or proper.

What you are doing about the Quarries is perfectly right and we think Willm. Howden acts prudently. It will not be in the Power of either of us to be wth. you before the Ore Carriers Pay, but that Day, shall be glad to have some Talk about making an Agreement for some Part of the Wall at least. The Lead Mill Pay we shall let alone 'til the Years Work is finished.

Pray be so good as ask Thomas Fall what he will give p[er] Acre for the remaining Part of his Term for the little Piece of Ground Part of Ann Browns Farm joining the Brick Garth which we talked of fencing off the last time we were at the Mill, & accordingly measured the Length of the Fence joining Mr. Fall's Pasture, & let us know; and after you have done so, ask Mrs. Brown the lowest Price she sets upon that Piece of Ground p[er] Acre for the Remainder of her Term and at the same time it would not be amiss to acquaint her that we think her very stiff wth. us considering the great Advantages she has by being constantly employed on all Occasions by Greenwich Hospital & let us know her Determination

We are &c

W & S

P.S. We wish to be informed about the above as soon as possible & if you can get Mr. Fall & Mrs. Brown to make their Offers in Writing it would be well.

7 Nov 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Ibbetson

To John Ibbetson Esqr.

Farnacres 7th November 1776.

Sir

Inclosed you will receive the Langley Lead Mill Account for one Year's duty Ore, being from the 10th. June 1775 to and with the 3d. Augt. 1776; the finishing of the smelting of the duty Ore being so much prolonged, chiefly on Account of its being considerably above the average Quantity, & also owing to a very dry Season that had subsisted for some Months preceeding, and rendered the Mill scarce of Water. The Profit of this Year amounting to £829 – tho' considerably Shorrt of the last is yet above the Mean of the whole; and as we apprised the Board last Year in our Letter attending the Lead Mill Accot., was that year more than could be expected in common, the Profit being subject to considerable Variations, arising from the Sale of the Lead at the Markett and the uncertainty of the produce from the Ore, both of Lead and Silver. On this Occasion we think it proper to observe to the Board, that hitherto and also in this Accot. we have allowed a Rent amounting, upon the whole to something about 5 p[er]Ct. upon the Expenditure as a Rent for the Mill, that is for this year and some past to £130. before we have struck the Balance of Profit; but in General in the Mining undertakings which are succesfully carried on the first thing to be accomplished is to clear the undertaking of debt; that is to apply the first profits to the discharge of the Money advanced which when done the undertaking is said to have cleared herself; In this light, had we been supposed to have borrowed the Money of the Hospital wherewith the Mill and Conveniences have been erected; and allowed the Hospital Interest upon the several Sums so advanced, whenever the Annual Profits became capable of repaying the Principal, the undertaking might then be said to be cleared; and the Balance of Profits then sho[ul]d be drawn without allowance of Rent, after paying every contingent expence of Rent for the Grounds occupied by the Mill, additional Buildings, repairs, and alterations.

It perhaps may not be necessary to shew this matter by entering into a Minute detail of Particulars stated Debtor and Creditor, but to observe in the General, that as we have always allowed in Mill Rent at least the Interest of the Money advanced, that part has been fully discharged. It further appears by our last years account, that we had on the 1st. May 1773 made a profit of £3022:18:7 ½ from the beginning; and as our whole Expenditure upon the Mill at the Close of the present account amounts to no more than £3048:1:1 ¾ which was considerably less the 1st May 1773, and at the same time no Interest being reckoned upon the several Sums, that compose the aforesaid sum of £3022:18:7 ½ returned to the Hospital, we may fairly say, that the whole expenditure upon the Mill, even to the present time was more than cleared the 1st May 1773; and as since that time the 3 years subsequent Profits have amounted Viz

The Year ending Summer	1774 to	£ 804: 5: 4 1/2	Mill Rents	130
	1775 to	£1529:11: 7 3/4	Do	130
	1776 to	829:16: 7	Do	130

Three Year's Profit as p[er]

Accots sent the Board	£3163:13: 7 1/4	£390
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Three Years Mill rent	390
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Total	£3553:13: 7 1/4
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so that the Average Profit of the last 3 yrs is £1184:11:2 ¼ . and upon this foundation, in case the Board has no objection, we propose to state our future Accots. We are

Yours &c

NW Junr. J:S

PS We inclose an Accot shewing the Quantity of Ore remaining at the Mines After finishing the Carriage in 1775

8 Nov 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr. Jno. Holmes

Farnacres 8th. Novr. 1776

Dear Sir

We have this day drawn upon you for £219..13..6 being the Amount of 750 ½ Ounces of Bullion at 5s..10 ¼ d. The Bill as you desire is payable Forty Days after Date. We are wth. best respects & good wishes to you & your's

Dear Sir your &c

W & S.

P.S. Your's respecting Bror. Smeaton was delivered to him.

Farnacres 8th. Novr. 1776

Sir Forty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint Two Hundred and Nineteen Pounds Thirteen Shillings & Six Pence – Value receivd. – as advised by Sir yours &c W & S

To Mr. Holmes London

8 Nov 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Salter

To Mr Jno Salter

Farnacres 8th Novemr 1776

Dear Sir

As we are again in want of Bone Ashes we must beg of you to desire Mr Finch to let us have the remaining 100 Casks as soon as he possibly can and if you have not paid

him yet for those we have got be so good as let that be done with all convenient dispatch. We are with best wishes to yourself and Mrs Salter

yours &c

W & S

17 Nov 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Ibbetson

To John Ibbetson Esqr.

Farnacres 17th. Novr. 1776

Sir

When last at Langley Lead Mill, we had an application made to us by Mr Mulcaster the Lead Mill Agent on behalf of himself and the Workmen who enjoy the Small Farms there, that they might be permitted to plow out little Parcels of Ground from time to time, for the better improvement thereof; and desiring we would recommend it to the Commissioners and Governors of the Hospital, to grant their request and also that a Small Barn should be erected at the Expence of the Hospital, for the use of those Farms: which as an encouragement to the Work at Langley Mill, and to the present occupiers, we cannot hesitate to recommend being agreed to by the Board. The Expence of the Barn exclusive of Carriage (which we think ought to be born by Mr Mulcaster and the Workmen) we estimate at the Sum of £25. We are

Sir your's &c

NW Junr. JS.

7 Dec 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr Holmes

Farnacres 7th Decemr 1776

Dr Sir

By this Weeks Carrier you will receive Two Boxes No. 1 containing 720 Ounces and No. 2 – 657 Ounces of Fine Silver together 1377 Ounces: but as I have been for Several days Confined by a Violent pain in my Face and engaged before that so as not to be able to weigh the Silver myself I desire you will be so obliging as weigh it carefully when it Arrives in London & Let me know how each Box Answers I am Your's &c
NW Junr.

13 Dec 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Finch

To Mr John Finch

Farnacres near Gateshead 13th. Decemr 1776

Sir

As I find it is well to speak in Time I now give you the trouble of this letter to desire, now that this Years Ashes are Completed, you will let us have Two Hundred Casks next Year and you may begin the delivery when ever you find it convenient & the sooner the order is completed the more agreeable it will be. I am for Mr Smeaton & Self

Your's &c

NW Junr.

PS Pray direct your Letters To Messrs Walton & Smeaton Gateshead

15 Dec 1776 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 15th. Decr. 1776

Mr Mulcaster

I have reced yours of the 11th. Inst: and on examining the Weight of the Cakes of Bullion find they are as follows according to our Weighings Vizt.

 Weighed by N.W. Junr. – That taken off 5th Octor.– 750 1/2

 Weighed by Mr. Farrer – 6th Novr. - 720

 30th Novr. - 657

The Proposal of Wm. Pattinson I desire may be concluded and when I see you we will fix whether the Wall is to be set upon the Road or not.

I am sorry to find the Leading meets with Difficulty, a Frost wd. be of use; but in case of our seeing anybody has a hard bargain we must make Allowances, this shd. however be tenderly touched upon.

The Deuce is in the Quarries near Langley Mill to be sure for they no sooner any of them flatter us with a good prospect but in an instant leave us in the Dark to seek out for others. The best we can do is all that will be expected & we shd. not fret.

You have had and will have a good deal of Trouble about those Walls & you shall certainly be considered for it.

I shall be very glad to see you at the Time you mention. I am
your &c N.W. Junr.

15 Dec 1776 Nicholas Walton to Christopher Bell

To Mr. Chr. Bell.

Farnacres 15 Decemr 1776

Mr Bell

I dare say you will recollect that I desired you to make some Enquiry about the Boundary joining Kingswood Estate in that part opposite to the Hag Bank and you gave me your Answer which I have, but in addition to that, I desire you'll ask Mr. Wray a few Questions about this Boundary, for he will certainly remember whether they looked upon it Mr. Martyr had a right to all the Timber on the East Side of Allen, or not, and if they had a right to it, it is plain the Boundary was then considered to be the Allen Water, as I have no doubt of it, it ought to be. You'll give our Compliments to Mr. Wray, and any Enquiry you make, I desire you will do it without bustle. I wish to hear from you soon and am Your &ca

N.W. Junr.

P.S. Pray enquire & let me know whether Mr. Wilkin has ever been at Corbridge Surveying, and if he has, I desire to know how long he has been there in the whole. Be very exact.

21 Dec 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Salter

To Mr John Salter

Farnacres 21st Decemr 1776

I am much obliged by your attention to the Accot of Bone Ashes which some what varies from the former Accounts the Casks being Charged 2s/2d each instead of 2s/ the Coopers having raised their prices since our American disputes arose Staves not being to be had as I understand so well now as before that Time and I find this to be the Case at Newcastle also; you will therefore be so good as pay the inclosed Bill at your convenience.

As we were rather disappointed this last Season by the Ashes coming too late I have wrote to Mr Finch and bespoke 200 Casks for the Year 1777 and desired he may begin the delivery as soon as he finds it convenient & the sooner the order is completed the more agreeable

My Wife and Father join me in wishing the Compliments of the Season to Yourself & Mrs Salter

I am Dr Sir yours &c

NW Junr.

PS. Mr Smeaton & I have lately sent a parcel of Mustard to Greenwich Six pounds of wch we desire youll axcept

30 Dec 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr Jno Holmes

Farnacres 30th Decr. 1776

Dear Sir

I have this day drawn upon you for £414:10:8 pay.ble Thirty days after date, being for 1377 Ounces of Bullion at 6s/4 ¼ p[er] Ounce. I am glad Silver has got to so good a price again and think if it continues where it is it will do very well but if it still rises we must be content to take the Advantage.

This Weeks Carrier will bring you a Box containing about 657 Ounces of Bullion for I have not yet seen it so cannot say exactly what it weighs. I hear it got a Smut upon it just when it was taking out of the Furnace but I hope it will notwithstanding prove fine; if it does not we must make you a proper allowance. I am Dr Sir your's &c NW Junr.

Farnacres 30th December 1776

Sir Thirty Days after Date Pay to the Orders of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Four Hundred and Fourteen Pounds Ten Shillings & Eight Pence Value received – as advised by Sir your Humble Servants Walton & Smeaton
To Mr John Holmes London

30 Dec 1776 Nicholas Walton to John Finch

To Mr. John Finch

Farnacres 30 Decemr 1776

Sir

We reced yours of the 19th. inst but directed to us near Gateshead at Newcastle upon Tyne. This is contrary to our desire and by your adding Newcastle upon Tyne we lose a Post; you are therefore desired to direct any letters which you have occasion to Write to us in future as follows –

Messrs Walton & Smeaton

Gateshead

By which means we shall always get them sooner than by any other direction.

The rise of Casks has made us turn our thoughts to getting a sett of Casks made stout and Iron bound for the purpose of bringing the Bone Ashes from London and returning them for more as occasion requires, and we shall be obliged to you for your advice as to this and at what price we can be furnished with Two Hundred Casks or half that Number for this purpose – sufficiently strong & Iron Bound We are

Sir yours &c

W & S

PS Don't let the above prevent your sending us Ashes when ready, in the usual way.
The sooner we hear from you the more agreeable

12 Jan 1777 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 12th Jany. 1777

Mr Mulcaster

I fully intended Writing to you tomorrow about your last respecting the Farms &c. but being unexpectedly called from home I must defer writing 'til some more convenient opportunity except to inform you that I approve of your engaging and agreeing with the <Washer> you mention for the Wastes on the Terms you have acquainted me with. I am Your's &c
N.W.Junr.

24 Jan 1777 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 24th Jany 1777

Mr Mulcaster

The Lead from Hangingshaw East End and Carrs Sun Vein No 1 – is not refineable but by Assays from a Chip from each Pig No 2 – it is refineable & Brownley hill N Vein produces by Assay 12 Oz..17 P[enny]wts 6 G[rai]n p[er] Fodder. I shall be glad to see you at Hexham on Monday Evening or rather Tuesday Morning early & desire you'll forward the inclosed by a special Messenger. I am yours &c
NW Junr.

PS I could not write you sooner about the Assays

3 Feb 1777 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 3d Feby. 1777

Mr Mulcaster

I have your Letters of the 25th & 31st Ulto & 1st inst. and your memorandums of the 27th Ulto all before me

The Silver weighed 846 $\frac{1}{4}$ Ounces wch is 5 oz: 18 Pwt short of the Assay and very good work but it is some what odd that there is no less than 1 oz – Pwt 19 $\frac{8}{10}$ G[rai]n of Silver left in every Fodder of the Refined Lead.

I am glad to find you are in a likely way of having better Refining Furnaces than you have had and hope it will be the occasion of the produce of Silver being more regular than it has for some time been.

As no Stones can be got on the North side of the Burn we must be content to get them from the Bogg or Wood Quarry as I would not think of raising a Quick Fence in that situation.

You may send the Accot. of Materials in Stock 31st Decemr last whenever it is most convenient to yourself.

Hangingshaw & Carrs Sun Vein last Assay is exactly the same weight of No.2 which you sent me before and the Lead is refineable and Copper Slit produces by Assay 9 Oz – 6 Pwt - 4 8/10 Gn p[er] Fodder.

As the other Washers have offered to take the Washing of the Waste Ore at the same rate as John Bell if Bell will not begin immediately I think you should agree with the other washers but if Bell sets on directly I woud. Certainly have him preferred as being the first offerer.

Your Nephew John must be allowed something for getting such Stones out of the Fence he has levelled as shall be used in making the Wall and whatever you think reasonable I beg he may have.

I am rather at a loss what to say about Ned Elliot for to be sure if we could keep him it would be well but at the same time I have no Idea of keeping any Man who is dissatisfied with the work and therefore if he is not to be made sensible that he is taking a wrong step in leaving us by which his Father will certainly be at least likely to lose his employment under the Hospital, we must look out for somebody to supply the deficiency. Pray is there no way of employing Thomas Elliot at Langley Mill wch would take him entirely from the Reducing Furnace and by that means the whole earning of the Reducing would go between Ned and John. but indeed I doubt not for I fear he is become too feeble. I am sorry it so happens but if Ned Elliot leaves us I doubt we cannot justify keeping Thomas at the Reducing Furnace. The produce this last operation is to be sure so much better than we had been used to before Ned came that the Sum in favor of last operation taking the Value of the Extra Lead produced amounts to about £14 – and if on that accot seems as if it would be better worth our while to give a little additional price p[er] Fodder by way of encouraging Ned Elliot to stay this however is a tender point and I only hint it for your serious consideration and opinion & shall be glad to hear from you when you find it convenient I am

Yours &c

NW Junr.

3 Feb 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr Jno Holmes

Farnacres Feby 3d. 1777

Dear Sir

I was duly favoured with your Letter of the 25th Ulto but have been so much engaged since as not to be able to write you before this day. I have just drawn upon you for £199:16:9 payable 30 days after date being the Amount of 657 Ounces of Bullion at 6s/1d p[er] Ounce; and last Saturday there was another Box of Bullion sent you from Newcastle containing 846 ¼ Ounces.

I am very glad to hear you are got well again as I am also to find the Mustard is acceptable & am Yours &c

NW Junr.

Farnacres 3d Feby 1777

Sir Thirty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint One Hundred and Ninety Nine Pounds Sixteen Shillings and Nine Pence – Value received – as advised by Sir Your Humble Servants Walton & Smeaton
To Mr Holmes London

7 Feb 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Finch

To Mr John Finch

Farnacres 7th Feby 1777

Sir

We were duly favoured with your Letter of the 7th Ulto but having been very much hurried ever since we could not before this time conveniently give you an Answer thereto and even now we cannot yet determine whether to have the Casks Iron Bound or not, you will however send the Ashes as usual 'till you hear further and we shall expect soon to receive the first 50. We are

Sir yours &c W & S

7 Feb 1777 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 7th Feby. 1777

Mr Mulcaster

From the inclosed paper you will see I have been giving the Reducing busyness a full consideration and upon the whole if Elliot could be kept I would wish it provided he will not still be wavering but how to do this is the difficulty.

You'll observe that upon a Medium since the Mill begun, even taking in the times when we saved no Litharge, that we have only produced 1017 $\frac{1}{4}$ pieces of Refined Lead, or thereabouts, from 1680 Cwts of Lead and in Old Elliott & John Elliots time no more than 1016 $\frac{1}{2}$, from the same quantity, but that in many instances (29 I observe) we have exceeded 1020. Now what I think wd. be a proper thing, by way of encouraging the best work being made is, that some allowance shd. be given to those workmen in proportion to the produce, for instance suppose we should say to the workmen if you produce for 1680 pieces, more than 1020 you shall be allowed the following Premiums, and in Proportion when lesser or larger Quantities are Refined Viz

For... 1021... 3s pr Operation

For... 1022... 6 p Do

For... 1023... 9 p Do

For... 1024...12 p Do

For... 1025...15 p Do

For... 1026...18 p Do

For... 1027...21 p Do

For... 1028...24 p Do

For... 1029...27 p Do

For... 1030.. 30 p Do

and so increasing 3s for every Addl pigg of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ Cwt but on falling short of 1021 to be pd. the now usual price

After all that I have said and done about the Reducers I would not have any determination come to, what step is to be taken in consequence of Ned Elliots offer to leave us or serve us 'til I see Mr Smeaton which will be soon but in the mean time I wd have you give the matter consideration and let me have your Sentiments by next Fridays Carrier for tho' I may possibly be at Hexham on Thursday next it is quite uncertain. If we must part with Ned Elliot and his father Fran.s Carr is as likely as any I know of and indeed more so to succeed. I can see that 3 being employed where two might do is in the present case an inconvenience but for all that I do not think having three proper Men would be found so. I am

Your's &c

NW Junr.

PS Wellgill Cross Vein is Refineable it produces 6.17:4 8/10.

17 Feb 1777 Nicholas Walton to Francis Tweddell

To Fras Tweddell Esqr.

North Allerton 17th Feby. 1777

Dear Sir

We duly reced. the favour of your letter of the 14th expressed in very obliging and Genteel Terms and indeed we think it so necessary to keep ourselves at liberty when any applications are made to us to supply vacancys in so material a work as Langley Mill that we have discouraged them as much as possible & have even desired the Commissioners of Greenwich Hospital themselves to leave the matter with us which they have been so condescending as to do. We are yours &c

W & S

22 Feb 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr Holmes

Farnacres 22d Feby. 1777

Dear Sir

On my Arrival from Northallerton where I had been to meet Brother Smeaton I met with your Letter of the 18th inst. and have this day drawn upon you for £257:8 – being the amount of 846 ¼ Ounces of Silver Bullion at 6s/1d p[er] Ounce.

The other part of your Letter shall be attended to as soon as possible but really I believe you would find bringing such small quantities at a time to London not at all to answer your end because the Vessels that are in the Coal Trade are quite above the Size of what would suit you I will however most certainly endeavour to get the best Information and communicate it to you without loss of Time. I am

Dr. Sir yours &c

NW Junr.

PS The sort of Coals you want I suppose to be Wylam Moor.

This or next weeks Carrier will bring you a Box of Bullion, if this Week, the Weight will be put on the outside of this Letter. Since writing the above I have been at Newcastle & find the Snow has prevented our receiving the Silver this Week.

Farnacres 22d Feby. 1777

Sir Thirty Days after date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint Two Hundred and Fifty Seven Pounds Eight Shillings – Value received as advised by Sir Your Humble Servts Walton & Smeaton
To Mr Holmes London

22 Feb 1777 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 22d Feby. 1777

Mr Mulcaster

Yours of the 17th has been received and the Assays therein Weighed; the Produce of which you have as follows

		80 parts Of Grains	Per Fodder Oz pwt Gr
No. 1 Litharge Lead from	2d Pig after Test begun	3 equal	3 16,2
2 Do	21st Do	4 equal	4 21,6
3 Do	42d Do	6 equal	7 8,4
4 Do	63 Do	9 equal	11 -,6
5 Do	73d or 74th Do	11 equal	13 11,4
6 Do	84 Do	14 equal	17 3,6
7 Do being from the last Litharge drawn before end of Test		30 equal	1 16 18.
7 Do	another Test	56 equal	3 18 14,4

The above as also the Reducing are such material parts of the General undertaking at Langley Mill that they require the most serious attention and I shall be very glad to see you at Hexham on Tuesday Evening to talk over what has occurred & to communicate to you the joint Sentiments of Mr Smeaton and myself. In the mean time you will I hope have fixed in your own mind upon the person you think most proper to succeed Ned Elliott & the sooner we are quit of Elliot the better; but tho' he leaves us a little awkwardly, I wd wish him not to be distressed by us, and that he may continue 'till Mayday without he can sooner get himself otherwise employed, or chuses to leave us before Mayday. The inclosed is referred entirely to you & if there is no impropriety in the request I doubt not you will continue it so as to keep clear of interfering with the other Carriers but I don't understand that we have thought it proper to allow any Carriages to take up Lead at the Mill in fresh Weather in Winter tho' it is frequently done in Frost and I beg we may not break thro' any General rule to please any body or otherwise we shall desert the object of the joint endeavours of us all which is that of producing the most Profit by the whole undertaking and regularity in our proceedings and in doing this we have ever had the greatest satisfaction in finding your endeavour to operate in the warmest manner with that of ours and I have been the more minute upon this occasion because if you should think there is a prospect in the least of giving Umbrage to the rest of the Carriers I would not by any means have an alteration made altho' Atkinson is a well meaning industrious Man according to what I have always understood.

I would have you be at Hexham on Tuesday against Dinner time and wait 'till I come if even it should be late in the Evening that is I wd have you to stay all night at Hexham & then I hope I shall certainly have an opportunity of spending at least a

Couple of hours with you either on Tuesday afternoon or evening or on Wednesday Morning before I go to Corbridge & if I can possibly, I will bring the accot. of the produce of Bullion from the begining to the present time compared with the Assay. I am with much regard

Yours &c. NW Junr.

PS I was in Newcastle this day but no Silver arrived yet.

Copy

Sir

I beg leave to let you know that I desire to have two catches of Lead from Langley Mill in the Week with two Carts in frosty weather when we have no imploymt And one Catch in the Week in fresh or Summer Weather with two Carts or what Quantity you think proper Mr Mulcaster tells us that he has no objections against us haveing Lead if we could get an order from you if you please to send us an order you will do us a great favour.

I am your most Obt. Servt.

Edw: Atkinson

Bagraw Feby 21st: 1777

8 Mar 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Salter

To Mr Jno Salter

Farnacres 8 March 1777

Dear Sir

I desire you will pay Mr Finch the inclosed Note as soon as convenient in doing which you will much oblige Dr Sir

yours &c NW Junr.

To Mr Jno Finch

Farnacres 8th March 1777

Sir

I have reced yours of the 4 and write to Mr Salter by this Post to desire he will pay your <two> Note<s> I cannot say any thing further about the Casks yet but am obliged by your giving me the further Particulars concerning the Price <&c> I am

Yours &c NW Junr.

9 Mar 1777 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Mulcaster.

Farnacres 9th March 1777

Mr. Mulcaster

Yours of the 3d. Inst. I duly recd. and inclose you the Terms which I think ought to be insisted on as to the Farm at Langley Mill and doubt not it will be found of Advantage to all to adopt them. The Barn shall be of the Size you mention vizt. 24 feet long by 15 Wide & as you are none of you in a way of Leading the Materials it must be expected from you and the other Persons concerned, to get the Materials ledd as cheap as you can, we to pay the Leading and the Persons concerned, the Interest, both for that and the Amount of the Building. It is quite agreeable to me that Frank Carr shd. have T. Elliots whole Farm except the Share of the Encroachment but I desire it may be considered that he is Frank's Tenant for the Incroachmt. part. What you have done as to Wm. Pattinson is proper & he must have an Allowance if necessary. Nothing would give me more Concern than our Workmen any of them being hurt by our pushing them too hard so as to have the Pay made upon the 22d. of April but if it cd. be done then it will be a great Convenience to us & I beg you will do every thing in yr. Power to effect that, only I must again say the Workmen must not be put in hazard on that Accot. & when I say so, be assured I shd. be sorry anything was required that might hurt you, so you will upon the whole do as you find will be most conformable to the above wishes, & I shall be glad to hear from you.

I am Your &c.

N.W. Junr.

Messrs. Walton & Smeaton will be at

Langley Mill Tuesday 15th. Ap[ri]l. in the Evening

Wednesday 16 Do - & go to Hexham

Hexham Sunday 20)

Monday 21) Prepare for Pay

Tuesday 22 Make lead Pay.

The Lead Carriers must be let
alone til' afterwds.

P.S. We shall I believe receive at Hexham on the 18 & 19 Apl being Friday & Saturday but this is not yet fixed. I have not had time yet to set the Operations right. Your last brought me that ending 22d. Febry. 1777.

15 Mar 1777 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 15th March 1777

Yesterday I reced your Letter as also the Silver which weighs exactly 604 ½ Ounces

The weight by Assay shd have been	646:16
Real weight	604:10
Short of Assay	42: 6

What you propose about ending or closing the Accot. for the Pay on the 29 inst. is very right and I hope youll get all compleated in time for the Pay being made on the 22d of April.

I am Yours &c
NW Junr.

PS I am glad the Forms about the Farms at the Mill are agreeable
Silver left in the refined Lead 9 pwts: 19,2 Gr[ains] p[er] Fodder

21 Mar 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

[Note: After the death of Walter Calverley Blackett there was a closely contested by-election in Newcastle on 27th February.]

To Mr. Holmes

Farnacres 21st March 1777

Dear Sir

Last Tuesdays Post brought me your Favor of the 15 Inst. and I have this day drawn upon you (payable 40 days after date) for £229 -s – 9d being, the amount, of 753. Ounces of fine Silver at 6s/1d p[er] Ounce.

We have been all so much in confusion in a warm Contest for Newcastle that I have found it impossible to get any thing done yet, about the Coals but now that this bustle is over I expect to get proper materials in a little time and shall then write you.

The Carrier who set out last Week will bring you 604 ½ Ounces of Bullion. I am
yours &c NW Junr.

Farnacres 21st March 1777

Sir Forty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint Two Hundred and Twenty Nine Pounds and Nine Pence value received as advised by Sir your Humble Servants Walton & Smeaton
To Mr John Holmes London

[In the margin is a little note as follows:]

March 10 days

Apl 30

May 3 due

43

24 Mar 1777 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 24th. March 1777

Mr. Mulcaster

Yours of the 19th. I duly received and am glad the Work is likely to be got mostly finished against the time when the Pay is to be made. What you propose as to the Refiners, Reducers & Slag Smelters is the only Method that can be observed in case the Work shd. not be done at the Pay, & to which there cannot be the least Objection, and after they have all finished, the Operation may then be made out to take in the whole to the End of the Years Quantity.

The Shaft as you observe had best stand til Mr. Hilton sees it, and as to Henderson & Coulson I think it is perfectly clear they shd. both leave us, but that need not be 'til after the Pay unless they could in the mean time provide for themselves, & I wish they could. I am

Your &c

N.W. Junr

4 Apr 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr. John Holmes

Farnacres 4th April 1777

Dear Sir

I have this day drawn upon you for £182..12..2 being the Amount of 604 ½ Ounces of Bullion at 6s – 1/2d pr Ounce

This Weeks Carrier will bring you, I expect, a Box containing about 640 Ounces of Bullion. I have not yet seen it.

The Bill is pay.ble 30 days after date. I am much hurried in preparing for our Journey on the Rect. of the Hospitals Rents & desire you'll excuse haste. I am

Dear Sir Your &c

N.W Junr

Farnacres 4th. April 1777

Sir Thirty days after date pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint One Hundred and Eighty Two Pounds Twelve Shillings and Two Pence Value received – as advised by Sir Your humble Servants Walton & Smeaton
To Mr. Holmes London

[In the margin is written] Apl.26 May <7> due

27 Apr 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr. John Holmes

Farnacres 27 April 1777

Dear Sir

The London Carrier who set out yesterday will bring you a Box containing 640 $\frac{1}{4}$ Ounces of [struck out: 'Bullion'] Fine Silver which hope you'll receive safe and are
Yr &c. W & S

4 May 1777 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 4th May, 1777

Mr Mulcaster

We have reced. yours of the 30th Ult. and shall return your Rect. for Mrs. Brown's Rent which you gave when we were at Hexham. The Error you mention shall be rectified the first opportunity. Hope you'll remember that no new Lead is to be delivered but all the old or Lead of last year and then stop till all is got to Newcastle so as to enable us to make a Lead Carriers pay. If Chrisr Nicholson of Woodhall Mill sends for Lead you may let him have it in his turn with other Carriers. As soon as we can spare time your Farming busyness shall be attended to. When Mr Hilton comes down shall fix with him what is necessary about the Staple and send Nail Rods. We are

Yours &c NW Junr. J.S

PS A Pig of Lead having been found at Dilston we have given directions to Mr. Labourne to send you about three Pounds of it and desire you will make two Assays each from a Pound of Lead.

9 May 1777 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 9th. May 1777.

Mr. Mulcaster.

As we cannot properly determine what to do as to the inclosing the Dam at Langley South Common till we have the Measure round the Dam where a Wall or Fence may be fixed we desire you will measure it with a Chain and let us know the first Opportunity how many Chains & Links it is.

The Walling of the Staple as we have mentioned before shall be attended to when Mr. Hilton comes here as also the Nail Rodds.

With regard to the dividing the Inclosure for the Refiners & Reducers, you will get it finished without delay in such way as you find most convenient And we desire the Barn may be got forward with all dispatch the Door Cases to be of Stone.

We approve of what you have done in paying the Workmen for Leading, Winning & Walling where the Work is finished And the Directions given you last by Mr. Smeaton about fencing off the Quarry on the Common are to be observed.

We inclose you the Pay Bill which is made a Copy of that we have and return you the Receipt which you gave on Mrs Brown's Account.

As soon as you have finished the Delivery of the Lead of last year the Carriage as we have desired before must be stopped and the Carriers pressed to get all in, and you will after the Carriage is put a Stop to send us an Account of the Quantity of each sort of Lead delivered to each Carrier.

Have not yet had time to examine the Operations or to draw up the Terms for the Farmers at Langley Mill to sign.

Pray be examining when you find an Opportunity who besides the Hospital's Tenants can give an Account about the Enjoyment of Eatage on Lees Fell, but don't give yourself any Trouble except what may accidentally fall in the Way. What we would to know is the Names, & Places of Abode of any Old Persons who have resided in the Neighbourhood of the Lees Fell many years ago, and are now removed to a distance so as to have at present Nothing to do with the Enjoyment thereon. We are

Yours &c N.W. Junr. J.S.

16 May 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 16th May 1777

Dear Sir

We duly reced. your Letters of the 26th Ulto and 10th inst. and this day have drawn upon you at Thirty Days Date for £382:13:4 being the amount of 1280 Ounces of Bullion at 5s/11d $\frac{3}{4}$ p[er] Ounce.

	Ounces
The Bullion wch Arrived with you on the 26th Ulto weighed	639 $\frac{3}{4}$
Do 10 inst. Weighed	640 $\frac{3}{4}$
	1280

We are Your's &c NW Junr J S

Farnacres 16th May 1777

Sir Thirty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Three Hundred and Eighty Two Pounds Thirteen Shillings and fourpence Value received – as advised by Sir Your Humble Servants W & S

To Mr John Holmes London

[Marginal note:] May .. 15, June .. 18 due

27 May 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Ibbetson

To John Ibbetson Esqr.

Farnacres 27th May 1777

Sir

Inclosed you will receive the Langley Lead Mill Account from the 3d August 1776 to and with the 29th March 1777 upon which there is a profit of £899:19:9 $\frac{1}{4}$ no Mill Rent being Charged in the present Account which in our Letter accompanying the Mill account of last Year dated the 7th November 1776, we stated was unusual to be allowed in Mining Undertakings; after the outlay with all Interest thereon had been cleared by the profit attending it: and this we shewed to have been the Case the 1st May 1773. What we offered having met with the approbation of the Board, we have stated the Account now sent accordingly. We also inclose an Account shewing the Stock of Ore remaining at the Lead Mines in the Manor of Alston Moor after finishing the Carriage in 1775. the Quantity of Duty Ore raised in the said Manor from Michs. 1775 to Michs. 1776 the Quantity of Ore Carried to the Mill in 1776 and the Stock remaining at the Mines after ending that Years Carriage amounting to 945 Bings: 3 11/30 Cwt.

We are Yours &c.

NW Junr. J.S.

30 May 1777 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 30th May 1777

Mr Mulcaster

The Errors in the Operations are all set right so the whole agrees now and we are glad you have found out the Lead that which was short.

Pray Push the Carriers to get all into the Warehouse at Newcastle as fast as possible and amongst the rest Thomas Ions. If any new Lead is delivered before the Old is all sent off it shd be kept separate.

The Memorandum about the Farms cannot yet be got done.

This day we send you a Bunch of Nail Rods of the Strongest sort.

We have ordered Mr Labourne to send you the Pig of Lead found at Dilston it being refineable

Much obliged by your sending us the names of the Old People & shall be glad to hear further from you on this head as to what you hear as to their Credibility.

We are pleased to hear the Division Walls are got up and that you are going on with Walling off the Quarry on the Fell.

We approve of the Prices about the Barn and desire you'll proceed. The Door Cases must be of Stone and the Lime we would have all made up with Slags.

We are yours &c W & S.

PS Mr Walton will be at Langley Mill abot. Friday the 13th of June & stay till the Lees Bounder Riding is over

15 Jul 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 15th July 1777

Dear Sir

The Carrier who set out from Newcastle on Saturday the 5th will bring you 722 Ounces of Silver Bullion which desire you'll be so good as excuse my not giving you more early notice of it. I am with best respects

Dr Sir Yours &c

NW Junr.

PS You will be so kind as keep the Inclosed 'till Brother Smeaton arives in London. I have sent a duplicate to Buxton and send this to you least any miscarriage shd. happen.

26 Jul 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 26th July 1777

Dear Sir

I was favoured with your Letter of the 21st Inst. on Thursday and have this day drawn on you for £218:17:2 being the amount of 722 Ounces of Bullion at 6s/ . $\frac{3}{4}$ p[er] Ounce – a half Penny over.

I am most truly concerned for the sad Misfortune to my Brother and indeed this further instance among the many that have happened lately shews there is almost no trusting to any appearances whatever and it proves in the Strongest manner how extremely dangerous it is when a Man ever deviates a Hairs breadth from the line of Honesty.

I am &c NW Junr

PS I am Sorry you are likely to lose one of Your Customers for Silver but the Chasm could not be avoided, for having finished our Work earlyer this Year than Common and not getting new Ore in so soon as we expected we were by that prevented from

taking off any Silver 'til near about the time the 722 Ounces were sent you. I expect another Cake next Week the Weight I cannot guess at. The Bill is payable 30 days after date.

Farnacres 26th July 1777

Sir

Thirty Days after date pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Two Hundred and Eighteen Pounds Seventeen Shillings and two pence – Value received as advised by Sir Your Hble Servts W & S

To Mr John Holmes London

[Marginal note:]

July 5

Augt 28 <due>

33

8 Aug 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Smeaton

[Note: This is a note of a letter rather than a copy letter]

Farnacres 8th Augst. 1777

Wrote to Mr Smeaton and advised him of having sent Mr Holmes 722 Ounces of Silver by the Carrier who set out from Newcastle last Saturday

9 Aug 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Salter

Farnacres 9th Augst 1777

To Mr Jno Salter

Dr Sir

I desire you will be so obliging as discharge the inclosed Note of Mr Finches for Bone Ashes amount. to £44 - - 4d which compleats the order for this Year. The sooner the Note is paid the better.

This Family join in best wishes to you and Mrs. Salter and I am for Mr Smeaton & Self

Dr Sir Yours &c

NW Junr.

9 Aug 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Finch

Farnacres 9th Augst 1777

To Mr Jno Finch

Sir

I have this day wrote to Mr Salter desiring he will pay you £44 - - 4d being in full of this Years Accot. for Bone Ashes. I am for Mr Smeaton & Self

Your Hble Servt

NW Junr.

15 Aug 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Ibbetson

Extract of a Letter to Jno Ibbetson Esqr. dated Farnacres 15 Augt. 1777

I am concerned when I acquaint you that one of the workmen at Langley Mill has lost a Cow by the Lead Mill Smoke in a part of the Ground which it was expected would not have been so much damaged as to have produced any fatal effect and a Cow belonging to another Workman has been much hurt from the same cause. It is very extraordinary but is an undoubted fact that tho' Langley Mill is in a more exposed situation than any other Lead Mill in the Country, from which it was naturally inferred less damage would be done by the Poisonous quality of its Smoke than was found from other Lead Mills yet the very contrary of this happens as every days experience shews us and I am certain it will be found necessary to throw off some more Ground as waste about the Mill.

I have the satisfaction to think that the work wch has been done in consequence of the Boards order of the 3d Augst last will prove very salutary and afford an opportunity of accommodating the Workmen with Ground less liable to be affected than that from whence the present damage has arose but I must beg leave to postpone saying any thing more upon this head 'till Mr Smeaton and I can consult together upon the matter which we will do the first opportunity and afterwards will give our Sentiments as to what seems further Necessary to be done by way of preventing damage as much as may be in future.

1 Sep 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr Jno Holmes

Farnacres 1st Sepr. 1777

Dear Sir

I was duly favoured with your Letter of the 16th Ulto and on Saturday drew upon you for £214:6:10 being one half penny less than the Amount of 722 Ounces of Fine

Silver at 5s/11 1/4d p[er] Ounce. This Weeks Carrier will bring you a Cake of Fine Silver weight about 830 Ounces but I have not yet weighed it. I am

Dr Sir Yours &c

NW Junr.

Farnacres 30th Augst. 1777

Sr. Thirty Days after Date pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell, Cookson, Carr,
Widdrington & Saint Two Hundred & fourteen Pounds Six Shillings & Tenpence Value
Reced as advised by Sir Your Hble Servts W & S
To Mr [struck through: 'John'] Holmes London

[Marginal note]:

Augt 1

Septr 30

Octr. 2d due

29 Sep 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 29th Septemr. 1777

Sir

On my arrival from the Northern parts of the County of Northumberland where I had been about a Week I last Night was favoured with your Sons Letter of the 20th. inst. and have this day drawn upon you for £239.- being the amount of 830 Ounces of fine Silver at 6s/- p[er] Ounce after deducting £10.- the Value of a Newcastle Bank Note sent in your Sons Letter above mentioned. The Bill is payable. Thirty Days after Date. This Weeks Carrier will bring you another Box of fine Silver abt. 787 Ounces but I have not yet seen or weighed it so have only the report of the Refiner. I am

Dr Sir Yours &c

NW Junr.

PS The Spectacles are arrived and shall be taken care of

Farnacres 29th Septemr. 1777

Sir

Thirty days after date pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell, Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Two Hundred and Thirty Nine Pounds – Value received as advised by Sir Your Humble Servants W & S
To Mr Holmes London

[Marginal note]:

Septr 1

Octor.31

Novr. 1 due

23 Oct 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Farnacres 23d Octor. 1777

To Mr John Holmes

Dear Sir

Tuesdays Post brought us the favor of Mr Holmes's Letter of the 10th. inst and we have this day drawn upon you for £237:17:9 being the Amount of 787 ½ Ounces of fine Silver at 6s – ½ p[er] Ounce. We are

Yours &c NW Junr JS.

Farnacres 23d Octor 1777

Sir

Thirty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint Two Hundred and Thirty Seven Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Nine Pence – Value Received as advised by Sir Your Humble Servants Walton & Smeaton
To Mr Holmes London

[Marginal note]:

Octor. 8

Novr. 25 due

15 Nov 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Ibbetson

To Jno. Ibbetson Esqr.

Farnacres 15th Novr. 1777

Sir

Mr. Walton's Letter of the 15th. August last acquainted the Board of some Damage that had happened to the Cows of the Smelters by the Smoke of Langley Mill in a part where it was not expected; observing that Langley Mill from its open and airy Situation instead of being less noxious than other Mills of the like kind, as was expected, it is found that the Damage by the Smoke is extended more widely, and therefore that it would become necessary to throw off some more Ground near the Mill to prevent as much as possible a Damage to anyone. Upon viewing and further considering this Subject we are of Opinion that if a pieces of Ground containing between 12 and 13

Acres which are worth about £3 p[er]Annum, were fenced off so as to exclude Cattle of all kinds from Graizing upon them; we have great reason to hope, that, with proper care we shall have no more Complaints of the Kind abovementioned. It appears that the Pasture Land belonging to Mr. Fall which has been this last year fenced off and proposed to be eaten with Sheep, in manner mentioned in our Letter of the 23d July 1776 will answer the End, and the Tenant seems satisfied therewith; but yet at the End of the present Lease of the Langley Castle Farms which expires in 1779, we would recommend that the Sheep Pasture abovementioned which lies next the Mill Grounds be excepted and reserved out of the General Letting, and Lett to the Lead Mill Agent and Smelters, Inhabitants of the Langley Mill Housing, at the Price of 5s/- pr. Acre which we look upon to be at or abt. its Value.

We have already mentioned, that Mr Fall is now very well contented, as to the Occupation of his Ground, from Damage of the Mill in future; but he still continues his Application for an Allowance on Account of what is past. You will remember, that some time since vizt. in 1775 he presented a Petition to the Board; and in our Report thereon, finding a considerable Aptitude in the Farmers thereabouts to attribute every Disorder of their Cattle to the Mill Reek, or Smoke; tho' we were very far from supposing the whole of his Complaint groundless; yet as we looked upon it as very likely to multiply Complaints, by too readily making him a Recompence; and as at the next General Letting we proposed the several Takers of Farms to take them subject to this Inconvenience; we looked upon it as best to make him an Allowance for the whole together at the Expiration of his Lease; and therefore we gave him this Answer; that his Case was before the Board, and would meet with its due Consideration at the End of his Term; when in case he had any further matter of Complaint, the whole might be considered together.

Our Letter of the 17th Novemr. 1776 advised the Board to comply with the Request of Mr. Mulcaster the Mill Agent and Workmen at Langley Mill to build a small Barn for the Use of those who occupy the small Farms there which we estimated to cost £25. -.- besides the Leading, which we then thought should be done at the Expence of the Parties who were to use it, & which was agreed to by the Board by their Minute of the 7th. December following; but as it was not found convenient to do the Work by Contract; it was obliged to be done by days Work & the amount including Materials exclusive of Carriage comes to £27.11s.1d and the Carriage to £7.18s.3d in the whole £35.9s.4d. Now as none of the Parties to enjoy it, have any Team or Carriage they could not perform the Carriage otherwise than by hiring; and therefore on reconsidering this Matter, as it would be so much money out of their Pockets, and that they are only Tenants from year to year, and subject to be removed at pleasure we thought it would not be proper to make them pay any Sum of Money which it might be thought hard for them to lose the Benefit of, in case of Death or Necessity of discharg[ing] any of them. We find they will be ready to pay 5 per Cent upon what the Cost has exceeded the Original Estimate; if the Board shall so think proper; but as we plainly see that it is much for the Interest of the Hospital to have a competent

number of Resciant's upon the Place, we wd. wish that every reasonable Incouragement be given them; and that they be permitted to enjoy this Barn without paying Interest.

We must also acquaint the Board that as the Receivers often find it expedient to pass several Nights at the Mill at a time, they have frequently been in want of Room for the Horses of themselves, Clerks, and Servants; as also of the Moormaster coming there to meet them: and as a little more Room for the Cattle of our little Farmers would be also convenient, it occurred to us, while the Barn was building, to add the further Convenience of a small Byer and Stable, for which there not being time to get an order of Board, without losing the Opportunity we took upon us to get done and the whole Expen'ce Carriage included, comes to £13.18s.8d All which we hope the Board will approve.

We were made very happy in receiving the Boards Minute of the 7th Decemr. last which expressed the Satisfaction of the Board in finding the Average profit of Smelting and Refining upon the last four Years so considerable as £1184. p[er] Ann.: after defraying all the Expenditure upon the Mill: and though the profit of a Lead Mill must necessarily be subject to considerable variations; which cannot be foreseen, yet we flatter ourselves this undertaking will always afford a reasonable Profit: and as the Profits that have been made were greatly owing to the Personal Diligence and fidelity of Mr Peter Mulcaster our Agent, we have for sometime meditated the recommending him still further to the Board than has been already done and which we now do with the greater pleasure as it is without his knowledge or application and though he appears perfectly easy and contented in his present situation yet as we think something further due to his Merit we look upon it as doing our duty to promote his Interest.

Mr. Mulcaster was taken into the Hospitals Service in the Year 1768 upon a Salary of £30 . . p[er] Annum with an allowance of House Rent and Fire Coals, and some Acres of Land at a moderate Rent; with an Expectation however given that when the Governor & Company raised the Salaries of their Mill Agents which was then expected his was also to be raised. On this occasion we applyed to the Board by our Letter of the 10th Novemr. 1770 to the following effect.

'We have had between two and three Years Tryal of Mr Mulcaster and believe him perfectly Honest. He is Sober, diligent carefull, attentive, and tractable, in short we look upon the Commissioners and ourselves, as happy in the Choice of this person having the Pleasure to think that the Hospitals Lead Mill notwithstanding its new Establishment is upon as good a footing and the busyness done upon as good Terms, as any in this Country; and are not without hopes still further to improve it, by the care and attention of our Agent to the Minutest Article.'

Upon the above recommendation the Board was pleased to raise his Salary to £50 . . p[er] Annum which (if it was possible) we doubt not was a proportionate Spur to his Industry, and it is with great Satisfaction that now after 7 Years more trial of him we have not only to confirm but even if we could to Strengthen the foregoing Character; and to say that after the Tryal of Numberless Experiments partly his Own and partly what we have suggested to him; we have been so happy as to make considerable improvements in several of the processes; and the same attention is still pursuing

In truth the Exactness wherewith he keeps his accounts, and the clearness wherewith he does all his busyness is such, that with the Quantity of Practical busyness which lies upon him we believe that we should scarcely have found another, that could have acquitted himself of the practical part of the Agency without having had a Clerk to have taken that part of the Busyness; we therefore beg leave with great deference to offer our opinion, that if the Board will be pleased to raise his Salary to £80 p[er] Annum it will not only be a proper acknowledgement of his Service but tend to promote the Hospitals Interest in their Lead concerns. & we are

Sir Yours &c

NWJunr. JS

25 Nov 1777 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr Jno Holmes

Farnacres 25th Novemr 1777

Dear Sir

On Friday last we sent to the London Carrier a Box containing 841 Ounces of Silver Bullion which we expect you will receive on Saturday the 6th. of next Month and hope it will come to a good Markett. We are

Dr Sir Yours &c

NW Junr JS

2 Jan 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

[Note: John Smeaton is no longer one of the Northern Receivers of the Greenwich Hospital. He has been replaced by John Critchloe Turner.]

To Mr Jno Holmes

Farnacres 2d Jany. 1778

Dear Sir

I was duly favoured with your Letter of the 6th and this day have rece'd yours of the 30th Ulto. I should certainly have acknowledged the recet. of yours of the 6th Ulto long before this but have been absolutely overpowered with busyness ever since.

This day I have drawn upon you for £273:7:2 being for the following particulars

841 Ounces of Fine Silver at 6s/2d p[er] Ounce £259:6:2

Balance of Accot. for Lottery Tickets 14:1:-

£273:7:2

The Bill is payable 30 days after date

On Saturday the 20th Ult. there was a Box sent you containing two Cakes of Bullion & some small pieces weighing in the whole 875 Ounces No. 1 436 and No. 2 439 Ounces. I am

Dr Sir Yours &c

NW Junr.

PS You are desired to direct to Messrs Walton & Turner Farnacres Gateshead

Farnacres 2d Jany. 1778

Sir Thirty days after Date pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Two Hundred and Seventy three pounds Seven Shillings and two pence Value received – as advised by Sir Your Hble Servt NW Junr
To Mr John Holmes London

6 Jan 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr Jno Holmes

Farnacres 6th Jany. 1778

Dear Sir

This days Post brought me your Letter of the 3d inst and I have this day drawn upon you for £269:15:10 being the Amount of 875 Ounces of fine Silver at 6s/2d p[er] Ounce. The Bill is payable Thirty Days after Date. I am Sorry to hear of the Scarcity of Money, as in case of its continuing it will affect Trade very much

The Lamb came safe and very fine for which pray accept our best thanks and I am with wishes of many happy Years to you and yours

Dr Sir Yours &c

NW Junr.

PS My New Brothers Name is John Crichloe Turner who at present lives at No 29 Essex Street. I am Glad to acquaint you my Wife is much better than she was.

Farnacres 6th. Jany. 1778

Sir Thirty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint Two Hundred and Sixty Nine Pounds Fifteen Shillings and Ten Pence Value received – as advised by Sir Your Humble Servt. NW Junr.
To Mr Holmes London

11 Jan 1778 Nicholas Walton to William Brown

To Mr. Wm. Brown Junr.

Farnacres 11th. Janry. 1778

Dear Sir

As we have reason to think the Throckley Coals called the Free Coal may, the small part of them be usefull to us at the Lead Mill belonging to Greenwich Hospital, I shall be much obliged by your giving Directions that any Person coming with a Note from Mr. Mulcaster of Langley Mill may have of the right sort such as you send to Bladen but I beg you'll be so good as give strict Orders they are of the right Sort – the small part of the Free Coal – ready Money must be required by you as I have directed it shall be paid. I am wth. wishes of many happy years to yourself, Mrs Brown & Family in which I am joined by all here

Dear Sir Yours &ca

N.W.Junr.

11 Jan 1778 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 11th. Janry. 1778

Mr. Mulcaster

I have received both your Letters one of the 1st. the other of the 9th. and have wrote to Mr. Wm. Brown Junr. to let you have some of the Coals you mention – As to the Price it is immaterial but ready Money is to be pd. for them so you will send Money accordingly; & it will be necessary to give a Line to Mr. Wm. Brown Junr. desiring to have [underscored: 'the small of the Free Coal'] as I have acquainted him you will do so, and also that ready Money will be paid. The other Matters of Business we must let alone till we see each other, which will I hope be on Thursday or afterwards this Week. I am much concerned for the Loss of the poor Man at Stublick Colliery – I doubt they want Skill

I am Yours &ca

N.W. Junr.

29 Jan 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

[Note: This is a note of the contents of a letter rather than a copy of the actual letter]

29 January 1778 Advised Mr. John Holmes that he would receive a Box by this Weeks Carrier containing abt. 635 Ounces of Bullion. The real weight was 635 1/2

20 Feb 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr. Holmes

Farnacres 20th. February 1778.

Dear Sir

Tuesdays Post brought me your Letter of the 14th. Inst and I have this Day drawn upon you for £195.5.8 being the Amount of 635 ½ Ounces of Bullion at 6s/1 ¾ d pr. Ounce. Bill 30 Days after Date. I am

Dr. Sir Yours &ca

N:W: Junr:

Farnacres 20th Febr'y. 1778

Sir

Thirty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell, Cookson, Carr, Widdrington, & Saint One Hundred and Ninety Five Pounds Five Shillings & Eight Pence. Value Received – as advised by Sir Your Humble Servt. Nichs Walton Junr.

To Mr. Holmes London

13 Apr 1778 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Mulcaster

London 13th April 1778.

Mr. Mulcaster

Having a little time in hand I now sit down to acknowledge the Recet. of yours of the 19th, 25th, & 31 January, 3d, 4th, 14, 25, and 26 February and 2d Ult. since which none of your Letters have been sent me.

I am obliged to you for the trouble you had, about Margt. Jackson as also about Fourstones & Walwick Grange and for your Information therein.

The several Circumstances you mention concerning the reducing shew certainly that the Workmen are ignorant but I hope by the time I get to Langley Mill I shall hear that we have improved in that Branch and I shall be glad to find our new Colliery is likely to be of use at the Lead Mill.

The Bricks & Clay you acknowledge the Rect. of & I doubt not you received the Iron Pot in due time.

The Silver you mentioned in your Letter of the 25th. of February came safe to hand & is now in London & I hear there is another Box now at Newcastle or on the Road for London.

I am sorry to find Rampgill ore falls short; if there shd. appear to be any thing unfair by which we are taken advantage of, a severe Example, will be necessary: but we must take care to be clear in our Ground. In proceeding with the Paragraph which

occasioned my taking Notice of the falling short, I have the Pleasure to find this Matter is likely to turn out more agreeably than I expected.

The Accident to Thomas Falls Filley I am concerned at, but it cannot be helped now; and as it seems necessary to be as guarded as possible I have recommended that the two Farms at Langley Castle shd. be in one and Falls new Pasture reserved for Langley Mill, & this I flatter myself will answer the End, as it will give an Opportunity of changing the Cattle from one Situation to another as occasion may require, so as to keep them from the Ground at times when affected or rather infected by the Smoke. The Board of Commissioners of Greenwich Hospital much approve of Letting the two farms in one and letting the Ground lately inclosed for the Use of Langley Mill, so that I hope we shall be in a better Situation after this new Regulation takes place than ever we were before.

I shall be glad to hear Mr. Thornton has employed the men you mention, but if they expected too high a Price, he was undoubtedly right in what he did tho' perhaps Brown and Telford might behave ill to the rest.

I expect to set forward from hence about Saturday or Sunday next or perhaps it may be Monday and I desire to see you at Farnacres on Sunday the 26 Inst at Dinner unless you hear from me again to the Contrary: <tho> Dinner I shall wish you to be at Farnacres on the Sunday Morning. I am

Yours &ca.

N:W: Junr.

PS I have the great Satisfaction to acquaint you that Mr. Ibbotson, Mr. Hicks, & Mr. Stuart have all asked after you & glad they have made you happy by adding to your Salary.

19 Apr 1778 Nicholas Walton to Thornton

[Note: This letter has been crossed out in the letter book]

To Mr. Thornton

London 19th April 1778

Mr. Thornton

John Watson is at Liberty to sublet either his Farm at Eastbrokenheugh or the Farm late Thomas Watsons at Allerwash provided he Let to a Person of good Character & Circumstances; You will therefore see to that and not give him leave unless you are perfectly satisfied. I am

Yours &ca

N:W:Junr.

2 May 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

[Note: This note at the foot of the entry for this date seems to be a record of the calculation of the sum in the letter.]

To Mr. John Holmes.

Farnacres 2d. May 1778

Dear Sir

I am favoured with your Letter of the 28 Ultro. which I thank you for, and am obliged to you for the friendly Information contained therein.

This Day I shall draw upon you payable Thirty days after date for Three Hundred and Eighty Two Pounds Eight Shillings and four Pence being the Balance of Account as stated in your sd. Letter.

I had the Satisfaction to meet with all in good Health at this place on Monday last in the Morning at ½ past Eleven o Clock which you may be assured was very agreeable to me and we all join in every good Wish to you & yours and I am for Mr. Turner & Self

Dear Sir Your most Humble Servt.

N:W Junr.

PS. I beg you'll excuse Brevity as so many things have got in Arrear that I can scarcely tell how to turn myself

Farnacres 2d May 1778.

Sir Thirty days after date Pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Three Hundred and Eighty Two Pounds Eight Shillings and Four Pence Value Received as advised by Sir Your Humble Servant Nich Walton Junr.

Mr Jno: Holmes London

John Holmes Dr. to Messrs Walton & Turner

March 20th	520 Ounces of fine Silver at	6s/1 1/2 d	£159 5 –
April 24	877. Do of Do at	5s/10 1/2	257 12 4
			£416 17 4

P[er] Contra Credr.

		L	s	d
March 21st	Cash to Mr Walton	12	12	0
31	Mr Brown's Watch	0	5	0
April 3	Mrs. Waltons Do	0	6	0
13	Mr. Waltons Do	0	4	0
15	Cash to Mr Walton	21	0	0
25	Mr Brown's Seal	0	2	0
			34	9 0
	Remains due to Messrs. Walton & Co.		£382	8 4

28 Jun 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Finch

To Mr. Jno: Finch

Farnacres 28th: June 1778

I desire you will send One Hundred Casks of Bone Ashes as soon as you can, as they will be wanted. They must be directed to Messrs. Walton & Turner to the care of Mr. Henry Airey, Merchant Newcastle Mr. Salter will pay for them as hitherto he has done. I am for Mr. Turner (who succeeded Mr: Smeaton) and Self

Sir Your Humble Servt.

N:W: Junr.

PS. Please to direct to Messrs. Walton & Turner at Farnacres near Gateshead & I shd. be glad of two Lines by return of Post when I may expect the first 50 Casks

3 Jul 1778 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

We have recd. yours and approve of what you propose as to Mr Wilson but if you get the Cynders of him don't pay him 'til you hear further rather let him stay for his Money 'til the Lead Mill pay.

The Recets. for the Harsondale Slates &c. we have reced. and will pay you the Amount being £6:5:11 the first opportunity which will be the 17th July inst. at the Meeting for the Alston Road which we desire you'll attend and we shall then pay you the Forty Pounds we borrowed so pray bring the Rect. or Note which was given for the £70. We are in great haste

Yours &c

W & T

3d July 1778

4 Jul 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr. John Holmes

Farnacres 4th July 1778.

Dear Sir

This Weeks Carrier will bring you a Box containing 605 Ounces of Bullion which hope you will receive safe and I am &c.

NW Jnr.

7 Jul 1778 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 7th. July 1778.

Mr. Mulcaster

I duly reced. yours with the Papers abt. Deanraw Colliery for which we stand indebted to you £21:9:1 being the Balance of the Payments after deducting the Coals.

I desire you will immediately look thro' the Wood at Crookhill in Land Ends Farm and the other Wood cut by Mr. Thornton & Mr. Sample and mark off and take what is wanted for Treddles. I dare say if you cannot get them in Langley Barony (but I hope you will get them at Crook hill) you will get them at Highwoods. If you shd. however be disappointed in getting right good Stuff, I wd. have you go with Mr. Thornton and mark and cut when the second Sap is on as much of proper Wood as you want in Donnetley Wood, but pick them out where the Wood stands thickest. I am for Mr. Turner & Self

Yours &c

N:W: Junr:

8 Jul 1778 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Mulcaster

Farnacres 8th July 1778.

Mr. Mulcaster

On the 1st of Novemr. last you pd. for three Pigs of Lead sold at the Mill Vizt.

Mr. Bullock 1 – As I recollect this was sold at Hexham or somewhere
between the Mill & Newcastle. It is not taken Notice of in
the Operations.

Mr. Jobling 1

Edw. Robson 1

The three last you paid for are as follows.

May 13 Dan.l Coats 1

Mr. Jobling 2 These two were sold since the 11th of April as they are not in
the Operations before.

I desire you'll write to me about the above and let me have the particular times when the Lead was sold & also the Copy of the Operations from 11th April to 30th May which I have lost. I am

Your &c

N:W: Junr:

PS. I have found the Operations & on examining don't find Mr. Joblings two last Pigs are taken Notice of so you will explain this.

I observe there were a Mill two Pair of <...pes> and a Shovel as also 4 Pounds of Steel got for Deanraw Colliery be so good as take care of the Materials. – Also two Kibbles & the Corves.

There are no Rects. For Ann Browns Carriage of the Coals &c. from Deanraw to Langley Mill which there shd. have been to the Amount of £1:15:10. & therefore instead of being indebted to you £21:9:1 on Accot. of this Colliery it will be so much less as is equal to her Charge.

You have sent two Rects. For Carriage of Wood from Dilston & Langley Mill to Alston, amounting to £15:16:6 which shall pay you for at Meeting on Friday Morning the 17th Instant & beg you'll be at Hexham by Seven o Clock that Morning & I will settle and pay you everything so pray bring the Note I gave you on which there is £40...due to you.

12 Jul 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Finch

To Mr: Jno. Finch

Farnacres 12th July 1778

Sir

I have this day recd. your Letter of the 9th Inst. and have desired Mr. Salter to pay you the Money for the 100 Casks of Bone Ashes, and you'll be so good as let us have 50 more as soon as convenient. I am for Mr: Turner & Self Sir

Your &ca

N:W: Junr.

12 Jul 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Salter

To Mr. Jno: Salter

Farnacres 12th July 1778

Dear Sir

I give you the trouble of this Letter to desire you will pay Mr. Finch for 100 Casks of Bone Ashes which he has sent on Mr. Turners & my Account to Newcastle & as he is to send 50 more Casks, when he does so, you will also be so good as pay for them.

I am Dr Sr. Your &ca

N:W: Junr.

PS. Be so good as forward the inclosed <per> Penny Post

15 Aug 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr Jno Holmes

Farnacres 19 Augst 1778

Dear Sir

On Saturday last we drew a Bill upon you for £175:4 being the Amount of Six Hundred & Five Ounces of Bullion at 5s/9 ½ d and one half penny Over. The Bill is payable 20 days after date.

You receive a Letter inclosed relative to the Boring Tools by which you'll see where they are to be met with but Bro Smeaton having left this part of the Country before I reced. your last favour I had not an opportunity of saying anything to him about them.

The Watch my Son likes very well & I will settle for it when the next Cake of Bullion is drawn for. I am

Dr Sir Your's &c

NW Junr.

Farnacres 15th. Augt. 1778

Sir Twenty days after date Pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell, Cookson, Carr, Widdrington and Saint One Hundred and Seventy Five Pounds, Four Shillings Value reced. as advised by Sir Yr. Humble Servants W & T
To Mr. Jno. Holmes London

24 Aug 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr Jno Holmes

Farnacres 24th. Augt. 1778

Dear Sir

I think I neglected mentioning in my last that you wd. receive a Cake of Bullion by the Carrier who set out from Newcastle on Saturday the 15th Inst. weight 541 ½ Ounces & I therefore now trouble you with this. I am

Dear Sir Yours &c.

NW Junr.

4 Sep 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr. John Holmes

Farnacres 4th Sepr. 1778

Dear Sir

Yours of the 11th and 29th. Ult. are now before me and below is your Accot. for the Balance of which I have this day drawn upon you payable Thirty Days after date and am for Mr Turner & Self

Dr Sir Your's &c NW Junr.

Due from Mr Jno Holmes

To the Commissioners & Govrs. Of Greenwich Hospl.

For 541 1/2 Ounces of Fine Silver at 5s: 9 1/2d £156 16 2

Due from Mr Walton Junr. To Mr Holmes

Augt. 11th For a Watch for my Son Thomas £6 6

Deduct an Old Watch 1:11:6

£4 14 6

Balance £152 1 8

PS I hope you have found the Boring Rods

Sir

Farnacres 4th Septemr. 1778

Thirty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint One Hundred and Fifty Two Pounds One Shilling and Eight Pence Value

received as advised by Sir Your Humble Servts. Walton & Turner

Mr Jno Holmes London

14 Sep 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Farnacres 14th. Septmr. 1778

To Mr. Jno. Holmes

Dear Sir

On Saturday we delivered a Box to the London Carrier directed to you containing 636 ½ Ounces of Silver Bullion which you will we hope receive safe on Saturday Sennt., and are

Sir Your &ca

Walton & Turner

20 Sep 1778 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 20 Sept, 1778

Mr Mulcaster

I was really much surprized at receiving your Letter of the 16th. Inst. and beg you will take the first opportunity of going to Alston and seeing Mr. Hilton and Mr Percival together about the Ore wantg. from the Companys Mines which was upon the 26th. of August as mentioned in the inclosed Paper conformable to the Accounts as settled by Myself and which we must abide by, and insist upon the Duty being delivered accordingly and I must desire to hear from you and Mr Hilton jointly as soon as possible after you and he have been with Mr Percival.

We cannot yet say when the Lead Mill Pay will be but suppose it will be towards the latter end of November but it is quite uncertain. I am Yours &c NW Junr.

PS There is only one thing that can possibly affect the Quantitys mentioned in the inclosed paper which is that Mr Percival may have over rated the Quantities raised in three Quarters ending at Midsummer but if he has done that it may be set right in the Michs. Quarter and ought not to make any Alteration in the Account as settled to the 26th August

24 Sep 1778 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 24th Sepr. 1778

Mr Mulcaster

Having examined your Operations we find a mistake in that ending 27 June & afterwards, your Stock at Guddamgill Burn Cross Vein South End No.2 appearing to be 18 Bings Short. You have here with extracts from the Several Operations which will enable you to set the matter right and we shall be glad to hear from you at any convenient time how the Operations are to be altered. We suppose altering the Stock would set all right but shall not do any thing til we hear from you.

Shawfoot Cross Vein is refineable as it produces by Assay 5 Oz:17pwts:14 Grs, 4 Tenths p[er] Fodder and we reckon 5 Ounces will do.

By a Letter reced. from Mr Hilton we hope the Ore delivery will all prove right but beg to hear from you. We are

Yours &c

W & T

2 Oct 1778 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 2d Oct 1778

Mr Mulcaster

I duly reced. your Letter of the 30th Ulto by your Brother this Morning and am sorry you have met with so great a disappointment in consequence of which I am also

disappointed. I however hope notwithstanding the distressing situation Mr Hilton has brought himself into that he will be able to Clear up the matter of the Carriage and Mr Turner and I are much obliged by your care on this occasion tho' it has not produced us the desired information.

I have rectified all the Errors in the Operations according to your Letter and have altered the Stock of Refineable Lead in Operation ending 29th August to 548 and the Total to 1215 and having gone thro' the September Operation I find that is right.

I am glad you have got some Slagg Hearth Stones at Woodhall and hope they will prove well and what you mention as to the Leading is perfectly agreeable.

I shall hope to hear from you or Mr Hilton very soon about the Ore in Arrear from the Companys Mines and in the meantime inclose you an Account shewing how it stands according to the Accounts which I settled when at Alston and by which I must abide as I am certain they are right according to the Quantities raised by the Company's Pay Bills and the Estimated Quantities for the half Year ending at Midsummer which last is the only part where there can be an error that is those Quantities for the half Year may have been set down too high but if it so surely the Michs. Quarter will make good the deficiency, or it must have been a strange Estimate, I am

Yours &c. NW Junr.

PS I beg the Carriage may be kept going as long as possible. I observe and you will see by the inclosed Accot. that we have got 2 Cwt. of Ore over from Crossgillhead & Cornriggs. The Duty on the Estimated Ore amounts to 1419 Bings

4 Oct 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr. John Holmes

Farnacres 4th October 1778

Dear Sir

On Friday last we drew upon you for £182.6.1 being the Amount of 636 ½ Ounces of Fine Silver at 5s/9 ¼ d p[er] Ounce after deducting £1.7. for the Ear Trumpet and Colours which you were so obliging as get for Mr. & Miss Walton. You will soon have another Cake of Bullion sent you as we expect one every day. We are

Dr. Sr Your &ca

W & T

Farnacres 2d October 1778

Thirty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint One Hundred and Eighty Two Pounds Six Shillings and One Penny Value

Received as advised by Walton & Turner

Mr. John Holmes London

8 Oct 1778 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 8th Octr. 1778

Mr Mulcaster

We are much pleased with your last Letter and perfectly agree with you in Sentiment. It will certainly be improper to go faster than the Lead Mine Adventurers in the Carriage that is we think it would be improper to be much ahead at any time or at any Mine but we would wish to be rather ahead than the Contrary and yet it would most assuredly be improper to go to excess in that; we therefore most cordially join with you in thinking that we should go on hand in hand as much as possible but never to allow the Lessees to remove Ore without paying Duty. We are obliged by your attention to the Carriage and hope the good treatment of the Galloways will enable them to carry a considerable further quantity this Season tho' the Weather now seems to break much. We have not yet got the Browngill Mines Accot. we however expect it by return of Mr Farrer. You will soon hear about the fixing of the pay & we are

Yours &c

W & T

PS. When Mr Farrer delivers this he will shew you our Letter to Mr. Hilton about the Carriage

16 Oct 1778 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 16 Octobr 1778

Mr Mulcaster

Yours of the 9th & 11th are now before me and our Sentiments are so much alike about the Guns that before I reced. your Letter I had given directions to pick out the two best Guns for your defence at Langley Mill which will be done as soon as the whole are cleaned which I expect will be in a few days or perhaps a Week & then I will take care to send them to you. The Silver is arrived. I am &c

NW Junr

PS. I hope youll carry upwards of 4000 Bings this Year.

23 Oct 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr. John Holmes

Farnacres 23d Octr. 1778

Dear Sir

On the 17th inst we sent you a Box of Bullion containing 789 Ounces, which I hope you'll receive safe and are,

Sir Your &c

W & T

23 Oct 1778 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 23d Octor. 1778

Mr. Mulcaster

Johnson had two Muskets delivd. for you on Monday which hope you'll receive safe.

We very much approve of your behaviour respecting the Alston Road Business.

We are Your &c

NW. Junr.

6 Nov 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr. Jno. Holmes

Farnacres 6th November 1778

Dear Sir

We have this day drawn upon you for £2264 being the Amount of 789 Ounces of Silver at 5s/8 ¾ d p[er] Ounce. The Bill is pay.ble Thirty Days after date. We expect you will receive a Cake of Bullion by the Carrier who sets out tomorrow, but cannot yet say positively as to that. We are

Dr Sr. Your &c.

W & T.

£226 4

Farnacres 6 November 1778

Thirty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Two Hundred and Twenty Six Pounds and Four Pence Value received as advised by Walton & Turner

To Mr. Jno. Holmes London

15 Nov 1778 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 15th Novemr. 1778

Mr Mulcaster

We duly recd. Yours as also the Bullion weight 515 ½ Ounces. We are sorry at the difference with the Carriers and think they certainly ought to have had an intimation what was intended before they were sent to carry for the Allen Mill Company. We think it is not material to have another Cake taken off before the Pay but wd rather wish it to be taken off than the Contrary. With regard to the price of Refining we wd have the Charge for it to continue to be 2s/10d p[er] Fodr. and 2d p[er] Fodder charged separate for the letting down the Tests. We are

Yours &c
W & T

23 Nov 1778 Nicholas Walton to Jonathan Hilton

To Messrs. Jona: & Josh: Hilton

Farnacres 23d: Novemr. 1778.

Mr Hiltons

I have reced. your Letter of the 22d Inst. with an Accot. of all the Lead Ore delivered from the Mines in the Manor of Alston Moor for Langley Mill this year amounting in the whole to 3924 Bings 6 21/30 cwt. I must beg Joe not to be later than Sunday in coming down with the Ore Accounts in order that the whole may be settled and entered in the Books at Farnacres & it will be necessary to have the Tickett Books brought for that purpose. I am the more pressing upon this Occasion as the Lead Mill Pay is far back and shd. be made without loss of time & that cannot well be done 'til Joe has been at Farnacres. I am glad to hear the Wallers get on so well & that the Houses are almost finished. I am for Mr. Turner & Self

Your &c
N.W.Junr.

PS. Since writing the above We have fixed the Lead Mill & Lead Carriers pay to be upon the 7th of next month and therefore it is absolutely necessary that we shd. see Joe on Sunday the 29th with all the Ore Accounts Ticket Books &c.

23 Nov 1778 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

[Note: the enclosed letter referred to in the postscript was presumably the letter to the Hilton brothers of the same date]

To Mr. Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 23d Novr. 1778

Mr. Mulcaster

We duly reced. yours of the 16th inst. and agreeable to your desire send this to acquaint you that we shall pay the Ore Carriers and Lead Mill Workmen on Monday the 7th. Day of next Month at the Golden Lion in Hexham & desire you will send us the Pay Bill to this place as soon as you can after Recet. hereof and we must desire you to send us at same time an Accot. shewing the Quantity of Ore carried from the Mines this year by each Carrier and distinguishing the Windy Brow and Cornriggs Quantities from the rest which will enable us to prepare for the Pay and indeed without the Pay Bill and Carriers Accot. being sent us we shall not be able to know what Money to bring.

We are much obliged by yours and your Brothers Attention to what we have mentd. & thank you both, enough seems to be done for the present, & the whole matter must rest 'til we receive Directions, which we every day expect. We are Your &c. W & T.

PS. Pray forward the inclosed the first Opportunity

27 Nov 1778 Nicholas Walton to Jonathan Hilton

To Mr. Jona: Hilton

Farnacres 27th Novemr. 1778

Mr: Hilton

As it will be attended with the greatest Inconvenience to us if Joe does not come here on Sunday we must beg of you to take care and see that he sets forward on Sunday Morning so as to be here in good time the same Day. Pray has any thing been done at Clargill Cleugh Colliery since we were at Hexham & settled the laying out of Ten Pounds?

We are Your &c
W. & T.

PS. We inclose you an Accot. of the Arrears of ancient &c. Rents amongst which you'll observe 1 ½ for a new Incroachment at Blagill.

This Charge of 1 ½ was made from the Survey of Mr. Joe Hilton &c. and he will find it so reported by himself if he will examine the Book of Reference and Plan in which Blagill Tenement is set down

27 Nov 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr. John Holmes

Farnacres 27th Novemr. 1778.

Dear Sir

We have reced. your Letter of the 24th and this Day draw upon you for £146.1.2 being the Amount of 515 ½ Ounces of fine Silver at 5s/8d p[er] Ounce. The Bill is payable Thirty Days after date. We are

Dr Sr. Your &c

W & T.

PS. We are sorry to find Trade so bad.

£146.1.2

Farnacres 27 Novemr. 1778

Thirty days after date Pay to the order of Messrs. Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint One Hundred and Forty Six pounds One Shilling and two Pence – Value reced. – as advised by Walton & Turner
To Mr. Jno. Holmes London

27 Nov 1778 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 27 Nov. 1778.

Mr. Mulcaster

I have reced. your Letter of the 26th. Inst. wth. the Operation & assays inclosed.

You need not trouble making out any new Operations on accot. of the Errors you mention as we can rectify the whole here & it will certainly be proper to include the Ore you mention from Guddamgill Burn X Vein S. End No.2 or any other which may arrive after it, the Operation to the 14th November Inst.

I shall hope to receive the Lead Mill Pay Bill very soon & beg you'll fill up every thing as far as you can; & the articles which you mention cannot be well put in except in our presence may stand blank 'til we come to Hexham which we shall certainly do on Sunday the 6 December against Dinner. I am for Mr. Turner & Self

Your &c

NW Junr.

PS. We have learnt not to be surprized at anything from Mr Hilton – We however expect him at this place on Sunday.

27 Nov 1778 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 27th. Novemr. 1778.

Mr Mulcaster

The Errors following I have rectified in the several Operations Vizt.

30 May Greengill West End Bouse	11.6	altrd to	11.4
Cutting	2.2	altrd to	2.4
26 Sept Cornriggs Bouse	3.2 10/30	altrd to	3.1 10/30
Cornriggs Stock	15.1 15/30	altrd to	14.7 15/30
Novr.14 Guddmgll Bn X Vn.No2 Bouse	131.6	altrd to	133.2
Cutting	19.6	altrd to	20.6
Stock	223.4	altrd to	226.-
Total Stock	1766.7 21/30	altrd to	1769.3 21/30

The following shall let alone 'til I hear from you

Stock of Refined Lead 26 Sept		376
Refined Lead produced 1st Cake in Nov. Operation	414	
2d Cake Do	953	
3d Cake Do	467	1834
		2210
Sent for Newcastle & sold		1237
Stock shd. be		973
Stock as you have it		835
Stock as you have it short		138

I shall be glad to hear from you the first Opportunity & am

Your &c. N.W. Junr.

5 Dec 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes

Dear Sir

This only serves to acquaint you that on the 28th Ulto a Box was delivered to the London Carrier directed to you containing 443 Ounces of fine Silver which I doubt will come to a bad Markett as I observe Dollars and Standard Barrs are 5s/2d p[er] Ounce in the last Loyds List. I an

Dr Sir Yours &c.

NW Junr.

Farnacres 5 Decemr. 1778

15 Dec 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr. John Holmes

Farnacres 15 Decemr. 1778

Dear Sir

We have this day drawn upon you for £123..13..5 being the Amount of Four Hundred and Forty Three Ounces of fine Silver at 5s/7d p[er] Ounce – a bad Market indeed

Walton & Turner

[The following section before the bill has been struck out:]

I am obliged to you for the Notice you take of my Son and am in haste to save the Post.

Dear Sir Your &c.

NW Junr.

PS. Be so good as send the inclosed

£123..13..5

Thirty Days after date Pay to the order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint one hundred and Twenty three Pounds Thirteen Shillings and five pence Value received as advised by Walton & Turner

Mr. Jno. Holmes London

26 Dec 1778 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 26th Decemr. 1778

Mr Mulcaster

We have yours of the 19th inst. and the Silver is arrived at Newcastle. It gives us pleasure to see your produce so good in the reducing and we hope there will be no difficulty in settling the matter between Carr and Elliot but think Carr shd. pay a Guinea. It seems proper to continue John Craig, & to be sure Bill Brown never can be admitted to work for us again. You are desired to make a Tryal with Dunwoodie on the Terms and subject to the Conditions and restriction as to time which you mention When ever you think proper to come to Blaydon we beg you will do so and we shall be glad to see you when you come Before we give full directions about the Walling at Langley Mill shd. be glad to have your opinion how many Roods should be done and what you think it will cost p[er] Rood. We are sensible it will be rather difficult to judge of the expence but youll give us the best opinion you can. We have not yet seen Michl. Scroggs & if we do we shall referr him to you and think if we deal with him or any other for that article it shd. be for ready Money only and the price at least 4s:6d or 5s p[er] Cwt. * We either have given Mr Thornton Orders or shall give him, to take care about preventing Roads being made and particularly those you mention and we must beg your assistance by discharging every one that comes under your observation and making then pay some small acknowledgement. We are

Yours &c
W & T

*PS Best Refinery Fume 4s:6d or 5s p[er] Cwt.
Best Reducery Do 2:6 or 3s p[er] Cwt

28 Dec 1778 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 28th Decemr. 1778

Mr Mulcaster

We have reced. yours of the 21st and duly note its Contents. The Quantities of Coals as reported by the Carriers we suppose may be right but must desire you will enquire of Thomas French and the two Joes whether the quantities they charge are the whole of what they have carried since the beginning of Nent Force Level, for if that shd. prove to be the case, we find we have paid Thomas French for 100 Load 30th May last which is 5 more than he now charges and there have been 78 pd. for to Wm. & Mattw. Lee by Mr. Hilton the 24th October 1777 for which Mattw. Lee signed the Recet.; and Frenches Money was pd. to Robt. Hornsby by ourselves. After you have made these Enquiries pray let us hear from you immediately.

The Quantities now charged by the several persons are as follows.

Thomas French	95	£4..15..
Wm. Lee	78	3..18..
Matt. Lee	80	4.. - ..
Thos. Robson	12	12..
Thos. Dickinson	7	7..
Jos: Dickinson	26	1..6..
Wm. Dickinson	24	1..4..
		£16..2..

It gives us much pleasure to hear you have found two of your pigs & hope the third will be found at the Pay. The Error may be rectified as you propose. We are
Your hble Servts.
W & T

29 Dec 1778 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

[Note: The weight correction is mentioned in a subsequent letter.]

To Mr. John Holmes

Farnacres 29th Decemr. 1778.

Dear Sir

On the 26th. Inst. we delivd. to the London Carrier a Box directed to you containing 822 $\frac{3}{4}$ [corrected to 822 $\frac{1}{4}$ in the margin] Ounces of fine Silver which hope may come to a Better Market than the others lately sent tho' not many Signs of that present themselves to us. We are &c

W. & T.

6 Jan 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 6th Jany. 1779

Mr Mulcaster

Having examined your Operation ending the 26th Ulto. I find the following Errors.
In the Account of Ore Smelted

Greengill West End Bouse	37:4 shd be	37:6
Cutting	9:6 shd be	9:4

Yours of the 4th Instant is this Moment come to hand and the Agreement you have made with Dunwoodie is approved.

I thank you for the information you have given me respecting the Coals.

I was fearfull the High Wind would do you damage and am happy you have reced. no more the sooner it is got repaired the better.

You have given me concern when you acquaint me of your being out of health & I beg you will take care of Your self & not go out about the Walling 'till you get well again and as soon as your health will permit I shall be glad to see you here but don't come til you can safely venture. Mr. Thornton with what you can say to him in the House will be able to judge what the Wall will cost and as to the situation of the Wall you may see it from your own House End & he may go and measure it. The sooner you come to Farnacres the more agreeable to me. I am wishing you many happy Years.

Yours &c

NW Junr.

13 Jan 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

[Note: There was a major fire at Greenwich Hospital on the night of 2nd January 1779 which destroyed the interior of the chapel and damaged the dome above the chapel. John Holmes and his cousin John Smeaton were partners who owned the water works at Deptford which supplied water to Deptford and Greenwich.]

To Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 13th Janury. 1779

Dear Sir

Yesterday I recd. your favor of the 9th. Inst. and have this day drawn upon you payable 30 days after Date for £223.4.11 being the Amount of 822 ¼ Ounces of fine Silver at 5s/7d p[er] Ounce after deducting Six Pounds Six Shillings for a Watch for my Son John. The Difference of Weight must have arose from some Mistake in the person who weighed the Cake of Bullion previous to its being sent from Newcastle.

I am very happy to hear of your Water Works having proved of so much use on the dreadful Fire which happened at Greenwich and think the Commissioners cannot but judge it necessary to engage you for all future occasions but God grant there may never be a similar Accident. I am

Dear Sir Your &c.

N.W.Junr.

Farnacres 13th January 1779

Thirty days after Date pay to the order of Messrs. Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint Two Hundred and Twenty three pounds Four Shillings and Eleven Pence. Value received – as advised by Walton & Turner
£223:4s:11d To Mr John Holmes London

2 Feb 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr. Jno. Holmes

Farnacres 2d. February 1779.

Dear Sir

On Saturday last we sent a Box of Bullion to the London Carrier containing 728 ½ Ounces which I hope will arrive safe and come to a better Market than there has been of late. Mr Walton desires you'll be so good as dispose of the inclosed Lottery Ticket No. 25, 348 which he understands is a Prize of £20. – and it may be drawn for along with the Amount of the Bullion. We are

Dear Sir Your &c.

W. & T.

7 Feb 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 7 Febry. 1779

Mr. Mulcaster

I am glad to hear that you have done your work so well that dunwoodie has done with his Bargain and I think it reflects credit on you and all of us. I approve very

much of your trying him at the Ore Tails at the price you mention Nine Guineas p[er] Fodder. I have examined the Operation & find all right except the Short Pig which has been so some time, but I hope it may cast up at the Pay of the Lead Carriers. I desire you'll make the following Addition to your Operation ending the 30 January or otherwise it will not agree wth. my Accounts.

For Guddamgill Burn Cross Vein South End No. 1 & 2 105.5
Write Guddamgill Burn Cross Vein South End No. 1 & 2 & Brownley hill 105.5

I am Your &c.
NW Junr.

PS I have expected to see you for some time.

19 Feb 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr Jn. Holmes

Farnacres 19th Feby. 1779

Dear Sir

We duly reced. your favor of the 13th inst. and have this day drawn upon you for £223:6:11 amount as below, the Bill payable 30 Days after date. We are glad to hear Silver is now likely to look up again. We are Dr Sir

Yours &c
W & T

728 1/2 Ounces of Fine Silver at 5s/7d p Ounce	£203	7	5	1/2
Lottery Tickett £20 deduct 6d examining		19	19	6
	£223	6	11	1/2
Abated				1/2
	£223	6	11	

N Walton Junrs/ Complimts. to Mr Holmes and is much obliged to Mr Holmes for the attention to him in the getting the Tickett No. 25,348 negotiated without loss and has included the value as above but in case Mr Holmes shd. not have it in his power to get it negotiated in the way he mentions he shd. be glad to have it sold and he will deduct the difference which may be occasioned by the Sale out of the Amount when he draws for the next fine Silver. NW Junr. was much concerned to hear of the sad behaviour of the Mob and of the consequent anxiety & trouble to his Friends and others: he hopes the whole is now over. Farnacres 19th Feby. 1779

£223..6..11

Farnacres 20th February 1779

Thirty Days after date Pay to the Order of Messrs: Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint Two Hundred & Twenty Three Pounds Six Shillings and Eleven pence Value
Received as advised by Walton & Turner
To Mr. John Holmes London

6 Mar 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr. Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 6 Mar: 1779.

Mr. Mulcaster

I have reced. yours of the 20th, 23d & 27th Ult. & 1st inst. and duly note their respective Contents.

The Book and Paper you have I doubt not reced. eer this.

It was certainly wrong in Mr Hilton to set the Ore carriage forward without acquainting you.

The Instructions to John Friend are so well drawn that I can not at present think of either addition or alteration being necessary, & I hope we shall be made very easy by the Attention of our new Agent who cannot however be considered as fixed absolutely 'til the Directions of the Commissioners of Greenwich Hospital are had.

The Silver is arrived and will be sent this day for London, but I do not know the Weight yet.

What you propose respecting the Working up last years Ore &c is right.

I have reced. the Operation and doubt not it is right but have not yet examined it.

The Drought is very great indeed & the Weather so fine that the Spring is making a most rapid Progress.

You may set on the Lead Carriers when you will & stop them when the Weather comes on Wet. I am

Your &c.

N.W. Junr.

PS. Pray forward the Parcel wch. the Bearer brings the first time you have any Ore Carriers going. It must be kept dry.

11 Mar 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 11 March 1779.

Dear Sir

By the last Weeks London Carrier who set out from Newcastle on Saturday the 6th inst you will receive a Box containing 856 ½ Ounces of Silver Bullion of which we send this to acquaint you.

We are Dear Sir Your &c
Walton & Turner.

12 Mar 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 12th March 1779

Mr Mulcaster

I have reced. your Letter of the 8th inst and am obliged by your sending the Parcel to Mr Hilton.

I am surprized at your not having reced. the Book and Paper but have sent a Message to Mr Charnley to set this matter right.

It will be impossible to determine yet what number of Ore Carriers Galloways we shd. have this Season but I think it will be right to encourage some new Carriers who lye in the right Track, which as you know that, you'll make Mr Hilton and John Friend sensible in what part of the Country our Carriers ought to be situated. The Galloways must be tenderly used at first or otherwise by our beginning so soon they will be all knocked up. We must be carefull to have good men for New Carriers & I think we ought not to be in a hurry in engaging any. I have ordered Mr Hilton & J Friend to consult with you.

The Letter you have sent I desire you'll not give any Answer to in Writing but if you shd. meet with Bill Brown you may acquaint him that Mr Turner & I are glad to hear he intends for the future to behave well wch. we hope will enable him to get his bread; but that we cannot possibly think of employing any Man whatever at Langley Mill after having been discharged from thence for misbehaviour. I am for Mr Turner & self

Yours &c NW Junr.

PS I do not think it will be proper to employ Bill Brown in the Ore Carriage.

29 Mar 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 29th March 1779

We have this day drawn upon you for £227.17.8 payble 30 days after date being the amount of 856 1/2 Ounces of fine Silver at 5s/7d 3/4 P Ounce after deducting £13.18.. which you have pd on Mr Walton Junrs Account to Wenham & Company for which he returns you thanks.

We are etc Walton & Turner

£227.17.8.

Farnacres 29th March 1779

Thirty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint Two Hundred and Twenty Seven Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Eight Pence. Value received - as advised by W & T

To Mr John Holmes London

30 Mar 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 30th March 1779

Mr Mulcaster

I have reced your Letter of the 24th inst and along with this and in another Cover you will receive Ten Blank Leases which I desire you will disperse amongst the persons to whom you think they will be most likely to be useful; at the time of sending or delivering them taking Notice that it is by direction of Messrs Walton & Turner that you do this.

Mr Hilton I have wrote to & hope he and John Friend will soon see you. I have told him that you have acquainted me of his having set on some addl. Carriers without consulting with you and that you did this in consequence of my Letter of the 12th inst that you gave me the Account.

I am glad you have reced the Book and Paper at last.

It will be very proper to try low Stublick coals.

I would not have you take less than 20s/ P pig for the Lead which Mr Martinson gets as it would be breaking thro' a Rule we have laid down & I think right to keep to.

I am Yours etc

N W Junr

2 Apr 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 2d April 1779

Mr Mulcaster

I have yours of the 29th Ulto and the Operation for last Month now before me and having examined the latter find it right. I am perfectly satisfied with your havg. made out the Operation and with what you propose respecting the Old and the New Works.

I wish I could speak so fully to you about the Fencing but not having yet had orders respecting the Setting I cannot do more than say that I am confident it is not the intention of the Commissioners of Greenwich Hospital that any of the Tenants sh.

continue another Year except on New Terms and that I expect every day to hear from London you must therefore do the best you can 'til we can be more explicit. I am

Yours etc
N W Junr

PS You'll see I mean to be at Hexham on Tuesday.

16 Apr 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 16th Apl 1779

Mr Mulcaster

I am favored with your Letter of the 13th for wch I thank you and think you have acted prudently respecting the busyness you mention. It certainly is proper to have the thing at all events and I leave the whole to your management; it is probably the splitting between £650 and £600, that is £625 will compleat the Purchase; but you must rather go to £650 than lose it at the same time I say this, I doubt not you will get it as cheap as you can. I cannot make out the Number of Acres you must purchase so that the Title is to be made good and you must have it in your power to be satisfied by advising with Counsel, and that I recommend to you to be Mr Fawcett of Newcastle who you may tell at the time, that the purchase is for the Commissrs & Govers of Greenwich Hospital. You know there will not be occasion to say anything about Mr Fawcett or what I have mentioned following to the Sellers; but why shd I be so particular in giving you directions for what you gave already done convinces me of your attention and care and that you will do every thing needfull.

I shall certainly be at Hexham if in my power and not only mean to recommend your friend at the Meeting but have done so already. I beg you will be at that Meeting and also your Friend. I advise you as from yourself to see Mr Tweddell.

I am glad the dry Mill is not infinitely dryer that the Companys Grand Works can boast of.

What you have done about the Carriage I much approve and think tho' Wm Howdon ought to take 2s/4d we must give him 2s:6d rather than stop but you must tell him I did not expect he would have been so stiff. I am

Yours etc
N W Junr

PS. If Ridley is Tenant for life his Heir at Law must join.

17 Apr 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 17th April 1779

Sir

Last Weeks Carrier from Newcastle will bring you a Box containing 654 1/2 Ounces of Fine Silver with which this serves to acquaint you and I am

Dr Sir Yours etc

N W Junr

28 Apr 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres April 28th 1779

Sir

I have this day drawn upon you for £188:11:8 being the Balance of Account as below the Bill is payable 30 days after date as usual & you have at the Foot of this my Father's Recet for £8:19:6 received of Mr Baxter. You'll be so good as send me the Recet you took from Mr Everest the first time you have occasion to write. It may probably be some time before you receive any more Silver our Annual account being now making up til after which we cannot send you unless a Small Cake or two should arise in Smelting up our refuse etc . I am

Dr Sir Yours etc

N W Junr

654 Ounces of fine Silver at 5s 7 3/4d P Ounce	£184.12. 5
For Cash Reced of Mr Baxter on Mr Walton Sens Acct	8.19. 6
	£193.11.11
Deduct for Cash pd by Mr Holmes to Mr Everest	5. - 3
Balance due from Mr Holmes	£188.11. 8

£188.11.8.

Farnacres 28th April 1779

Thirty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint One Hundred and Eighty Eight Pounds Eleven Shillings and Eight Pence. Value Reced as advised by Walton & Turner

To Mr John Holmes London

18 May 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 18th May 1779

Dear Sir

This serves to acquaint you that last Weeks Carrier from Newcastle will bring you a Box containing 720 1/2 Ounces of fine Silver.

Yesterday I dined with Brother Smeaton in Newcastle and have the pleasure to acquaint you he is very hearty and in good Health. I am with best Compliments to you and Yours.

Dear Sir Your most hble Servt
N W Junr

20 May 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 20th May 1779

Mr Mulcaster

We are very happy under the Circumstances you mention that so little damage has been done by the Fire and desire you will make yourself perfectly easy as we are truly convinced of your care and of your activity. Indeed we do not see we can blame anybody, for though the Fire must have happened in the way you suppose it to have done, yet as the Cynders were loaded in the manner you mention, there did not seem to be the least probability of such an Accident happening. The place must now be entirely for Coals, and let the Cynders be Stacked at the door 'til we have time to consider what is to be done.

We are Yours etc
W & T

PS You'll get the Lintel etc repaired. We have examined your Operation to 1st May for the Old Account and find Refined Lead Account Short 3 pieces.

The Quantity of fine Litharge Reduced 541Cwts Qrs - 13lb shd be 540Cwts 1Qr 13lb. Pray order the Lead Carriers to get all to Newcastle or Newburn as fast as possible except what has been delivered of the new Account.

30 May 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 30th May 1779

Mr Mulcaster

The several Letters you have wrote since I left home for the Northern parts of the County of Northumberland & Durham have I suppose come to my Hands being three in Number two of the 24th and one of the 26th for which Mr Turner & I are obliged.

The Stock of Lead the 27 March by Operation	280	
Shd have been	281	
	Short	1
produced from that time to the 1st May		
From Refineable Lead by Operation	180	
From Rich Litharge &c Lead	297	477
		758
Delivered for Newcastle		755
	Short	3
Litharge 27 March by Operation	470.3.21	
Do. 1st Test 1 May by Do	56	
Do Do Slag Lead by Do.	14.1.11	
	541 - 13	
Reduced	541 - 13	
	right	

The Circumstance you mention respecting Edward Atkinson is certainly clear and he has an undoubted right to go by Ellrington or by Haltwhistle to Alston and to Langley Mill without paying a Farthing, if no Gate was fixed at Alston and you may tell him tho' we undoubtedly shall join in prosecuting every fraud, we shall at the same time declare our intention of supporting as far as we properly can do every Idea of right to the Enjoyment of all public Roads and that our Opinion is for Atkinson to continue to travel upon the Ellrington Road 'til the taker of the Summer rodds Barr or any other person can show that it is necessary Atkinson shd enjoy one public Road where he can be Toll free rather than that upon which there is a Toll Barr at which he must pay in case he passes thro' it.

We shall be with you soon and will give you Notice the first Opportunity but perhaps it may be three Weeks, tho' we hope much sooner. We are

Yours etc

N & T

PS Wm Pattinsons case is quite different and he has no Relief that we can at present not permit.

4 Jun 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 4th June 1779

Dear Sir

We have this day Drawn upon you for £204.17.10 being the amount of 728 1/2 Ounces of fine Silver at 5s/7 1/2d P Ounce. The Bill is payable Thirty Days after Date.

Mr Walton desires you'll be so good as send him Mr Everests Receipt the next time you write.

We are Dr Sir. Yours etc
W & T

£204:17:10.

Farnacres 4th June 1779

Thirty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Mssrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Two Hundred and Four Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Ten pence. Value reced as advised by W & T

To Mr John Holmes. London

22 Jun 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 22nd June 1779

Dear Sir

This days Post brought us your favor of the 19st inst and we have this day Drawn upon you for £294:17:9 being the amount of 1048 1/2 Ounces of Bullion at 5s/7 1/2d P Ounce. Mr Walton saw the Bullion weighed and it appeared to him good Weight 1048 1/2 Ounces. You are desired to excuse the not having had advice as in the hurry of busyness it has been ommitted. We are. Dr Sir. Yours etc

W& T

£294:17:9

Farnacres 22nd June 1779

Thirty days after date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Two Hundred and Ninety four Pounds Seventeen Shillings & Nine Pence. Value Received as advised by W & T

To Mr John Holmes. London.

22 Jun 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Mulcaster.

Farnacres 22nd June 1779

Mr Mulcaster

We desire you will give Notice to the Lead Carriers that from the time of your receiving this they must have 12d P piece only for the Carriage from the Mill to Newcastle; 11d P piece from the Mill to Newburn; 3 1/2d P piece from the Mill to Hexham 8 1/2d P piece from Hexham to Newcastle and 7 1/2d P piece from Hexham to Newburn; and you are desired to acquaint the Ore Smelters that by way of

encouragement to them to do their Work in the best manner and to behave themselves in every respect as good Servants we have at your instance & recommendation determined to raise their Wages from 6s/8d P Fodder to 7s/. P Fodder to commence from the 1st of May 1779.

We are. Yours etc

W & T

26 Jun 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 26th June 1779

Mr Mulcaster

You receive herein the Langley Mill Pay Bill for the 21st inst amounting to £522 . .4. Our reckoning up our Cash after getting Home we found it to over run £ . 9 & ¼

As we have made an alteration in the price of the Lead Carriage it will be proper to have all the Lead got in that was delivered from the Mill at the price of 13d you will therefore take care of that and let us know what the quantity will be since the Account you sent Mr Walton to the 1st May which was 13282 and you'll distinguish how much to each Carrier. The Lead which you deliver after the alteration took place to 12d P pig must be kept in hand and not brought in til after we make a Lead Carriers Pay.

There is a very strong Press and no Protections are paid any regard to. This is absolutely necessary as every effort must be made. We are.

Yours etc W & T

28 Jun 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 28 June 1779

Mr Mulcaster

Though you have not yet been successfull as to a Tryal for a Quarry you are desired to go on and make an effectual Tryal as a Quarry in that Situation wd be a Treasure to us and we wish you success.

You receive inclosed a Copy of the Memorandum and directions given you when we are at the Mill & we yesterday sent you the Pay Bill with all entered into it.

What you propose is perfectly right about Jn Price & Thomas Robson. We are.

Yours etc. W & T

23 Jul 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 23 July 1779

Mr Mulcaster

I reced your's of the 15th & 17th when Mr Thornton was here but could not write before this time acknowledging the Recet thereof. I shall be glad to hear from time to time how all goes on at the New Winning and as soon as it is necessary to begin Walling or Conduiting I should like to know what the Open Cast will come to including George Temperley's Attendance. If the Slope Sides will not stand we must begin before we get to 4 feet. I approve of the manner in which you propose to employ the Masons, but Thornton tells me that the Slates will not answer as they are too brittle by being dry in the Quarry and he tells me further that no Slates will Stand the Changes of Weather in Winter but what are taken from a Quarry where the Stone lies in Water. This I Own is New to me and if it is true it is certainly a usefull piece of knowledge. I however rather doubt the Fact. Wm Howden cannot be spared. The fine Weather has I hope got you some very good Peats. The Silver is safe arrived. It will not be proper to let George Temperley have any Lime as at present we cannot give leave. You must get John Friend to explain from what Vein the Bloomsberry North End Ore was got as he has now a compleat List of the Names of all the Veins which are working in the Manor. I am concerned for the accident to the poor Man at Lands End Quarry. I am

Yours etc N W Junr

23 Jul 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Finch

To Mr John Finch.

Farnacres 23rd July 1779

Sir

I desire you'll send 100 Casks of Bone Ashes the first opportunity. Be pleased to direct them to Messrs Walton & Turner to the Care of Mr Henry Airey Merchant Newcastle and advise when they are shipped. Mr Salter will pay for them. I am

Sir Yours etc

N W Junr _

26 Jul 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 26 July 1779

Mr Mulcaster

Inclosed you have a Sketch for the Conduit at Stublick new Winning and you'll observe the only difference in the Dimensions from what you mention in your Letter is that the side Walls of the Conduit are to be only 16Ins broad at the Top. The Cover stone is drawn to be 6 Inches thick but I don't expect you'll be able to get of that

thickness for the whole tho' I wish to have them strong & where you think them too weak they shd be strengthened by double covering so as to break joints. Where the covers have little Earth upon them they need not be so strong & yet they must be sufficient to bear Cattle, and in the laying of the Covers they shd be dressed so as to joint tolerably fair to prevent the Earth dropping down into the Level. If it should prove that we cannot get Flags for the Bottom it may be paved or <penned> with Stones set edgeways across the Bottom. The Cover Stone is drawn to overlap the Wall on each side 6 Inches but if it is more than that it will be better. The manner in which you propose to regulate the cutting is very proper only it will be necessary to alter your Sketch so as to answer for 16 Inches instead of 18 and certainly it will be proper not to cut more than just to get in your Sizes of Conduit and Well if the sides will stand and I hope they will. I approve of what has been done and shall be glad to hear they go on successfully. I am very well pleased you have got your Bricks set fire to as I feared they wd be hurt by the violent Rains & I think you are lucky to have got half the Peats. You have done quite right in setting Robson to the smelting. I have the pleasure to acquaint you that we have sent 530 pieces of Lead to Greenwich Hospital. I am
Yours etc. N W Junr

26 Jul 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 26th July 1779

Dear Sir

On Saturday last we delivered to the London Carrier a Box Containing 878 3/4 Ounces of Bullion for you which doubt not you will receive on the 7th of August. We are

Dr Sir. Yours etc. W& T

27 Jul 1779 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Ions

To Mr Thos Ions.

Farnacres 27th July 1779

Mr Ions

I was very much surprised to find on enquiry that no Lead had been brought from Newburn the last Week at which I am so very much displeased that you may depend upon it if you do not exert yourself to the utmost from the time you receive this Letter I shall most assuredly give directions that you have nothing further to do with the Lead Carriage. I expect the above to be fully complied with and am

Yours etc. N W Junr

13 Aug 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

		Ounces			
1778					
Novr 27	A cake of bullion	515 ½	£146	1	2
28	Bullion sent	443 ½	123	13	5
Dec 26	Do	820 ¼	229	10	11
1779					
Jany 30	Do	728 ½	203	7	5 ½
	Lottery prize		20		
Mar 6	Bullion sent	856 ½	241	15	8
Apl 10	Bullion sent	654	184	12	5
	Mr Baxter for Mr Walton Snr		8	19	6
May	Bullion sent	728 ½	204	17	10
June	Bullion sent	1048 ½	294	17	9
July 26	Bullion sent	878 ¾	249	17	10
			£1907	13	11 ½
1778					
Novr 27	Bill drawn this day at 30 days		£146	1	2
Decr 15	Bill drawn this day at 30 days		123	13	5
Jan 13	Do	223 4 11			
	Watch for Jno Walton	6 6	229	10	11
Feby 19	Bill drawn for Examining Tickett	223 6 11			
	Abated	¼	£223	7	5 ½
Mar 29	Bill drawn for Mr Everest	£188 11 8			
		5 5	£193	11	11
June 4	Bill drawn for		204	17	10
22	Bill drawn for		294	17	9
Aug 13	Bill drawn for		249	17	10
			£190	13	11 ½
			7		

To Mr Jn Holmes

Dear Sir

Above you have an Abstract if our Account which doubt not you will find right if it differs from yours we shall be glad to hear from you but indeed we think as you found out what you thought an Error you should first have stated your Account.

From the above you will observe we have this day Drawn upon you for £249:17:10 being the Amount of 878 3/4 Ounces of Bullion at 5s/8 1/4d P Ounce.

The Family at this place desire to join us in best respects and Compliments and we are

Dr Sir Yours etc
W & T

Farnacres 13th Aug 1779

£249:17:10.

Farnacres 13th Aug 1779

Thirty Days after Date pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Five Hundred and Forty Nine Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Ten pence. Value received as advised by W & T

Mr Holmes. London.

20 Aug 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 20th Aug 1779

Mr Mulcaster

I reced your's of the 12th and 14th inst and now take the very first opportunity of Writing to you in Answer, but before I proceed I must acquaint you that Yours of the 14th arrived two days before that of the 12th which contained the Account of the Open Cast Drain.

I find from the Mem I made when with you and the Accounts of Expence which you sent me that the following will be the result Viz.

	P Yard s d
First Acct sent by you for 20Yds Open Cast 19 1/3 Yds	
Cutting &c and 4Yds Cutting only it will be about	3 4
Second Acct for One Week ending 9th Augt 4Yds supposed	
for each day abt	4 2
Third Acct takes in the whole from the beginning to the	
time I saw it abt	4 3
And According to my Notes when on the Spot and reckoning	
3 Casters at 16d - 4Labourers at 14d - 2 Wallers at 20d	
& Carriage 4d and Superintendence 2 Shillings for one	
day and Supposing 4 Yards to be finished in One day abt	4 6

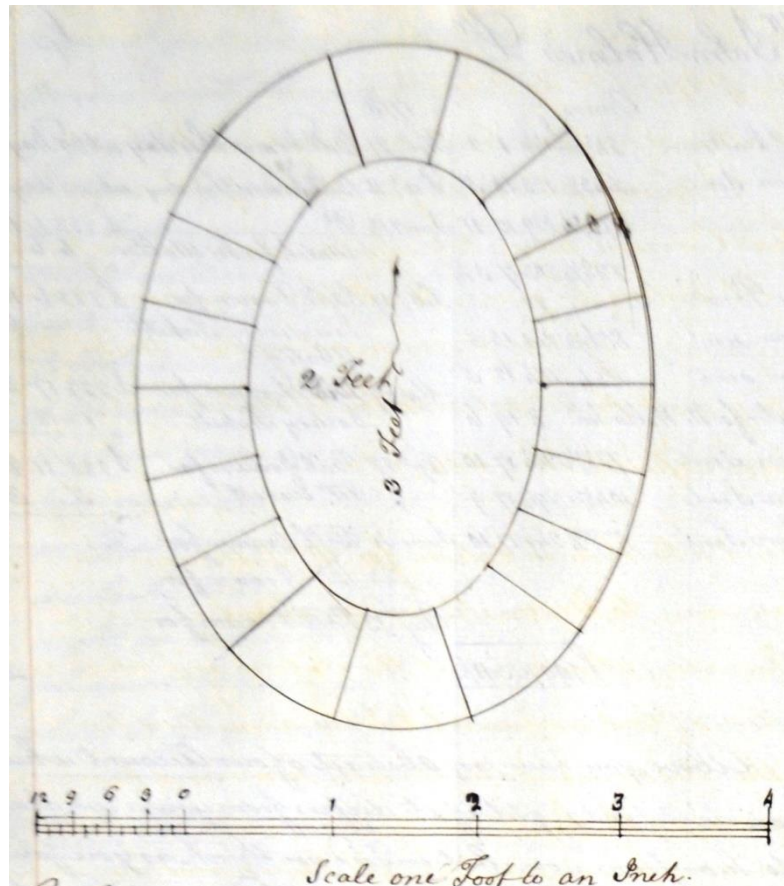
From the above it is plain if we can agree for the whole so farr as Open Cast can be done, at 4/s P Yard including Casting Winning Leading and Setting that it will be the best way to do so if not we must go on by day 'til we see some material alteration and indeed it is plain we must go on Open Cast for some time as it will Cost 15/s P Yard to do it the manner as described by the Sketch on the other side. You have done right as to Dent.

I desire you will fix Monday the 30th inst to make the Lead Carriers pay at the Golden Lion in Hexham and pray let Notice be given to all the Carriers immediately. There were upwards of 480 pieces wanting last Night but I doubt not they will be all got into the Warehouse in a few Days 160 were expected this day. I am

Yours etc N W Junr

PS I send a Recommendation for Wm Pattinson's Son and desire he may come to Newcastle on Wednesday and offer himself on Thursday Morning at the Infirmary where he should be by ten o Clock and wait till the admitting time. He must take the Recommendation with him and his Father had best come with him.

I propose paying a visit at Threepwood immediately after the pay and will then also see you.



3 Sep 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 3rd Sepr 1779.

Mr Mulcaster

By the inclosed you will observe that Gill Brown's Account as it was settled at Hexham is wrong added 10s which we desire you will get of him and he must Sign the New Receipt instead of that which was taken at Hexham which last May then be burnt. And you'll see that John Havelocks Account is wrong he having been paid for 9 more from Hexham to Newburn than he ought to have been so you'll get Six Shillings of him

and he must Sign the new Recet and that he gave at Hexham may be destroyed; after you have done this pray send the new Recets. When you see John Batey acquaint him he is short paid for 10 pieces from Hexham to Newcastle and Wm Wear that he is short paid at One piece at 4d from Mill to Hexham. Those we will pay ourselves at the next Pay. We shall be glad to have to have the Measure of the Diameter of the Kam Wheel for the Refinery and the length of the Kam the first opportunity & are

Yours etc N W & T

PS. We find our Cash right and hope when the Lead is all got in that some of the lost Lead will be found.

Yours of the 3rd Moment came to hand and along with it the advice from Mr Aireys Clerk of the Silver being arrived. What you propose about the including the Bullion in the Operation is perfectly agreeable and we shall be glad to hear from you about the Refining Cogg Wheel and the Refined Lead Assays when convenient.

We must be very cautious in our proceeding with the Level now as it is about 10 feet from the Surface to the bottom there will be no such thing as continuing with wet Weather.

21 Sep 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Finch

To. Mr John Finch

Farnacres 21st Septemr 1779

Sir

On the 23rd July last I wrote you desiring to have One hundred Casks of Bone Ashes the first opportunity. I now am to acquaint you that there is likely to be a great disappointment to our Undertaking by your being so long in letting us have the above Quantity and I must beg the Favour of you to let me know by Return of the Post whether you can serve us or not as in case you cannot we must look elsewhere, at the same time I assure you we do not wish to change as we admit having been well served 'til the Delay since July. Mr John Salter being dead you will in case of your Shipping the Ashes for us write to Messrs Walton & Turner & you shall be paid immediately. I am for Mr Turner & Self

Sir Your etc

N W Junr

21 Sep 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 21 Septemr 1779

Dear Sir

On Saturday the 4th inst the Cake of Bullion you acknowledge the Recet of by yours of the 18th was sent from New Castle and I send you the Recet which the Carrier gave for it but this not coming to my Hands 'til the other Day, I did not think it necessary to trouble you with Advice of its having been sent. I now acknowledge the Recet of yours and acquaint you that Mr Turner & I have this day drawn upon you for £227.3.6 3/4 being the amount of 784 1/2 Ounces of Fine Silver at 5s/9 1/2d P Ounce and as similar Instances to what you mention may again occur I agree, on behalf of Mr Turner & Self, that in case of any such happening, to take the Price according to the first preceding List which shall contain the Price. I am

Dear Sir Your etc

N W Junr

£227.3.6.

Farnacres 21 Septemr 1779

Thirty days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Two Hundred and Twenty Seven Pounds Three Shillings and Six Pence. Value Received as advised by Walton & Turner
Mr Holmes London

25 Sep 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 25th Septem 1779

Mr Mulcaster

I fully intended writing to you yesterday but finding a considerable Over running in the Account of delivery at Newcastle when compared with the Account I got from you I was determined to go to Newcastle and examine whether the Quantities were right sent me from the Tickett Book which having now done I send you An Account of the whole inclosed and think it will be proper for the several Carriers to give you an Account how they disposed of the Lead amounting to 1376 pieces and by making that Enquiry you will found in whose Hands the Over running Lead has been. Thomas Ions shd also give an Acct from whom he has reced Lead which was not included in last Pay Account; This however must not stop your beginning to deliver from the Mill as all is now in that has been delivd at least I suppose all we are to expect. You are also desired carefully to examine the Lead Mill Account. I mean your Quantity now in hand and compare that with your delivery as in case we are short at the Mill I think it is only fair that we shd take care of ourselves first and the Carriers afterwards.

Your etc. N W Junr

Amount of lead delivered from Langley Mill from 26 June to & with 30 August 1779		Amount of lead delivered at Newcastle Warehouse since the 30th August 1779	
Pieces			
To Thomas Forster	441	By Thomas Ions	1230
William Pattinson	372	James Johnson	88
Edward Atkinson	205	Jos Burnett (Burnhope)	48
James Johnson	200	John Havelock	21
John Havelock	146		
William Wilson	12		
	1376		1387
Got from Hexham Bridge	8	John Corbett	8
Total	1384	Total	1395
Over Runnings	11		
	1395		

26 Sep 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 26 Sepr 1779

Mr Mulcaster

I wrote you fully yesterday respecting the Lead Carriage and doubt not you will have Satisfaction by the Information contained in my Letter. I am now in addition to acquaint you that I think myself obliged by the Information you have given me respecting the Level for new Winning Stublick Colliery and hope the Clay will continue as you describe but at all Events it will certainly be proper that an Agreement shd be made with the Workmen Per Fathom; undoubtedly at as low a Rate as possible, but it is perfectly clear that we shall now do better by Bargain than in any other way. I heartily join you in the Satisfaction you express on Acct of the Quarry turning out better than it was before, and entirely approve of your giving directions to presence such Stones as you may think likely to be of use to us, & that you shd employ Francis Carr or any others whom you may think proper in winning Stones to supply the Deficiency which may be occasioned by your preserving the Stones as abovementioned. The time you mention for ending Account & what you mention as to the Refiners and Reducers not only shows your Attention to the Business but is quite agreeable to what is wished.

I am for Mr Turner and Self.

Your etc N W Junr

1 Oct 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 1st October 1779

Mr Mulcaster

As we have set out our Journey differently from what we first intended we propose being with you from Alston on Thursday the 14th and shall make the Pay on Friday the 15th and leave you the next day. You will therefore give Notice accordingly and the Lead Carriers shd have notices to come for Pay for the Lead bro[ugh]t in since the last Pay wch was delivered from the 26 June to the 30th of August & then that matter may be all settled. Such of the Carriers as pd for lost Lead must bring the Recets with them wch we gave them for the Lead wch it appeared they had lost but most of which is since found. Mr Bell, Wm Pattinson & Isaac Burnhope are the only persons who appeared to be defaulters. We reced your Letter since writing the above and we are much obliged by what you have said concerning the new Winning at Stublick Colliery. We shall not say more 'til we see you on Saturday the 9th & are

Your etc N W Junr J C T

3 Oct 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Skinner

To Mr John Skinner.

Farnacres 3d Octr 1779

Mr John Skinner

We duly reced your Letter of the 25th of last Month and now take the opportunity of acquainting you that the 50 Casks of Bone Ashes arrived safely at Newcastle on the 31st of August but we never having had any Account of their being Shipped at London and the Warehouse Man at Newcastle neglecting to acquaint us when they arrived they took it for granted when we wrote the 21st Septemr that they had not been sent and in reality the first Account we had of their being arrived at Newcastle was by Letter dated the 27th Septemr. We are concerned for the Death of Mr Finch and wish you Success in the undertaking and we desire to add 50 Casks more to the Order which we beg may be compleated by you with all convenient Dispatch. We have desired Mr John Holmes to be so obliging as pay for the 50 Casks of Ashes got of Mr Finch which he will do as soon as he is properly made acquainted with the necessary circumstances to enable him to judge who is intitled to receive the same you will therefore take care to have the representative of Mr Finch to wait upon Mr Holmes who is a Watch Maker in the Strand and give him the Needful Information and the Money will be paid directly: and Mr Holmes will pay you for all such Ashes as you may deliver hereafter or otherwise we will get some other person in London to do that to your satisfaction. We are

Sir. Yours etc

W & T

PS Be pleased to direct to us at Farnacres near Gateshead.

3 Oct 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr Jno Holmes.

Farnacres 3d Octr 1779

Dear Sir

Having occasion for a considerable quantity of Bone Ashes for our Refining busyness we have been furnished by a Mr John Finch at Hoxton but he being Dead we are now applied to by his Nephew who informs us he succeeds Mr Finch in the busyness and we have accordingly given the Nephew, whose name is John Skinner an Order for 50 Casks of Ashes on addition to our quantity which we had ordered for Mr Finch. It happens that there are 50 Casks which were delivered in Mr Finches Lifetime which we are indebted for to his represents and we have taken upon us to acquaint Mr Skinner that you will pay for those 50 Casks on being made sensible to whom the Money is due and for that purpose the representatives of Mr Finch are desired to call upon you and we must beg the favor of you to do this busyness for us and also that you will pay Mr Skinner for such Ashes as he delivers for us on our giving you advice of the quantities from time to time and the Sums disbursed by you may be deducted in our drawing for Bullion. Yesterday we sent you a Box containing 623 1/2 Ounces of fine Silver which doubt not youll receive safe and we are Dr Sir

Yours etc W & T

PS. The Charge for 50 Casks including all on Ship Board is £22. 0s. 2d

20 Oct 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 20th Octr 1779

Dear Sir

I am favoured with yours of the 16th instant and have this day drawn upon you for £177.19.1 being the Amount of 623 1/2 Ounces of fine Silver at 5s/8 1/2d P Ounce. I am really concerned at the low prices of almost everything and am so on account of the bad Market which last Market came to. I am Dear Sir Your etc

N W Junr

PS I am much obliged by yr readiness to serve us in the Bone Ash Busyness, but am surprized you have not had a Call.

[added in margin:]See Copy Bill 3d page after this.

[the bill referred to, copied in on next double page opening of the volume:]

£177.19.1.

Farnacres 20th October 1779

Thirty days after Date pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint One Hundred and Seventy Seven Pounds Nineteen Shillings and One Penny.

Value received as advised by Walton & Turner

To Mr Holmes London

20 Oct 1779 Nicholas Walton to Christopher Wilkinson

Chrisr Wilkinson Esq.

Farnacres 20th Octor 1779

Sir

We desire you will send by James Johnson Hexham Carrier on Friday next the following Articles for the Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich Hospital for Langley Lead Mill and to be directed with a Bill of Parcels to Mr Peter Mulcaster at the said Mill viz

7 Barrs of Sqr Iron Somewhat more than 1 1/8 Inch but not quite 1 1/4 Sqr

4 Barrs of the Smallest Sqr Iron such as is used at the Mines for Jumpers

2 Barrs of the Weakest sort of Flat Iron

2 Do of Flat Iron a little stronger

2 Doof Do.....very strong, but it will be well not to have them above 3Inches or a little more in Breadth A Bundle of Strong Nail Rods A Bundle of String Hoops

2 Barrs of Sqr Steel

We are. Sir Yours etc

W & T

20 Oct 1779 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Harvey

Mr Thos Harvey Junr

Dr Sir

You are desired to send by John Corbett Hexham Carrier on Friday next 120 Comon Deals for the Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich Hospital such as you have usualy sent to Langley Lead Mill to be directed with a Bill of Parcels to Mr Peter Mulcaster at the said Mill. We are Dr Sir

Yours etc

W & T

Farnacres 20 Octor 1779

21 Oct 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 21 October 1779.

Mr Mulcaster

On looking over our papers we found the inclosed wch we return you, and on examining the Accounts there is an Article on Acct of Langley Lime Kilns which appears to be unpaid and as that is the case, it had best be brought into next years Account. It is Joseph Toppin for 4 Shovels 11s/8d. We send you herewith the Rental of the Mill Land as settled the 15 inst. The Iron and Steel are ordered to be sent by James Johnson and the Deals by John Corbett on Friday. You have inclosed a Copy of the Mill Pay Bill as also of the Lime Kiln & Level Accounts. You are desired to engage James Robinson and John Craig as Smelters as you have proposed. Mr Thornton will as soon as the Season is proper cut you some Ash Wood for Pickshafts & if you want Shovel Shafts you had best get him to cut proper Wood for them. As it will be of use to the Undertaking at Langley Mill to have a set of Screw Plates and Pins, we desire you will order them. You'll take care to get in all the Money for Lime sold immediately. You are desired to sign and return the inclosed Bill of Expenses & you may burn the rough Draft. We have destroyed the operation formerly sent for September & put up the other reced this day, & we have altered the August Operation as you desire. The Chains are not paid for by us & may be included in next Pay Bill. We are sorry the Level Men do not get so well forward, but hope the Difficulty will not continue, if it shd, we must increase the Price, that however must not be done if it can be avoided. John Friend has been here this day and is gone to consult Mr Lambert and Mr Gibson. He thinks the Carriers may be kept going some time yet. We shall certainly not come to pay the Ore Carriers & therefore as soon as the Carriage is over an Account must be sent us and we will give you and Mr Thornton Directions when to come for the Money. We are

Your etc

W & T

PS. The Garden may be got done at any time you see convenient but by its crossing the Earth Dyke it will give the Children an Opportunity of Climbing over.

29 Oct 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 29 October 1779

Mr Mulcaster

We have reced yours if the 25 inst and duly note its Contents. We observe the 11s/8d was paid in June last, the Papers we returned you, it is supposed had got intermixed with ours when we were last with you. We are concerned John Friend did not meet with Encouragement when at Newcastle but hope after all he may get well again. If he thinks the Exercise will be of use to him, it will be agreeable to us he shd attend you when you come for the Cash, but notwithstanding that, think it may be very proper for Mr Thornton also to be with you. We will send you the Form of a Pay Bill the first Opportunity which will show you the Prices at which the Carriage ought to be charged.

What you observe as to the Garden Wall is proper and will answer the end and you had best agree with John Robson to lead to Forsters Wall at 18d P Rood. We have no objection to what is proposed with respect to Geo. Robinsons Field. With regard to the Level we are so clearly of Geo. Temperley's Opinion that we beg he will use his own Discretion in letting the next Length and not make any Allowance for a hard Bargain in the last, and in case any of the men appear to be unreasonable in their Demands, it will be perfectly agreeable to us that they shd be discharged and others employed in their stead. We are

Your humble Servants

Walton & Turner

1 Nov 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 1st Novemr 1779

Mr Mulcaster

We have reced yours of the 28th and are glad to find Thomas Stokoes Account proves as we expected.

We wish at all times to have the Ore Carriage Continued as long as possible, but it cannot be prudent to continue the Carriage too long; and with respect to the Lead Carriage, we entirely coincide with you in opinion, and desire you will do either as you have suggested in your Letter, or otherwise as you judge most expedient. We are

Yours etc

N W Junr J. C. T

5 Nov 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Ibbetson

To Mr John Ibbetson Esq.

Farnacres 5 Novemr 1779

Sir

Messrs Walton & Smeaton in their Letter of 3D Feby 1776, to which we beg leave to refer, reported upon the Petition of Thomas Fall on Acct of Damages claimed by him

to have been sustained by the Smoke of Langley Lead Mill and intimated to the Board that it seemed proper to defer coming to a Determination respecting those Damages 'til after the End of the Term Mr Fall had in Langley Castle Farm. This was done not only by way of discouraging Applications, but lest any thing should be drawn into a Precedent during the then subsisting Leases of Lands in the Neighbourhood of the Mill, and at the new Letting there has been care taken to put an End to every Application in future.

Ever since the time of Messrs Walton & Smeatons writing to the Board, the Lead Mill Agent, Mr Mulcaster by direction from the Receivers, has been constantly on the Watch, not only to prevent Damages, but as far as it was in his power to find out every Circumstance relative to Damages, really sustained, both before, and since, Mr Falls Application, and from his Observations, and the Information he has from time to time reced, it is beyond a Doubt considerable Losses have happened by the poisonous Quality of the Smoke of Langley Lead Mill.

We have had several Applications upon the above Subject since the 12th of May, the amount of which is £176.12 - besides Losses by Sheep etc which Mr Fall the Tenant cannot ascertain, and we inclose you an Acct showing the particulars together with a Report being the Substance of the Information which we have reced from Mr Mulcaster, and tho' it appears from the Report that considerable part of the Losses claimed for are not absolutely substantiated, and it is admitted that some part might arise from a want of proper Attention on the part of the Owners of the Cattle, yet we doubt not in the least the persons who apply have had Losses equal to what is considered in the Account inclosed, so far as the particular Cattle and the Value thereof are specified, but we do not see it possible to take it into our Consideration what the Tenant Mr Fall is himself unable to form an Estimate of. Upon the whole we beg leave to recommend the <Sufferen> to the Board for Relief, and we must say that Mr Mulcasters Attention and Modesty in the whole of this transaction have done him great Credit. We are Sir

Your etc

N W Junr J.C.T

Particulars of the several Applications made to Messrs Walton & Turner on Acct of Losses sustained by the poisonous Quality of the Smoke of Langley Mill together with a Report thereon being the Substance of the Information which Messrs Walton & Turner have reced from Mr Mulcaster.

Thomas Fall of Langley Castle viz

8 Ore Carriage Galloways at	£32
1 Six Years Old Gelding	10 10
1 Eight Years Old Mare	8
1 Three Years Old Do	7
1 Two Years Old. Do	6

1 Year Old. Do		2 2	
3 Cows	at £6	18	£83 12

Likewise three horses he has at present wch he fears will die, as they are much hurt, besides wch a considerable loss in his Sheep yearly, which he cannot ascertain, but one year in particular 40 of his Ewes lambed dead Lambs, wch he hopes will be taken into consideration.

Ann Brown of Langley Castle Viz

10 Horses	at £5	£50	
1 Cow		5	£55

Gabriel Wren of East Deanraw Viz

1 Cow 1 Steer [added via an asterix: 'a young Ox']		
and 2 Heifers		17

Nicholas Temperley of Sillywray Viz

1 Heifer		3
John Mulcaster Refiner at Langley Mill. 1 Cow		6
Mr Peter Mulcaster Agent at Do. 2 Cows.		12
		£176 12

See Report on the other side....

Report on the Applications on the other side are taken from Mr Mulcaster.

As to Thomas Fall

Mr Mulcaster has no reason to think Mr Fall exaggerates his Loss and is certain the two years old Mare and Six Years Old Gelding died of the Disorder occasioned by the Lead Mill Smoke, he having been an Eye Witness.

As to Ann Brown

From what Mr Mulcaster knows and has heard, he thinks Mrs Browns Loss is at least as much as she has set it down.

As to Gabriel Wren

Mr Mulcaster remembers very well being sent for by Gabriel Wren who had three horned Cattle which Mr Mulcaster found ill with every Symptom of having received Injury by the Lead Mill Smoke, and as from Information, he knows Gabl Wren did lose some of his Cattle, both before, and after his being sent for, he believes he had the Loss he mentions.

As to Nicholas Temperley

When Nicholas Temperley's Heifer was ill, Mr Mulcaster was sent for, but before his Arrival at the place, it was dead, and on Enquiry of Nicho Temperley, and some Neighbours, who attended when the Heifer was ill, the Symptoms of her Disorder we found to be the same, as are most common with Horned Cattle affected by Lead Mill Smoke and he has no reason to believe he was misinformed.

As to John Mulcaster

Mr Peter Mulcaster having been an Eye Witness of John Mulcasters Cows Disorder, from the first Discovery of her Illness to her Death, is certain, her Death was occasioned by the Lead Mill Smoke.

As to Mr Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster undoubtedly lost two Cows, but tho' all his Neighbours are clearly of Opinion they died by being injured by the Lead Mill Smoke, yet he will not say he is certain that was the occasion of their Death, tho' in this doubt, he, of all the persons who saw them in their illness is Singular; at the same time he declares he had an Inducement for being so, for as in his Opinion the matter did admit of some doubt, he would have gladly persuaded himself it proceeded from some other Disorder, and as Agent at Langley Mill, he thought it his duty to be backward in giving his Opinion that it was a disorder occasioned by the Lead Mill Smoke, on purpose that other Persons who had the same hazard to run as himself, might not be dispirited, or be put upon making application for Losses on every occasion and Mr Walton very well remembers, Mr Mulcaster gave his Sentiments much to the same Effect, to Mr Smeaton and himself at the time when the Cows died, and upon the whole it appeared evident, that Mr Mulcasters Cows actually died, by the Injury they received from the Lead Mill Smoke.

Farnacres 5 Novemr 1779

N W Junr J C T

7 Nov 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 7 Novemr 1779

Mr Mulcaster

Agreable to the promise we made you in our Letter of the 29th Ulto, we send you the Form of a Pay Bill, which you may return along with the Pay Bill, for the present year. We are

Yours etc

W & T

9 Nov 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 9th Nov 1779

Mr Mulcaster

Yours of the 3d& 5th are now before us and we think what you say about the Level Work perfectly proper. In effect making such a declaration as G Temperley did was in the first instance making an agreement and in the next putting an end to it by enabling the men to have Wages whether they Worked fairly or not. If Fra.s Carr applies for Money you must venture to lend him and we assure you we are sorry for his loss. It may be proper enough to defer fencing within Forster and Robinsons Ground for a time til it is seen whether they are desirous of its being done or not. We are sorry to hear the Agents in Alston moor don't correspond with you so frequently as they ought to do and if they have not made this up before this letter reaches you we beg to know that we may be enabled to set this matter right immediately. It is absolutely certain that we ought to do as much as lies in our power to keep the Carriage going as long as the other Lessees do and therefore we hope our Carriers will continue to go to the Mines as long as that, and with regard to the dressing and the behaviour of the Company's Agents in particular, to our Carriers etc we must endeavour to get fully informed and get these matters set right by a formal application to the Governors of Greenwich Hospital to be let by them laid before the Governor & Company.

We are. Yours etc W& T

PS. We have sent you two Quires of large kind of Paper for Lead Ore Carriage Accounts. We hope to see how the Refining will answer by the Cake you mention.

13 Nov 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 13th Novr 1779

Sir

Yours of the 9th & 10th are now before us.

The Silver has come to hand & sent for London.

We are much obliged to you for measuring Dinnetley Wall and it gives us great satisfaction to find that Mr Thorntons Measurements agree with Yours, as we are able to hear that the Levelmen are getting well on. Pray don't you think when they make a good Bargain with us that they shd make us an allowance it seems as reasonable they shd do so as that we shd make them an allowance when they have an indifferent one. The doctrine seems good and if you can Prevail you perhaps may make them think as we do.

We are very much concerned to hear of Mr Wm Hunter's Circumstances having occasioned his becoming Bankrupt, and particularly so that shd you be involved in any difficulty on that Account. We shall certainly not have the least objection to your making such endeavours as you shall think fit to prevent loss and we flatter ourselves every thing will turn out agreeable to your own Wishes.

With the above Letters we reced two papers containing Assays and find the produce to be as follows

By Assay Prod sh have been	743 6 14 4/10
The Real Prod was	712 15 - -
Short of Assay	30 11 14 4/10

From the above it appears the Work upon a Medium has been better done than for some time past and we hope you will still improve. We desire you will forward the inclosed the first opportunity & are

Yours etc. W&T

13 Nov 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr Jno Holmes.

Farnacres 13th Novr 1779

Dear Sir

Being desired by a Friend of mine to get an undrawn Ticket in the present Lotery I must beg the further favor of you to do that busyness and to desire to hear from you by return of Post.

Yesterday a Box of Bullion was sent by the Carrier the Quantity about 713 Ounces but I have not yet got the Carriers Recet so do not know the exact Weight. I am
Dr Sir Yours etc

N W Junr

22 Nov 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 22d Novr 1779

Dear Sir

On the 13th there were 713 1/2 Ounces of Bullion delivered to the Carrier which we doubt not you will receive safe on Saturday first.

We duly reced your !etters of the 13th & 17 inst together with the Tickets and Mr Cratherns Recet as below, which we shall Account for in drawing the Bill for the above mentioned Bullion.

You have our hearty thanks for the trouble you have had about the Bone Ash
busyness & determine to send our future orders to Mr Cratherns so long as we are
served properly. We are
Dr Sir Yours etc
W & T

Ticket No	37,019	£13 - -
Do	47,378	13 18 -
Mr Crathern for Bone Ashes	22 - -	
		48 18

PS

Be so good as register No 27,062
37,019
47,518

so that Mr Walton Junr may have advice when they are drawn.

25 Nov 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 25th Novemr 1779

Mr Mulcaster

Yours of the 3d 5th 9th & 10 th inst all came duly to hand & the Recet
acknowledged by ours which you mention and this serves to acquaint you that yours
of the 20th & 21st are safe here.

You did not before yours of the 20th acknowledge the Recet of ours of the 29th Ultro
& Instant & it was no way material except that we always like to hear that our Letters
get into the right Hands, you had however no occasion to make an Apology either in
this Account or on Account of not writing immediately after the Recet of ours of the 7th
9th & 13th Inst & we should be concerned to have you put yourself to an Inconvenience
by answering our Letters unless the Busyness at any time or times shd prove urgent; at
the same time we must say we shall be glad to hear from you on every occasion when
your Convenience will admit of it but not otherwise. We are in hopes you have got the
Business respecting Mr Hunter put into a proper way of being settled & very sincerely
wish you had the Business ended to your Satisfaction.

It really grieves us that you have so much trouble in settling the Lead Ore
Accounts. If the Agents had compared now and then with you there would have been
no difficulty in the matter, but as to your saying anything about others being more
ready at finding out Errors then yourself we realy think you have mistaken that, & on
your discovering Errors made by it is hard work to be enabled to come out as
satisfactory Account immediately. The Ore Carriage shd certainly be closed and in
case any Quantities are brot. in after this they may be pd for at the Spring Pay or in
some other way wch we may think of after this. Blagill and Thorngill Ore James

Johnson can bring at any Season. It is very contrary to our Express Command if any of the Mine Owners have gone ahead in the Delivery & tho' Jno. Friend has unfortunately been lamed which we are truly concerned for he most assuredly ought to have employed some person who he could trust to see how things were going on & not on any Account to permit or suffer the Mine Owners to be permitted to take away the Ore without the Hospital having a Share according to the Tenor of the Leases. With regards to the Cutting Ore we perfectly agree with you & we are determined to have this Business put on such a Footing as to have an opportunity at least of speaking upon the Occasion.

The Company we are perfectly satisfied mean honestly.

If their Agents either mean, or as it were by accident do otherwise, it seems high time to have the whole laid before the Governors of Greenwich Hospital and the Governor & Co. We shd however have the most anxious concern not to do any thing disagreeable to the Company's Agents, but if drawn to the necessity, we shall do our Duty in the most effectual way possible.

We are glad to hear the Level men are getting well on, but if they meet with Quicksand among the Great Stones, we fear there will be much difficulty, this is only ment.d to yourself & we hope for the best. What Geo. Temperley is proposing and doing appears proper.

We shall not say a Word upon the Business of the Carriage Ore to either Mr Hilton or Jno Friend 'til after we have seen you and shall talk with you on the Subject before we speak to them. Your Delivery is proper, and we see that Business, we are certain of it in the same light that you do.

The first time we write to London to the Gentleman who buys the Hospitals Silver, we will send for a Set of Weights for the Assays from the Tower in London.

The last Cakes will not be 30 Ounces short of the Assay because you know there will be either the Silver which is in the saved Litharge to deduct & therefore it is hoped we are much improved by the Alterations of the Treddles etc.

There are 50 Casks of Bone Ashes either between London & Newcastle, at Newcastle or on the Road between Newcastle & the Mill about which we will make Enquiry and we have ordered other 50 Casks to be sent as soon as possible. We are

Yours etc

W & T

PS We are obliged by the Account you have sent us of the Tillage Land at the Mill & shall think ourselves so by a similar Acct every Autumn.

According to your desire you receive a Copy of the Accts. As soon after you have settled the Ore Carriage Acct and made out the Pay Bill as possible, we desire youll send us the Pay Bill also and we will immediately fix the Day for the Pay and time of your coming for the Money. We wish to have the Pay made at Langley Mill.

29 Nov 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 29th Novemr 1779

Mr Mulcaster

We have reced your Letters of the 28th instant, and also the Accounts of Ore delivered and Amount of the Carriage for the present year & the old Account for last year.

On Monday Evening the 12th next Month we desire youll be at Newcastle and that Jno Friend and Mr Thornton may come with you. The next Morning you must come to Farnacres where we will have all packed for you ready for the Pay.

We are sorry to hear that the difficulty wch Mr Walton apprehended has happened and every effort must be made to get forward as you see leaving it to itself only causes difficulty. We propose sending you Half a Hundred coarse Deals next Friday or sooner if we can.

When you come to Farnacres, we must think of some Method to get the Lime Money.

We are. Yours etc

W & T

3 Dec 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Dr Messrs Walton & Turner to Mr John Holmes

For Cash pd the 13th Novemr 1779 for a Lottery

Ticket for them No. 37,019 including Registering.	£13 - 6
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For Do - pd the 17 Nov 1779 for a Do No 47,518 for

Mr Walton including Registering.	13 18 6
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For Do pd Mr Crathern 6 Nov 1779 for Bone Ashes.

22 - -

For Do - wch he is desired to pay Mr Crathern for

50 Casks of Bone Ashes sent on Board of the Peggy

John Middlemas Master as per advice from Mr Crathern	22
--	----

Mr John Holmes Dr.

£70 19

For 713 1/2 Ounces of fine Silver at 5s/8 1/2d

203 12 11

Balance due from Mr Holmes.

132 13 11

To Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 3rd Decemr 1779

Dear Sir

We have this day drawn upon you for One Hundred and Thirty two Pounds 13s/&11d for the Balance above & desire you'll be so good as pay for the Bone Ashes

last above mentioned & send us a Recet when Convenient. The Bill we have extended to 40 days.

We are Yours etc
W & T

PS. When you pay Mr Crathern be so good as desire 10 Casks of Bone Ashes as soon as convenient & you may acquaint him we shall take our Bone Ashes from him according to your Recommendation.

£132.13.11. Farnacres 3d Decemr 1779

Forty days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint One Hundred and Thirty Two Pounds Thirteen Shillings and Eleven Pence. Value as advised by Walton & Turner
Mr John Holmes London

4 Dec 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 4th Decmr 1779

Mr Mulcaster

We have reced your Letter by Mr Todd and have no objection to your making the Pay on Thursday the 16th inst and desire you will fix it accordingly.

It realy vexes us to hear the Level Men get into difficulties and we must beg to have the Work carried on Night and day Sundays not excepted til the Quick Sand is got entirely secured or otherwise there is no saying what may be the loss. We sent you 100 Coarse Deals which hope are arrived or will very soon be with you. You see what Mr Walton apprehended as to the Quick Sand come to pass, we however flatter ourselves all will soon be got secured. You write so clearly about the Mining busyness that we can scarce persuade ourselves but you have been employed in that way. You need not be at Farnacres on Monday Sennt sooner than Nine o Clock in the Morning, we are glad to hear John Friend gets strength. We are

Yours etc
W & T

21 Dec 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Due from Several Lead Carriers for Bankage

	Pieces	£	s	d
Edward Atkinson	67	2	5	
William Brown	11			5

Thomas Forster	441	15 9
John Havelock	258	9 3
James Johnson	230	8 3
Wm Pattinson	50	1 9 1/2
William Wilson	102	3 8
Thomas Ions	11	5
	1170	£2 1 11 1/2

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 21st Decemr 1779

Mr Mulcaster

On looking into our Cash Mem.ds when the last Lead Carriers Pay was made at Langley Mill the 15th Octor last we find that no Bankage was taken of the above Persons, but think it will not be prudent to say any thing about it til next pay.

We have reced yours of the 17th inst and are glad you got well home and have made the Pay; we very much approve of your not paying Jno Leonard and hope Mr Thornton will be enabled to secure something by getting an Order from William Whitfield.

We are very much concerned to hear of the Accident to Antho. Robson & of poor Wilkinsons illness.

As the Stone now seems to be set in at the New Level it will certainly be necessary to have some Gunpowder and we will send you some from Newcastle but til it arrives you must get Gunpowder in the best manner you can at Hexham. With regard to the Cover for the <Mens> Shoulders we must leave it to you and George Temperley, but if you have Occasion you had best use the Kalf Hide you have for that purpose and then you will have an opportunity of purchasing New Leather when you want for the Bellows.

We have no doubt the Bullion has arrived at Newcastle but have not yet been informed that it is so.

It vexes us to hear the Reducers make so bad a Produce and we very much approve of what you have done and propose doing respecting that matter and we are confident we shall approve of what you do further on this Occasion being perfectly satisfied of your endeavours and wish to have the Undertaking carryed on to the utmost advantage

In your above mentioned Letter we received all the Ore Carriers Recets and except Jno Leonards and we also reced therein the Whitfield Carriers Accts of Wood carried to Nentforce which last we have sent to Mr Hilton.

We join in wishing you, Mrs Mulcaster & friends many happy returns of the ensuing Season and are

Yours etc

W & T

24 Dec 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 24th Decemr 1779

Mr Mulcaster

Yours of the 20th Decemr is come safe to hand with the Assays and Jno Leonards Recet Inclosed. John is a steange irregular Being, but under the circumstances you mentioned we'd be hard upon him if we were not to forgive him. We entirely approve of what you have done about the Reducing etc.

We are glad to hear that we have got into terra firma with the Level but much concerned that your Water should be taken away, we however hope you will be enabled to do til Summer without much inconvenience and we will certainly endeavour to relieve you.

The frost being now very severe we hope you will find benefit having Stopped up the Mouth of the Refining Tail Race it is however quite as necessary that the Mouth of the Lead Mill tail Race should have a Door as the other and pray get a Yetling such as you describe without loss of time. We are

Your hble Servts

W & T

31 Dec 1779 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes

Dear Sir

By last Weeks Carrier we sent you a Box containing 732 3/4 Ounces of fine Silver. When you write us you'll be so obliging as send Mr Cratherns Recet for the 50 Casks of Bone Ashes sent on Board of the Peggy John Middlemas Master.

The 50 Casks of Bone Ashes desired in our Letter of the 3d inst, we wish to receive as soon as Mr Crathern can send them. We are

Dear Sir Your etc.

W & T

Farnacres 31 Decr 1779

31 Dec 1779 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 31 Decr 1779

Mr Mulcaster

We have reced your two Letters of the 26th and are very happy to find the Alteration you have made as for the Reducers is so promising to produce advantage to Greenwich Hospital. We very much approve of what you propose further in this matter.

We are extremely angry at the bad behaviour of John Forster and Geo. Robinson and it is certain if we had been at the Mill at the time we shd have discharged them both instantly, but as you have forgiven them on their promise of good behaviour for the time to come, we shall consent to that, but expect you will have the strictest Attention to their behaviour for the future, and assure you we will not forgive them if any thing of the kind happens after this time and this we insist upon your making known to them immediately.

We entirely join with you in Opinion of what might have been the Consequence by Forster and Robinsons being about.

We are obliged to you for what you mention as to Thomas Forster

We are glad to hear you have not lost all your Water and hope you will stil continue to have a Supply at the Well at the Quarry but rather fear you will lose the whole, but time will discover that.

As soon as the Stone in the Level becomes so firm as to stand without Wood, we desire that an Account may be made out of every Expence from the time of the last Pay to that time, and Geo Temperley must be careful to agree by the Fathom at as low a Rate as he can, and if it is that any of the Men wish to take advantage of us, we desire to be quit of such, and to employ others in their stead. We are

Your Hble Servts

Walton & Turner

2 Jan 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 2nd January 1780

Mr Mulcaster

Having carefully weighed the Assays for the last Six Operations I find them to be in produce as follows.

Dates of oper- ation	Pieces ref- ined	Fodrs ref- ined	Weight of each assay		In each fodder by assay		Silver as computed by assay			Real produce			Over or (Under) the assay			Quantity of silver in lead after refined	
			Gr	80 th	oz	dwt	Gr	oz	dwt	Gr	oz	dwt	Oz	dwt	Gr	dwt	gr
1779																	
May 29	1722	82	2	66	13	16	29,4	1135	1	16,8	1048	10	(86	11	16,8)	16	12,9
Jul 31	1722	82	2	32	11	15	4,8	964	6	9,6	878	15	(85	11	9,6)	15	22,2
Aug 28	1722	82	1	69	9	2	12,6	748	7	1,2	784	10	36	2	22,8	8	13,8
Sep 25	1293	61.5	2	13	10	11	22,2	651	13	9,3	623	10	(28	3	9,3)	11	-,6
Nov 27	1722	82	1	64	8	16	9,6	723	4	19,2	713	10	(9	14	19,2)	9	19,2
Dec 25	1722	82	1	68	9	1	7,2	743	6	14,4	732	15	(10	11	14,4)	9	4,5

From the above it is evident the Alteration of the Kams working is a Method with very Considerable Advantage and you will observe Mr Walton had made a mistake when he wrote you the 15th of Novemr but the above he believes to be very exact. As to the Assays of the 28 August, they were both weighed together and one of them is much smaller than the other & therefore we apprehend the small one is not a true Assay. We have real Satisfaction in seeing this matter having got into the right Channel and hope we shall now go on with our Workmen with Satisfaction as nothing will give us more real pleasure & we are well assured it will do the same to you . We are

Yours etc
W & T

3 Jan 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 3rd Jan 1780

Mr Mulcaster

We have reced your Letter of the 31st Ultio with the Acct of Stock of Materials at and about the Mill and desire you will get a Valuation made of those Materials which belong to the Lime Kiln & the new Level as are left Blank in the above Acct and you may employ such persons as you think proper making such Valuation.

It appears to us quite proper to be clear of Frank Carr in the farming way and as to his Employment at the Smelting, we leave that entirely to you. Frank Robinson shd have the Farm and Carrs Cottage from May Day, but if he can not be clear of the Farm he now has, it may perhaps be a difficulty upon him to have two Farms at the same time, so you will consider this, and settle the business in the best way you can.

We approve of what you have done and propose as to the Old Iron, and desire you will consult with Mr Thornton the first convenient opportunity abt converting the Refuse part into <Nogs> etc for our Buildings, and you will acquaint Mr Thornton with your dealings with Forster that he may secure us.

Before you try the Fire in the Tail Race, we wd have you first of all try what effect the Door has and we certainly must contrive to get the Wheel covered in that part where it is now exposed to the open Air, and those two things being done, it is possible we may not have occasion to use Fire.

We are glad to hear John Wilkinson is got well again and hope your next Account of the Reducing will be agreeable to you and our Wishes. We are

Your Humble Servts
Walton & Turner

PS. The Acct of the death of the unfortunate Joseph Hilton was from Mr Walton Junr. The Acct came from the Capt of the Ship in which he was, and he died just on his Arrival on the Irish Coast.

15 Jan 1780 Nicholas Walton to Robert Mylnes

To Mr Robert Mylne Esqr.

Farnacres 15th January 1780

Dear Sir

On examining our Mill Accounts I find there are 3753 Pieces of Lead (our best Lead) being equal to 281 Tons 17 Cwt now unsold and as we are going on making more you may have that Quantity or any other you please not exceeding 5000 Pieces all delivered in London River by the Month of April or May & we can begin the delivery when you please; but it will be very necessary that we shd have as early intelligence as possible of the real Quantity you will want or otherwise we shall not know how to regulate our Sales. I am

Dear Sir Yours etc

NW Junr

PS. The sooner we hear from abt the Lead the better as not only on Acct of Sales but the Shipping of it, as few Ships will take that kind of Commodity.

15 Jan 1780 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 15 Janu 1780.

Dear Sir.

We are much obliged by the trouble you have taken in paying for the Bone Ashes, and settling the sending of other 50 Casks.

This day we have drawn upon you at Thirty days date for £207.12s3d being the Amount of Seven Hundred and Thirty Two & three Quarters Ounces of fine Silver at 5s/8d P Ounce.

The Weight of the above is equal to abt 50 1/4 Pounds but what the Box was, we cannot tell but we always pd at the rate of 3d P Pound.

We are sorry to find the Trade so dull but indeed all Trade is so.

We are Dr Sir Your etc

W & T

£207.12 3. Farnacres 15th January 1780

Thirty days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Two Hundred and Seven Pounds Twelve Shillings and Three Pence. Value

received as advised by Walton & Turner

Mr Holmes London

21 Jan 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 21 Jan 1780

Mr Mulcaster

We have reced yours of the 17th and are sorry to find the difficulty with regard to the Quicksand still continues. What Geo Temperley has done in sinking a Shaft is certainly proper, but as soon as they have got the work cleared out they shd be exceedingly careful to have a good Foundation for walling and laying of the Flags upon, and therefore if it is necessary on acct of the Softness of the bottom, they shd drive some Piles upon which the Flags and walling may rest. We think the sooner Geo Temperley gets clear of Wilkinsons, the better, and no time shd be lost in getting such a man as you describe who can work Smith Work.

As the Frost is again set in, we doubt you may have another stop by it. We do not wonder at your being so effectually stopped before, and are rather surprized you got so soon to work again.

We are of opinion you had best tear out the Ground which Frank Carr wd have been entitled to tear out, in case he had staid upon the Farm, as it will keep things more regularly going on.

Mr Thornton is to be here on Monday Morning, and as he may possibly come from home on Sunday, you will be so obliging as give us two Lines how the Work at the Level is going on, and he shd have your Letter tomorrow Evening. We are

Yours etc

W & T

28 Jan 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 28th Jany 1780

Mr Mulcaster

Your Letter of the 24th gave us much pleasure and we hope everything will now be got forward without any more Hazard or Difficulty but I rather fear you have turned out of the walled part Westward too near the Quicksand, I however hope I may be mistaken in this, and that every thing will prosper. Nothing could be more proper than George Temperleys Proceedings in this Business, but we must be very careful not to get another bursting of a Quicksand upon us, as they are always troublesome Guests. The Deals were ordered immediately after I heard of your Difficulties. There does not seem to be any Occasion for further Borings. I mentioned turning out of the Level Westward in a Curve, but if it is done otherwise I don't mind that. If there is any Hazard of the Stone not standing we must be attentive to it and wait til we are clear.

On reading your Letter over again I find I had read that George had turned out of the Level Westward at the distance of 2 yards but I find it is 2 Fathoms behind the Forehead where the Quicksand burst out which is certainly quite sufficient

Since writing the above I have reced your Letter if the 26 inst and am happy to find our Ideas and the Proceedings at the Level so exactly hit each other. I hope all Difficulty is now over; and it gives me no small pleasure to see your Endeavours as to the Reducing are likely to prove so beneficial to our Employers. I am

Yours etc

N W Junr

2 Feb 1780 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 2nd Feb 1780

Dear Sir

On Saturday last we delivered to the Carrier a Box containing 848 3/4 Ounces of Silver Bullion with which we take this Opportunity of acquainting you.. We are

Dr Sir Yours etc

W & T

4 Feb 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 4 Feb 1780

Mr Mulcaster

Yours of the 30 Ulto is now before us & we are very happy to find the Level Work likely to get forward again, and much obliged to you for your very distinct Account from time to time of the Proceedings. The Gunpowder and Steel you will receive by Mondays Carrier, as Mr Walton will order it to tomorrow.

We think it will be very proper go let Frank Carrs Farm and House to Nicholas Temperley and cannot object to Robinson wishing to have time to determine upon what he himself is to do. It seems necessary to agree with Nicho. Temperley immediately as then both parties will know what they are to expect.

The Ticket Paper is right as to a Quantity.

It is now a Thaw here, and as the Wind is westerly here, expect it is the same with you, & therefore hope you will have no further Stop.

We rejoice with you on the Difficulty you have in getting the Lead Carriage Men satisfied, & doubt not your lost Pigs will be found.

We are Your etc. W & T

PS Having weighed the last Assays, the Produce is found as below.

1780	cwt	Fodr	Gn	80th	P	Fodder.	Oz	Pwt	Gn
Jan25	1722	82	2	14	10.13.3	6/10 prod.	873	18	7 2/10
	real	Prod					848	15	-
	Short						25	3	7 2/10
	Left in	Refined	Lead	P	Fodder		14	16	8/10

18 Feb 1780 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 18 Feby 1780

Dear Sir

We have this day drawn upon you for £216.14s3d being the Amount of 848 3/4 Ounces of fine Silver at 5s7 1/2d P Ounce after deducting £22 which you will be pleased to pay Mr Richd Proberts for 50 Casks of Bone Ashes he sent us on Board of the Michael Jos Smith Master. We have wrote to Mr Proberts to call upon you.

We are Dear Sir. Your etc

W & T

PS. We are sorry stil to see the Silver on the Drop. The Bill is payable 40 Days after Date.

£216.14.3. Farnacres 18th February 1780

Forty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Two Hundred and Sixteen Pounds Fourteen Shillings and Three pence. Value received as advised by Walton & Turner

Mr John Holmes London

18 Feb 1780 Nicholas Walton to Richard Probert

To Mr Richd Proberts.
near Hoxton Turnpike London

Farnacres near Gateshead February 18th 1780

Sir

We have received the Bone Ashes and desire you will call upon Mr Holmes for the Money.

We desire you will when convenient send us 100 casks more; but we are not in any hurry & think it probable we may not have occasion for more than the above Quantity this year.

We are Sir

Your etc. W & T

25 Feb 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 25 Feby 1780

Mr Mulcaster

We have reced your Letter, are glad to hear you have got the Gun Powder & Steel and that the Level seems now likely to get underway again.

The Operation you may send at any time convenient to yourself.

The Frost has been extremely severe here but we are really concerned at your having had so very disagreeable a piece of work in attending the Sluice & must make a point of it that you never attempt anything of that or any other kind again so like it to injure your Health. We must not pretend to fight against the Seasons unless we can do it with Safety and therefore let the Work stand rather than you do a like thing again. The Effort seems very extraordinary, but what you mention as to keeping the Dam with a Cover of Ice upon it is undoubtedly right.

We are Your etc.

W&T

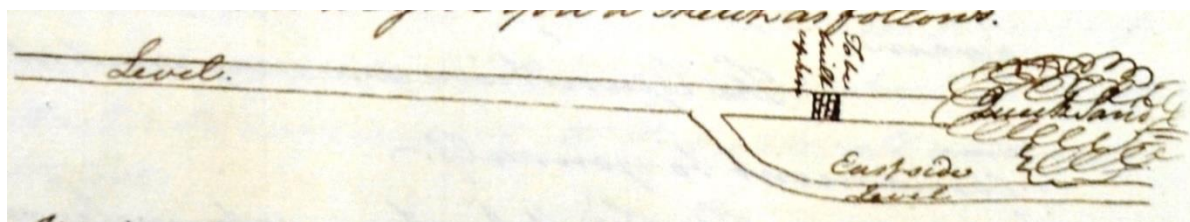
3 Mar 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 3d March 1780

Mr Mulcaster

Your Letter if the 28 Ultio is reced and we are much obliged by the particular Account you give us. The Expence occasioned by the Quicksand has to be sure been considerable but we may think ourselves well off as it seems there is now no further fear about it we however think it will be absolutely necessary to build up the Level in that part where the sides are firm, beyond the place where George turned out of the Line westward, as that will prevent the Quicksand running into the Drift which it may otherwise do and by that means wd weaken the East side of the Drift which now runs along the Margin of the Quicksand, and no time shd be lost in doing this, as Explanation of what has been said we give you a Sketch as follows



It will be impossible to judge about a Bargain til they get into firm Stuff and we wish that to be soon but do not expect it 'til the Level is under the Hill where it rises swiftly. We are glad the men are more tractable than they were, since Wilkins absence.

The Weather was here just as you describe it to have been at Langley Mill and we are very happy to hear you are well after your cold Stand and severe Blast.

The Silver we shall send to enquire after this day and whenever it is convenient to yourself you may send the Operation.

We are Your etc

W & T

5 Mar 1780 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 5th March 1780

Dear Sir

Yesterdays Carrier will send you a Box containing 867 1/2 Ounces of Bullion which we hope will arrive at a better Market than the last, tho' we much doubt that.

When you write us be so good as think of the Recet for the Bone Ashes. We are

Dr Sir Yours etc

W & T

9 Mar 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 9 Mar 1780

Mr Mulcaster

There was exactly the same Quantity of Silver left in the Refined Lead last Operation as in the former. Viz -0 Oz. 14Pwt. 16Gr. 8 10ths P Fodder.

We are sorry to hear the Frost has done so much damage to your Fences etc. When we come to the Mill we will give Directions what is to be done in consequence of it.

On the 18th of April, we propose being with you in the Evening, and the two following days shall be with you, and set out on the 21st for the West Country and on Sunday the 30th of April intend dining at your House in our way to Hexham, and shall make the Lead Mill Pay on Thursday the 4th of May. You will therefore we hope be enabled to get the Pay Bill ready against the 18th of April. We are

Yours etc

W & T

18 Mar 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 18 March 1780

Mr Mulcaster

I am so perfectly satisfied about the Work you have to do being impossible against the time we proposed the Pay, that I beg you'll not thinking of hurrying the Business but let us have a Pay when that can be done with convenience and perhaps we may contrive to pay Lead Mill & Lead Carriers together, I however beg the Level work may be brot. into a Pay Bill ending 5th April and sent down to Farnacres so as to be there by Tuesday the 11th of April and at the same time I desire to receive any Bills which are due from us at Newcastle or in the Neighbourhood either for the Level or for the Mill. I have paid James Johnson £40 upon Account of Lead Carriage which thought it necessary to mention to you.

It is a difficulty upon me what to do as to the Lead Ore Carriage but before I enter more into the Subject I desire you will contrive if possible to come at the truth of what the Company intends. If they fix the prices you mention, I own I think it necessary for us to do something but can never judge it proper to make our price proportionable to 2s/6d to Whitfield and on the whole shall thank your for your Sentiments. I have written to Mr Hilton desiring he will let me know the prices the Company intend paying, but that must not prevent your Enquiry.

I am glad to hear you have a piece of Wood ready for the Head Stocks and that you have a spare Brass. I cannot account for the Wear of the Brass at the outer End of the Axis in any other way (supposing the Brasses at each end to be equally hard) than by that End of the Gudgeon being always coldest.

The produce of Lead from the Reducing is indeed very good & I do think after all that has been said & done in this Business, we must consider when I come to the Mill of putting this matter upon some footing of Reward for good produce and deduction for bad or indifferent according to degrees in both instances.

It is quite clear it will be advantageous to Greenwich Hospital to slate your House and as there must be a new Roof and consequently the other one taken off, it will be proper to raise the Walls so that the principals may stand upon Joists and therefore you will be so good as get Mr Howden & the two Carpenters Watson & Henderson to make an Estimate what the whole will cost and send the same here with all speed the Ceiling Joists will do again as far as they will go and as we shall now ciel flush over, some addl. pieces will be wanted which may be got from the present Sparrs and as to the Principal Beams tho' all the rest of the Roof must be Firr I wd have them of Oak to be furnished by the Hospital from Dinnettly or Highwood. The House Walls I wd have raised to 17 feet and it will be necessary to have two plain now Sash Windows. The Slates you may get to the place when you will as good Weather suits, & Stones may also be got ledd both I hope before we come to the Mill the 18th of April, but the Slates had best be dressed before you bring them. I am

Your Hble Servt

N W Junr

PS. you have as follows our Acct as now fixed.

April 18 Arrive at Langley Mill in the Evening
19, 20 View Langley Barony & pay Level Men
21. Go for the West Country
30. Dine at Langley Mill. Possibly we may get to you the night before.
May 1/2 Receive at Hexham
Lead Mill & Lead carriage pay to be first afterwards.

You'll let Howden & the Carpenters know what is intended before they make their Estimates. The Stamps I ordered immediately & hope they come to & hope they come to you by this days Carriers if not they will come to you by Mondays Carriers. If you can give me directions for some Brasses I wish you to do so.

21 Mar 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 21st March 1780

Mr Mulcaster

I have reced your Letters of the 15th and 17th and also yours of the 18th inst. Mine of the 18th shd have been dated the 17th.

The Circumstances you mention as to the Quick Sand are what were not expected by any means and my Father with whom I have consulted thinks it very extraordinary that we shd again find ourselves in difficulty, you however explain the matter so exceedingly clearly that we can judge of it almost as well as if we were upon the Spot to see every part and do not apprehend anything can be done but what is proposed by Geo Temperley, only tell him to be careful of the Foundation when the walls across the Quicksand part.

Having fully entered into the Smelting Business before we shall wait til all is finished and not say any more at present.

I have rectified all the Errors in the Operations and as I found one Pig in your Operation paper and you found a Pig upon the Common those two together shd surely be equal to two.

I immediately spoke to my Father about Geo Temperleys Brother who will be glad to serve him on your Recommendation, but he does not at present know of a Vacancy. He is desirous to know the cause of his leaving Mr Greive, & what wages he would expect.

Mr Hilton acquaints me Mr Hall intends to lower the price of Carriage but does not say what.

In the Estimate the Floor you mention may as well be included as not and let the Calculation be made for Oak Joists for that Floor. I cannot 'til I see the Estimate form a

true Judgement of what ought to be done, but at all Events I would be glad to have the Scales brot. to the place before I come to the Mill & the Stones may be let alone 'til after that. I am

Your Hble Servt

Nich. Walton Junr

21 Mar 1780 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 21 March 1780

Dear Sir

We have this day reced your Letter with a Recet for the Bone Ashes and are obliged by the Trouble you have had in paying Mr Probert the Money who from the Letter we reced from him appeared to be an excellent Penman, but turns out only a Marksman.

We have drawn upon you dated this day payble 30 Days after date for £244.17.9 being the Amount of 867 1/2 Ounces of Bullion at £-.5s.7 3/4d P Ounce. I am for Mr Turner & Self

Dear Sir Your etc

N W Junr

£244.17s.9d. Farnacres 21st March 1780

Thirty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Two Hundred and Forty Four Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Nine Pence.

Value received as advised by.

Walton & Turner

Mr Holmes London

21 Mar 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 21 March 1780

Mr Mulcaster

Not being certain that I have mentioned my letting James Johnson have some Money on Acct I write this to acquaint you that I have paid him £40. I am

Your etc N W Junr

24 Mar 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 24th March 1780

Mr Mulcaster

We have reced yours of the 20th inst and also the Estimate as to the raising of the House, wch as it is most undoubtedly a proper thing to do, we desire you will get Stones to the place against Mr Walton comes up the 18th of April as well as Slater. As to the manner of doing everything that must be settled afterwards & we assure you we incline most Strongly to accommodate you, thinking at the same time that the Flooring you ask will afford a safe Store Room for articles belonging to Greenwich Hospital which ought to be under your immediate care and also a conventional Lumber Room for you. The old Couples will we shd suppose, certainly do again, & it is hoped they will answer without any difficulty, but we must not hazard them if there is the least doubt. The Work had best be done by the day then we can go on with it as we think proper, and make any little alterations without difficulty to the Workmen. The mode however of doing this work must rest to be settled. We shall be glad to receive the Estimate for the Floor when convenient to you.

Mr Walton has seen Mr Hall who is determined to lower the price of Carriage, but how much he has not yet fixed. He has promised to acquaint us the first Opportunity after all is done in that respect. After their Carriage Pay we shall be glad to hear from you with your Sentiments & with what you have already given us as your Opinion which we much approve shall then determine upon the matter. We are

Your etc W & T

31 Mar 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 31 March 1780

Mr Mulcaster

I have reced your Letter of the 25th, 26 & 27 and am really very much concerned that the Level Works get on so badly, but stil hope our difficulties are at an End.

What you have done as to Thomas Temperley is quite proper; and also what you mention as to the Slates, and therefore desire they may remain at the Quarry; but with regard to the Stones desire they may be got to the place as soon as convenient for tho' it is possible we may be frighten by the Appearance of the Estimates, yet the Stones being brought to the place cannot do any Harm. We must suspend all determination 'til our being together upon the Spot when every thing may be properly settled and in the mean time it wd not be amiss to close up or repair on the Breach in the Thatch so as to prevent any immediate Injury. At all Events let the Stones be got ledd. The Garden Wall had best be deferred. I am glad to hear the Walls are so near being compleated. The Founders are undoubtedly the stupidest of all Mortals - the directions I gave were

Nothing more could be wished to be done by Geo. Temperley under the Circumstances you mention & I really flatter myself you'll be able to give me a good Acct in your next. I am

As this further difficulty is come in the way I wish the Level Acct not to be closed til we get thro' the Quicksand and fairly into the Stone.

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Mr Mulcaster

In Operation ending the 27th November in the Accts of Ore brot in

In Operation ending 26th February you have at yr first Title - Ore brought in - should be Ore Smelted.

We have reason to rejoice at having so secure a place as the Iron Chest for our Silver Prices, and the Circumstance you mention proves how clearly it was necessary to have a place of Safety for those valuable Productions.

I am much obliged to you for the very particular Account you give abt the Drift and hope I shall be able to congratulate Geo. Temperley upon having in petrâ firmâ on my Arrival at the Mill.

Your Produce in the Reducing is very tolerable this Operation and I hope they will
stil improve. I am
Your Hble Servant
N Walton Jun

11 Apr 1780 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 11th April 1780

Dear Sir

On Saturday last a Box was delivered to the Carrier containing 755 1/2 Ounces of
fine Silver which I now give you this Acct of and am

Dear Sir Your etc

N W Jun

PS. I am glad to see Silver rather on the rise & Hope that will continue.

21 May 1780 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres May 21st 1780.

Dear Sir

I have this day drawn upon you for £179.15.3 payable Ten Days after Date being for
the Amount of the last Cake of Bullion sent you which weighed 623 Ounces price 5s : 9
1/4 P Ounce.

This Week's Carrier brings you a Box containing Seven Hundred and Ninety Six
Ounces of Bullion which from what you mention in your Letter to Mr Airey we have
reason to hope will come to a good Market.

I wish you a good Journey and am. Dear Sir
Your etc

N W Junr

£179:15:3.

Farnacres 21st May 1780

Ten Days after date Pay to the Order of Mssrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and
Saint One Hundred and Seventy Nine Pounds fifteen Shillings and three pence. Value
received as advised by Walton & Turner
Mr Holmes London

22 May 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 22d May 1780

Mr Mulcaster

I send this only to desire that you will let me have the Operation ending last years work, as soon as your Convenience can admit of it, and that you will let me know what Breadth you and Mr Smith set out the new Road to be at Lowbyer: Mr Hilton has seen Mr Bird who seems to behave very fairly upon the Occasion.

I am Your etc

N W Junr

PS As soon as you hear all the Lead is come in I shall be glad to hear from you but before that and the sooner the better I shd like to receive the Acct of what Lead has been delivered & to whom since the last Lead Carriers Pay.

25 May 1780 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 25 May 1780

Dear Sir

In the great Hurry I was when I last wrote you I find I have made an Error in drawing for the wrong Cake of Bullion.

I now draw upon you for £219.5.9 payable 30 days after Date being the Balance of Acct as below mentioned which rectifies the Error & am for Mr Turner & Self

Dear Sir Your etc

N W Junr

PS. The Bullion you reced the 19th inst was sent from Newcastle when we were from home but we understood that Mr Harvey who sent it had given you advice of it. I advised you the 21st of having sent you 796 Ounces more which hope youll receive in due time.

Due from Mr Holmes as follows

For 755 1/2 Ounces of Bullion at	5s/9 1/4d	£217.19.10 1/4
For 623. Do.	at 5s/9 3/4d	181. 1. 2 1/4
		£399. 1. 1/2

Deduct for Bill drawn on him

21 May 1780 at 10 Days	179.15. 3
Balance.	£219. 5. 9

£219:5:9.

Farnacres 25 May 1780

Thirty Days after date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Two Hundred and Nineteen Pounds Five Shillings & Nine Pence. Value received as advised by Walton & Turner
Mr John Holmes London

28 May 1780 Nicholas Walton to Jonathan Airey

Stock 30 Septem 1779	2266	
Delivered from Langley Mill	9313	11579
Sold and delivered	4963	
Sold and not delivered	2600	7563
Yet unsold	4016	

	LS	OS	RS	L	Total
Stock as above	220	10	936	1100	2266
Delivered as above from Langley Mill	336	113	903	7961	9313
	556	123	1839	9061	11579
Sold & delivered & not delivered	500		840	6223	7563
Unsold 28 May 1780	56	123	999	2838	4106

Mr Jona Airey

Dear Jonathan

I send you as above an exact account of the Quantities of Lead which we have now in hand unsold after delivery of the whole of Doctor Halls 3000L and 1200 RS&LS and there are only 1465 of that which is unsold now on the Road which I expect will all be at Newcastle in the Course of 14 Days or Three Weeks at farthest. In a Month we shall begin delivering a fresh from the Mill and will be able to produce 1000 pieces per Month or better from that time til next June. I do not think there is the least objection to letting Dr Hall know the Quantity we have unsold but as to speculation of produce from June to June that may as well be kept to yourself. I wish the Doctor could be prevailed upon to take the Lead which he wants to compleat the Sales made to him which will as I reckon be 2400L and 200 RS, as room will be much wanted in the Warehouse. I am

Yours etc

N W Junr

PS. You see there is great room to proceed with the Sale.

9 Jun 1780 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 9th June 1780

Dear Sir

We have reced Yours of the 3d and this Day have drawn upon you for £231.2.9 being the Amount of 796 Ounces of Silver Bullion at 5s/9 3/4d P Ounce after deducting 4s for Cleaning Mr Waltons Watch who after making enquiry after the Watch Chain etc is told by a Gentleman who accompanied Mr Graham to London that Mr G has the whole carefully locked up for Mr Walton. We are glad to hear we are soon to have the pleasure of seeing Mr Smeaton. The Bill is payable Thirty Days after Date. You will probably receive by this Weeks Carrier a Box containing something above 940 Ounces of Bullion. We are

Dr Sir Yours etc

W & T

£231.2.9. Farnacres 9June 1780

Thirty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Two Hundred and Thirty One Pounds Two Shillings and Nine Pence Value received as advised by Walton & Turner
Mr Jno Holmes. London

9 Jun 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 9 June 1780

Mr Mulcaster

As we do not observe that your Letters of the 5th, 8th, 10th, 12th & 29 April Your Memorandums of the same Month of the 16th, 19th, 20th & 29th or your Letters of the 14th, 16th, 22nd, 25th and 28th of May & 1st June inst have been particularly taken notice of, we now acknowledge to have received the whole as also your Letter of the 7th inst which is just come to hand.

The Silver mentd in yours of the 29th April weighed 623 Ounces.

In answer to yr Memorandums above referred to, we now are to acquaint you as follows.

The Prices of Carriage of Ore thus Season to be as ordered viz.

Windy Brow 6s/ P Bing

Thorngill & Blagill 4s/6d P Bing

All the rest East of Tyne 4s/8d P Bing

The Price of Smelting to be again reduced to 6s/8d P Fodder.

Mr Mulcaster's House Roof to be repaired til further Order.

The Dam at the Mill had best be cleaned by making a Cut thro' the Middle of the Slake and removing the Slake part as opportunity best served on each side of that Cut or it may be done by making a Cut along the West Side of the Dam as was talked over with Mr Walton when he was at the Mill.

The Pipe that has been stopped must be taken must be taken out again and fixed in such a manner as to make it the least liable to be stopped again.

The Conduit across the Waterrace which was ordered to be taken up and Widened it is expected is now completed. You are desired to employ such Number of Smelters from time to time as you may judge most proper for the good of the Works and therefore James Robinson's Absence during the Ore Carriage Season, occasioning a deficiency will be best judged by yourself the quantity of Ore from the Mines this Season is expected to be about 4000 Bings.

Your not having led Stones to Your House is for the reasons you have given quite proper and that matter will be fully determined upon after a little further consideration.

When last at Langley Mill Mr Walton gave directions to Mr Thornton to Rail off Langley Limekiln Bank to prevent damage to Mr Browns Cattle and we desire you will put Mr Thornton in mind of that. If you have not already followed the directions given by Mr Walton when at Langley Mill With regard to the Repairs of the Mill Troughs and other Matters wanting repairs we desire you will proceed therein and get the same done with all convenient expedition.

We have not yet received any directions from Greenwich Hospital respecting the Applications on Acct of damage by the Lead Mill Smoke but have no doubt the Applications of the Sufferers have been duly attended to and that we shall receive directions in consequence thereof.

If in the Course of carrying the Ore this Year it shd appear to you necessary to increase the Number of Horses after having had consultation with Mr Hilton and Mr Friend we beg you will jointly consider this and make such addition as shall appear necessary at the same time acquaint us with what you do from time to time on acct of this busyness we hope Joshua Elliot and family have been permitted in increase their Number to Twelve and that the several Ore Carriers in the Neighbourhood of Langley Lead Mill have in preference to other Carriers been allowed to load their Ore as soon as they arrive at the Mine.

We have every wish to serve the Inhabitants of and in the Neighbourhood of Langley Lead Mill we therefore wish that the Neighbourhood may be accommodated with a School House but shd first of all be glad to know who will contribute and what, or at least what it is wished Greenwich Hospital may contribute, may indeed at any rate we wish to know this Cash, as well as the other.

The Silver first mentioned in your Letter of 16th May from the Slag Lead weighed 522 Ounces and the other from the Silver Litharge etc weighed 274 Ounces and we wish as you do that the produce of refined Lead was always as good as it was in the Operation of Reducing the Litharge made from the Rich Litharge Lead and it is certain we must try Throckley Coals again if the good Coals at Stublick Colliery Level when

the Men finished their bargain and shall certainly attend duly attend thereto we have already acquainted you that we thought it necessary to take care of the Stones which are drawn from the Level.

We are much obliged to you for the trouble you had about seting out the Alston Road. If you see Mr Smith you may acquaint him we have paid £200 to Mr Ord on Acct of that Road.

We are much surprised to find that you had no advice of the Gunpowder and shall take due Notice of this to the Person of whom it was got.

There is no objection to your letting James Johnson have £5.- on Acct. if you want Money we shd be glad to know and as we are certain you will not make an ill use of it we will readily grant a supply. It gives us very great concern to hear if John Robsons Illness not only on Acct of Greenwich Hospl but on his own Account, as he appears to us as well as to you to have been a valuable Servant and we hope very soon to hear of his getting well again as yours of the 1st instant gives us hope he will do.

What you did with regard to the Lead laid down as you apprehend by Batey or Hutchinson we cannot but approve and think that the Offender whoever he is ought never to be employed as a Carrier again unless we shd be satisfied that the step you took has convinced him of his error so as to induce him to behave properly for the time to come.

What you propose as to bringing the Expence of the Conduit into the Lead Mill Pay Bill is Proper, and its being made in a substantial manner certainly necessary. The Operations ending the 20th & 27th May are safe arrived, as also the Acct of Lead delivered to the several Carriers.

Tomorrow we shall know what quantity of Lead has arrived at the Warehouse and we will write to yours soon as all is come in.

The Silver mentioned in yours of the 7^{inst} is arrived at Newcastle it is larger than common and we will try it as well as several others upon which you have had report as soon as opportunity offers.

We are truly satisfied of your endeavours to obtain a good produce in the reducing as well as in every other part of your Operations but there is undoubtedly some secret in this part of the busyness which we do not get at the bottom of.

It is quite clear from the Circumstance you mention that the matter which the Level Men have now cut is softer than they had before but we wish you to <> that by looking at the Matter which is drawn at the Staple and not let the Men know you have <> the least found out that they want less Gunpowder.

We are glad to hear the Ore Carriage goes well on and hope the case the Galloways will experience by Hexham Races enable the Owner of them to make an extraordinary trip to the Mines.

We have not yet heard that Mr Thornton has got any Bricks made and therefore should be glad you would send him or see him and desire him to get forward as fast as possible that we may have it in his favour to serve the Mill.

We have reced John Corbett & Jas Johnsons Bills which we shall examine the first opportunity and add them to the Pay Bills when we receive it. We are Yours etc

W & T

13 Jun 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 13th June 1780

Mr Mulcaster

We have reced Yours inclosing the Pay Bill and desire you will come down to this place on Monday Evening next for the Cash to make the pay, as neither of us can come up to do that busyness you may therefore mix the time of making the pay at your own House at any time you think proper after Wednesday next as I am not perfectly clear that you will be able to get sooner home than the Evening of Wednesday next.

There are four Pigs of Lead which we do not recolect have been paid for which was delivered to Hexham Bridge and therefore desire you will endeavour to receive the Money before you come down. We say nothing more till we see you in person and are

Yours etc

W & T

PS. We desire you will send us immediately the several Notes which are included in the Pay Bill.

13 Jun 1780 Nicholas Walton to Thornton

To Mr Thornton.

Mr Thornton

You are desired to be here with Howdon and Partners early on Monday Morning without fail and you will have to return with Mr Mulcaster on Tuesday or Wednesday with Cash for the Pay. If you could be here on Sunday Evening it would be very agreeable to

Yr Hble Servt

N W Junr

13 June 1780 Farnacres

23 Jun 1780 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

[Note: The tumults referred to were the Gordon Riots in London in June 1780]

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 23rd June 1780

Dear Sir

We wrote you on the 9th inst acquainting you that you would receive by the Carrier of that Week about 940 Ounces Of Bullion but as matters were then in such confusion we thought it prudent to defer sending it til the sad tumults were over and which we hope are now totaly so and shall be happy to hear you received no injury.

On the 17th we delivered to the London Carrier a Box containing 942 1/2 Ounces of Silver Bullion being that referred to above which doubt not you will receive in due course. We are

Dr Sir Yours etc

W & T

23 Jun 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

An Account of the Produce of Silver at Langley Lead Mill compared with the Assays from the 1st May 1779 to and with 20 May 1780

Dates of operation	Pieces ref-ined	Fodrs ref-ined	Weight of each assay		In each fodder by assay			Silver as computed by assay			Real produce		Over or (Under) the assay			Quantity of silver in lead after refined	
			Gr	80 th	oz	dwt	Gr	oz	dwt	Gr	oz	dwt	Oz	dwt	Gr	dwt	gr
1779																	
May 29	1722	82	2	66	13	16	29,4	1135	1	16,8	1048	10	(86	11	16,8)	16	12,9
Jul 31	1722	82	2	32	11	15	4,8	964	6	9,6	878	15	(85	11	9,6)	15	22,2
Aug 28	1722	82	1	69	9	2	12,6	748	7	1,2	784	10	36	2	22,8	8	13,8
Sep 25	1293	61.5	2	13	10	11	22,2	651	13	9,3	623	10	(28	3	9,3)	11	-,6
Nov 27	1722	82	1	64	8	16	9,6	723	4	19,2	713	10	(9	14	19,2)	9	19,2
1780																	
Jany 1	1722	82	1	68	9	1	7,2	743	6	14,4	732	15	(10	11	14,4)	9	4,5
29	1722	82	2	14	10	13	3,6	873	18	7,2	848	15	(25	3	7,2)	14	16,8
Feb 26	1722	82	2	22	11	2	22,8	914	1	21,6	867	10	(46	11	21,6)	14	16,8
April 1	1365	65	2	32	11	15	4,8	764	8		755	10	(8	18)		12	6,-
May 20	1719	81.5	1	45	7	13	3,-	629	19	16,5	623			(19	16,5)	7	8,4
Slag	1590	75.66	1	41	7	8	5,4	560	15	16,6	522		(38	15	16,6)	10	9,9
Rich																	
Lead	483	23	2	30	11	12	18,-	267	13	6,-	274		6	6	18	15	22,2
do											274		274				
Short of assay for the year													(30	18	12,4)		
1780																	
Jany 24	1764	84	2	18	10	18	1,2	915	16	4,8	942	10	26	13	19,2	14	2,1

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 23d June 1780

Mr Mulcaster

Above you have an Account showing the Produce of Silver for the last year from which you will see we are clearly doing very much better since the alteration of the Bellows, and we hope to continue improving but it is quite beyond a Doubt that the Assays cannot be absolutely depended upon.

You receive herewith an Account of the Over Receivings and Arrears of Duty Ore for last year from which you will observe we have got no less ahead of the Company in Garrigill than 34 Bings 5 Cwt of Cutting Ore which is the strongest thing possible; however it shows us that we sought not to have any from thence this season; if therefore any shd happen to be sent we would have you give Jno Friend a Caution about this as well as taking care to get what Cutting Ore we are to have somehow in such manner as that we may not be cheated. As to the Bouse Ore I believe in general we get as good as the Owners of the Mines, but it most assuredly is necessary that every attention shd be given to this least we shd, tho' without any intention, be wronged. You see the Arrears are very trifling except Thorngill and Thortergill Syke and the Companys Mines and during the course of the Summer John Friend shd continue to go so much before the Companys Delivery as to get those Arrears rubbed off and as we believe there is little or no Ore raised at Gallygill Syke & Brigal Burn or however at the latter the Company shd pay off the Arrear from some of their other Mines which produce Ore as near alike as possible in Quality as the Ore from wch the Arrear became due.

It is hoped that this will meet with you well and with your Cash in safety. We are Yours etc

W & T

PS. You need not send any of the Vouchers or other things to this place Mr Walton will take them at Hexham on the Lead Carriers Pay Day. The Lead Carriers shd be desired to be early in the Morning. We made out an account some time ago of the produce of the Silver compared with the Assays from the beginning 'til last year but have either mislaid or lost it and desire you'll look amongst your Papers for it or a Copy which we think we sent you and you'll be so good as bring it with you to Hexham in case you find it.

5 Jul 1780 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 5th July 1780

Dear Sir

We are favoured with your Letter of the 1st inst and tho' we are clearly entitled to draw for the Silver at 5s/9 3/4d according to what was settled 21 Septemr 1779 in the present case as then has been so long an Interval of Blank, we shall only draw for £250 payable 40 days after Date and after you having disposed of this Silver shall be glad if you would acquaint us at what rate P Ounce we are to draw upon you for the residue. With regard to the fixing of this business upon the Price of Dollars, we think it will not do, and therefore beg it may stand upon the Agreement of the 21st Septemr 1779 as we shall always be ready to attend to particular cases such as the present. We have this day drawn upon you as above mentioned and are

Dear Sir Your etc
W & T

£250.-.-

Farnacres 5th July 1780

Forty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Mssrs Bell Cookson, Carr, Widdrington and Saint Two Hundred & fifty Pounds. Value Received as advised by Walton & Turner Mr Holmes London

7 Jul 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Mr Mulcaster

On looking over the Lead Carriers Bills, we find we have allowed Isaac Burnhope One Pound more than we ought to have done as youll see by the inclosed Account herein youll observe 40 pieces set down at 8 1/2d. £2:8:4 which shd have been £1:8:4 youll therefore get him to sign the inclosed Recet and Promissory Note and give him up the Recet which has the mistake in it. We are

Yours etc
W & T

7 July 1780

PS Find us the Recet and Note the first convenient opportunity.

14 Jul 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 14th July 1780

Mr Mulcaster

Yours of the 10th is come to hand and we are obliged by your punctuality as to Isaac Burnhopes Acct and glad that you are convinced that our Accts with you are right. We approve the orders you have given Watson.

We are pleased to hear the Shaft is compleated and that the Men have made better Wages of the last bargain than was expected.

The Walling the inside of the Dam on the Common as mentioned to Mr Walton when he was last at Hexham had best be got done immediately to prevent any accident to the Level.

Poor John Robson will we doubt never get well enough to be of any service again to us for which we are concerned both on Acct of Greenwich Hospital and himself.

We are

Your etc

W & T

PS. If you have time shall be glad to see you at Hexham on 1st August at Dinner.

15 Jul 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 15th July 1780

Mr Mulcaster

Upon examining the Lead Warehouse Quantity I find that the Carriers will have to receive for Five Pigs of Lead out of 9 which they pd for as lost & the Account will be as follows.

	Number of Pieces pd For	Amount of Lead pd for as lost	Amount of money to be returned each Carrier
Isaac Burnhope	3	£2 14	£1 10
William Bell	1	- 18	10
Thomas Ions	3	2 14	1 10
John Corbett	2	1 16	1 -
Total	9	£8 2	£4 10

I desire you will order those Carriers to come to me at the Golden Lion on Tuesday Morning the 1st of August and I will settle the above Account with them.

I have the pleasure to acquaint you that our Profits at the Lead Mill for last year are very satisfactory. I am for Mr Turner & Self

Yours etc

N W Junr

PS. I have desired Mr Ions, Mr Bell and Jno Corbett to be at Hexham on the 1st August in the Morning.

The Carriers shd bring with them the Recets I gave them when they pd for the lost Lead the 6th Jan.y & I have told Ions Bell and Corbett they are to do so.

22 Jul 1780 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 22d July 1780

Dear Sir

We have your Letters of the 1st & 15th now before us and in answer to both we now are to acquaint you that we propose drawing for the Balance for last Cake at the Rate of 5s/8 1/2 d P Ounce but shall not draw it til the advice of the Arrival of the Cake which the Carrier of this week will bring you weighing 807 1/2 Ounces. The Acct for the last Cake will stand as below. We are

Sir. Yours etc

W & T

942 1/2 Ounces of Silver Bullion at 5s/8 1/2d	£ 269 - 1
Bill drawn 5 July 1780 on Acct	250
Balance due from Mr Holmes	£ 19 - 1

22 Jul 1780 Nicholas Walton to Richard Chambers

Mr Richd Chambers.

Farnacres 22d July 1780

Dear Sir

I desire youll be so good as get us Eight Brass Weights adjusted to Standard by the Town Weight. They must be each two Stone and I beg the favour of you to get them for us as expeditiously as possible and sent by James Johnson the Hexham Carrier; Four directed to Mr Peter Mulcaster at Langley Lead Mill and Four to Mr Jonathan Hilton at Alston. I am

Dear Sir Your etc

N W Junr

22 Jul 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 22d July 1780

Mr Mulcaster

Last Night I reced your Letters of the 16th & 18th. The Silver was sent for London Yesterday afternoon somI never saw it.

I have tryed the Produce of Silver & find it to be as follows. The Assay weighed 2Gr 14 dwt which is equal to 10 Oz 13 dwt 3Gr 6Tenths P Fodder and as there are 80 Fodders refined the Quantity of Silver according to Assay amounts to 852 Oz 12 dwt

and the real Produce being 807 Oz 10 dwts there is a falling short of 45 Oz 2 dwts this Operation.

I would by all means try Throckley Coals again. I think it very probable the Toft Bricks will not answer but a tryal will best show that.

Mr Turner and I mean to Dine at Langley Mill in our Way to Alston on Friday the 11th of Next Month and shall not be with you at the Mill before that time. I hope to see you the 1st of August.

The Brass Weights will I hope come to you by Fridays Carrier but I cannot be certain of that and I flatter myself after you get them the Weight will be better. I think there is something Idle and bad in the Ore being delivered so wet & pray tell John Friend to see to that and if necessary let application be made to Mr Hall and Mr Percival for redress & let us hear from him. I am

Your etc N W Junr

28 Jul 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 28th July 1780

Mr Mulcaster

I am very much concerned for the loss of George Temperley who always appeared to me to be, as you very properly say, a most faithfull Servant and indeed I was happy in the Idea of our having a person who I, as well as Mr Turner, hoped to give Incouragement to and retain in the service of Greenwich Hospital for a long time but how uncertain are all our Expectations and there is no saying how long any of us are to continue. I should be glad to have Thomas Temperley employed in the room of his Brother on the same conditions and doubt not we may make it worth his while to continue with us after the Colliery comes into the hands of Greenwich Hospital; but of that shall say more at meeting, & hope I shall see Thomas Temperley on Tuesday Morning and assure you we think ourselves obliged by your Attention to this business. If you could be at the Golden Lion on Monday Evening it would be very agreeable to me and we will then talk over the above busyness and also what relates to your Nephews Farm. I am for Mr Turner and Self

Your etc

N W Junr

8 Aug 1780 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 8th Aug 1780

Sir

I now take the opportunity of acknowledging the recet of your Letter of the 5th and tho' I expect you to set out for Yorkshire this day I shall write exactly as I thought you in London. I have drawn upon you for £231.13.8 being for the balance as below mentioned. The Bill is payable 30 days after Date. I am for Mr Turner & Self

Sir Your etc

N W Junr

Balance of Acct for the last Cake of Silver as mentioned	
in our Letter of the 22d inst	£19 1
807 1/2 Ounces at 5s 9 3/4d being for the Cake of	
Bullion last sent	£234 13 7
	£253 13 8
Deduct for Bone Ashes sent by Mr Richd Probert to whom I	
desire you will pay (but not 'til you hear from me again)	22
	£231 13 8

£231:13:8.

Farnacres 8th Aug 1780

Thirty days after date pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Two Hundred and Thirty One Pounds Thirteen Shillings & Eight pence. Value received as advised by Walton & Turner
Mr Holmes London

21 Aug 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 21st Aug 1780

Mr Mulcaster

Above you have a Sketch showing the manner in which I wd like to have the Wall built for preventing damage to your Close near the House and to leave the piece a waste [marked on the plan]. You will therefore lay down the Stones accordingly.

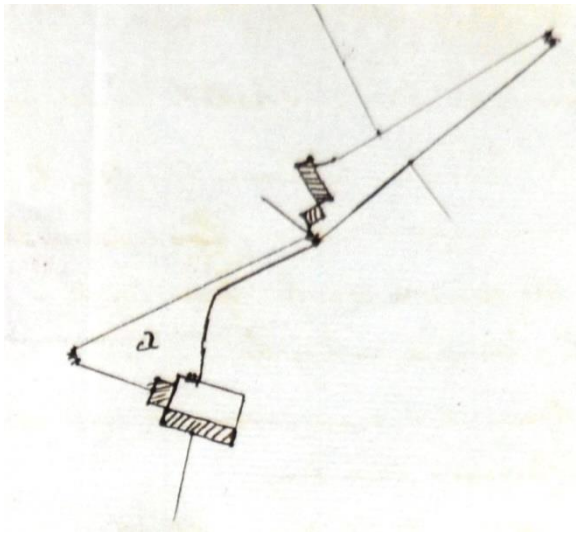
The Bone Ashes are arrived and will I hope be sent by the Carriers this day.

I shall be glad to have the Silver sent so as to be at Newcastle on Friday & I am etc

Yours

N W Junr

PS. youll soon hear from Mr Turner and abot. Your Memds
[annotated to side:] See Plan of Langley Castle Farm upon Paper.



25 Aug 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 25 th Aug 1780

Mr Mulcaster

Your Memorandums of the 14th & 17th and Letters of the 18th & 20th instant are now before us and you have our answer to the several Articles therein mentioned as follows.

Your endeavours to get a Subscription towards the School House have proved that it is necessary to be cautious how that Proposition is to be carried into execution and it must be dropped if Greenwich Hospitals contributing Wood for the Roof and Six Guineas towards the Building will not do; and we will not even contribute that for the Hospital unless we are made clearly sensible that the other part to finish the erection will be forth coming.

The Agreements you have made with the Turnpike Men to make about 18 Roods of Road for the Hospital at 6s/. P Rood and with Thos Stokoe and William Howden for Winning and Walling at 4s:6d and Jihn Robson for leading Stones to the Wall in inclosing Ground to prevent damage by the Mill Smoke at 3s 6d p rood as also for furnishing Stones for and making tow conduits are hereby approved.

We do not think it will be proper to allow the Turnpike Men to Enter into our Quarry which was Walled about.

The conduit to prevent damage to our Coal Level we must desire you to get effectually done at the Expense of Greenwich Hospital.

The County Cess we shall contribute to and Geo Bell of Lightbirks must also contribute in proportion to our respective Rentals and Geo Bell must leave the settling of his Rental for the Mill Haughs to Mr Thornton which we beg youll speak to Thornton about and get him to settle this busyness. The Rentals for Langley Castle Farm and the Lead Mill will be

Langley Castle Farm £111 P Annum
Langley Mill Ground 35

We approve of what you have done with respect to the Peats which Robert Pearson cast without leave upon Langley South Common and Consent to his removing the two Fodders you mention to be left but do not think it will be right to pay him 18d or anything for the Peats removed by Mr Walton's order.

The desire you have expressed to your Brother of Purchasing Broomhill Freehold for Greenwich Hospital and the Terms upon which he has been requested to make the Purchase are just as we would have wished to have put that matter and you will write us as soon as you hear anything about the busyness. The keeping it a Secret that it is for Greenwich Hospital is not worth much pains. We thank you for your attention to this busyness.

The Deals will it is expected come by Mondays Carrier.

We have ordered two of the Weights which have Fodder at the Bottom to be returned to you and in case you think they will not answer beg you'll return them to Mr Sandell & Mr Chambers.

The busyness as to Robert Waugh we have wrote to Mr Hall & Mr Percival about & hope to have redress. We have required his being discharged. We are

Yours etc

N W Junr

PS. Your Letters of the 23d & 24th are just come to hand what you propose as to the alteration of the Road near your House is quite right, and the Stones which are now at the Quarry had best be led immediately to that.

The other matters shall be attended to; the Wall had best stop for the present and we will make some enquiries & give Edward Scott a discharge.

Mr Walton will see Mr Blackett tomorrow

26 Aug 1780 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnaces 26 Augt 1780

Sir

We send you by this Weeks Carrier a Box containing 782 1/4 Ounces of Fine Silver.

We shall be obliged by your taking the first opportunity of paying Mr Probert for the 50 Casks of Bone Ashes mentioned in our Letter of the 8th inst and believe you have a proper receipt for him to Sign which we beg you will send us as soon as you can.

We are Sir Yours etc

W & T

Reced 30th Augst 1780 of Messrs Walton & Turner Twenty Two Pounds in full for 50 Casks of Bone Ashes with all Charges thereon at London.

Witness. Richard Probert [made mark]

26 Aug 1780 Nicholas Walton to Richard Probert

Mr Rich Probert.

Farnacres 26th Augt 1780

Mr Probert

You will be so obliging as immediately on Recet hereof to wait upon Mr Holmes who will pay you £22 - for the last 50 Casks of Bone Ashes.

We have some loss by the Bone Ask Casks not coming so good as usual and therefore beg you will take care to let us have better Casks for the future and we must desire to have the Bone Ashes packed with Paper as formerly used to be done as in case of any small openings in the Joints of the Casks that will prevent the Ashes shaking out.

We are very desirous to receive the other 50 Casks of Bone Ashes with all possible dispatch and as soon afterwards as you can 50 more. We are

W & T

27 Aug 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster.

Farnacres 27th Augst 1780

Your Letters of the 23rd & 24th are now in course of being fully answered.

With regard to the Lane near your House you are desired to get that work forward immediately according to your own description of the matter.

The behaviour of Edwd Scott is unaccountably odd and we must endeavour to make him sensible of his error and til we see further must let alone doing anything as to that inclosure of that part of the Common lyable to be hurt by Mill Smoke or even making any Stone Wall in the line of the present Boundary joining the Common you will therefore get clear of the Contracts you made in the best manner you can.

We hope the Tryal as to Scaleburn Moss Ore will cause more care to be taken as to the Washing of it. With respect to the Co. giving that Mine up they may do as they please - we are under no difficulties as to that.

The Silver Weighed exactly 782 1/4 Ounces.

We are much concerned to have occasion to apply to anybody on Acct of a difficulty in our operations but certainly in the case you mention it is necessary for us to attempt an improvement & therefore we shall most assuredly apply to Mr Blackett for a Man in Exchange for one of ours.

The Assays we shall be glad to receive at any time convenient to yourself.

If you think the Weights that have <Sodder> at the bottom can be made to answer and not liable soon to be put out of order as to true Weight we shd be glad they were not returned but if you have any reason to judge they will soon get wrong pray return them directly.

Mr Harvey assures the Deals shall be sent by tomorrows Carrier and doubts not they will please.

We are Yours etc

W & T

PS Are you a Freeholder in the County of Northumberland

30 Aug 1780 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

To Mr Thos. Temperley.

Farnacres 30th Augst 1780

Thomas

I have reced your Letter of the 28th inst and quite approve of what you have done and propose respecting the carrying forward the Level for Winning Stublick Colliery and I have only to observe that I shd be glad to have the Lengths between Staple and Staple to be as great as they possibly can not to create too much inconvenience to the Workmen and care must be taken to fix them so as to suit the Hollows of the Ground to save sinking as much as that can properly be done and I beg the level may be carried in a direct Line.

I beg you will request your Brother Nicholas from me, that he will not attempt to do any Work til his hand has got perfectly healed, as a bruise or Strain now might endanger his hand if not his Life.

I am for Mr Turner & Self

Yours etc

N W Junr

1 Sep 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster.

Farnacres 1st Sepr 1780.

We have reced your Letter of the 28th and also one from Thomas Temperley of the same date an answer to which we inclose you and desire you'll peruse it and then Seal and deliver it to him.

We approve of your employing the Masons in Building the Wall which is to form the Lane and also of your applying the Stone they have Won to that purpose; and as it will suit very well to build the Wall in manner as you and Mr Thornton have recommended we desire you wil do it in that manner and that the part that make the

North and East sides of the Garden may be raised at once to Six feet but we would not have the Garden inclosed on the South side 'til we see it ourselves.

It really vexes us not to have been able to detect Edw Scott we however hope after all that Evidence sufficient may be had to prove his getting Stones and Slates for his Building out of the Hospitals Common and as we understand the Building is a quite new one not being built on the foundation of an old one of the same kind. We must be nice as to the distinction for a Commoner may have a right to get Stones and Slates for the repair of this Ancient Tenement but cannot possibly have a right by Custom to get Stones or any thing else for a new Erection of any kind.

The Assays shall be weighed the first opportunity. We are obliged by what you have done and propose as to the Bells. We are

Yours etc

W & T

5 Sep 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 5th Septemr 1780.

Yours of the 29th Ultio & 2nd inst came duly to hand together with the operation for last Month.

I think it right that the Stublick Level Men shd have aBox for their Candles & that they should take the Gunpowder at the price it cost us.

The School House if that matter can be got forward had best be placed as you mention in Thomas Coats Pasture its front upon the Line of the Fence, rather within than without that line.

I am obliged by your accompanying John Friend to Whitfield Mill I desired him to get you to go. I think the fairest way would be for us to lift our Duty at the Cupola from the Ore now lying there which came from Browngill and Longholehead & what we save in Carriage to be paid to the Company and I desire you will immediately go to the Cupola and request that those parcels may not be Smelted but kept til we get this sad disagreeable business settled. We shall advise in the strongest manner to have possession taken of the Mines if Waugh is not immediately discharged. We are

Yours etc

W & T

8 Sep 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 8th Septemr 1780

We have reced yours, the Contents of which shall be particularly attended to. Mr Walton has seen Mr Blackett who has promised to consult with Sir Thomas Blacketts

Agent at Bladon and if they can spare us a Man I dare say they will. Mr Walton is promised an answer very soon but does not expect one 'til after the Election. When we receive one, you shall immediately hear from us. We are much obliged to your Brother for the trouble he has taken about Broomhill Freehold, and when Opportunity offers shd be glad of his further attention to that matter. We recommend your consulting Mr Fawcett again as to Mr Hunters Estate and when you do so don't forget to consult him whether you are intitled to be allowed such Money as you may expend in Repairs.

We are Yours etc

W & T

PS. Your Report of the State of Husbandry for your little Farms at Langley Mill is desired as soon as possible, as the whole stood the 1st Ultio.

22 Sep 1780 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 22d Sept 1780

Dear Sir

We have this day drawn upon you at 30 days date for £206.19.5 being the amount of 782 1/4 Ounces of fine Silver at 5s:10 1/4 P Ounce after deducting £22 - which we are desired to be so good as pay Richard Probert for Bone Ashes on his Signing the above Recet which pray send us when you have occasion to write us again. I am for Mr Turner & self

Dr Sir Your etc

N W Junr

£206:19:5.

Farnacres 22d Septemr 1780

Thirty Days after date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell, Cookson, Carr Widdrington and Saint Two Hundred and Six Pounds Nineteen Shillings and five pence. Value received as advised by W & T
Mr Holmes London

Reced. Septemr 1780 of Messrs Walton & Turner

Twenty Two Pounds in full for Fifty Casks of Bone Ashes with all charges thereon at London, and Shipped on Board the Pearl John Coxon Master by
Witness Richard Probert [made mark]

29 Sep 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 29th Septemr 1780

I have been with Mr Chambers and desired him to be so good as forward the Brass Weights to you and you will take care to send them to Mr John Friend to be kept in some safe place at or near Nenthead or where it is probable there will be occasions for them.

I have weighed the Assay you gave me at Langley Mill and find the Produce P Fodder to be 6 Oz 17 wt 4 8/10 Gr and therefore you see it is Refineable.

Pray send me Mr Joblings Recet and James Johnsons Recet the first opportunity.
I am

Your etc
N W Junr

Mr Mulcaster

We have trled the Assays for the last Cake of Bullion which was recd at Newcastle and find the produce to be as follows.

The two Assays of Refinable Lead Weighed 3Grs 27 80TH parts equal 9 oz 11 dwt 2 4/10 gr P Fodder, which Multiplied by 80 the number of Fodders refined produces 764 Ounces 8 dwt and comparing this with the real produce which was 782 Oz 5 dwt you observe there is an exceeding of17 [oz] 17 [dwt]

We are Your Hble Servants
W & T

3 Oct 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster.

Farnacres 3d Octor 1780

We have reced yours of the 30th Ulto and desire you will acquaint Nicholas Woodman that we have no objection to his being an Ore Carrier next Season & that we shall continue to employ him as long as he behaves properly & wishes to be a Carrier.

It gives us pleasure to see the Produce by reducing better than in the two last Operations.

We wish to pay the Leven Men at the same time we make the Lead Mill Pay.

The two Assays of Refineable Lead weigh 3Gr 76 80th p F - equal 9 Oz 19 pwt 13,2 Gr P Fodder which multiplied by 80 the number of Fodders refined produces 774.4 and comparing this with the Weight as you have it 754 - you observe there is a falling short of 20.4

We are Your etc
W & T

The number of Fodders were 81 & so the Quantity of Assay is

783 17 13,2

755 real produce

28 17 13,2 short of Assay

25 Oct 1780 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr Jno Holmes.

Farnacres 25th Octor 1780

Sir

We have reced yours of the 21st and have this day drawn upon you for £219:8:5 being the Amount of 755 Ounces of Fine Silver at 5s/9 3/4d P Ounce. We were from Home when the above Silver was sent which prevented our giving you advice of it.

We inclose you a Letter from Mr Probert who we have desired to call upon you immediately for his Money and indeed we are sorry he has not already done so as it has occasioned our being obliged to take it out of your Cash Acct in which we had entered it as a payment upon the clear supposition of his being ready to wait upon you for the Money.

We are Sir Yours etc
W & T

£219:8:5. Farnacres 27th Octor 1780

Thirty days after Date pay to the Order of Messrs Bell, Carr, Cookson, Widdrington & Saint Two Hundred and Nineteen Pounds Eight Shillings and five pence. Value received as advised by Walton & Turner

Mr Holmes London

27 Oct 1780 Nicholas Walton to Richard Probert

To Mr Probert.

On the 22d of last Month having occasion to write to Mr Holmes Watch-maker in the Strand, we desired he wd be so obliging as pay you for the last 50 Casks of Bone Ashes sent on Board the Pearl.

We now desire you will immediately call upon Mr Holmes for the Money.

The 26th of August last we desired you wd send us 50 Casks more of Bone Ashes and at the same time desired you wd take care to have the Casks better than they had

been for some time past, and that in the Packing of the Ashes you wd line the Casks with Paper, a practice formerly made use of to prevent the Ashes shaking out of the Casks. We are rather surprized not to have heard from you in answer to our Letter of the 26th August and hoped to have reced the Ashes then ordered before now.

We are Yours etc

W & T

Farnacres 27th Octor 1780

27 Oct 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster.

Farnacres 27th Octor 1780

We have reced yours of the 20th and both yours of the 23d and having examined our Cash Books find that we reced for Mr Joblings and Peter Bells 2 Pigs of Lead the 6th of July last and also the 18th inst we shall therefore return you Forty Shillings the first opportunity. On examining this matter we find you sold a Pig of Lead to Mr Tulip within the time of your Operation ending the 20 May 1780, but there is no acct. of any Money being received from Mr Tulip, however we observe there is £1 - - set down as being reced the 6th July last from James Johnson for 1 piece of Lead and we cannot find that you sold James Johnson any Lead we therefore apprehend that the sum set down as being reced from James Johnson ought to have been set down as reced from Mr Tulip, but desire you will explain this matter.

We send you a Recet for the half Years Rent of the several Farms at Langley Mill and desire that you will return that given you the 18 instant at Hexham. What you propose with respect to this in future is very right.

We are sorry to hear of the Damage to the Alston Road at the Cupola Bank as we assure you it wd have given us real satisfaction to find the Judgement we had formed with regard to that Work to be erroneous, and we fear the effect of what has been done will produce great difficulty to any Road which may be hereafter formed in another situation. It may perhaps be attempted to repair the Breaches by piling or some other method but we have no Idea of anything effectual in the present situation, and it is no little satisfaction to us that our apprehensions were made known to Mr Smith so long ago as the middle of August.

We are glad to hear that you have got to work again and doubt not you will by different tryals get the Troughs to deliver the Water upon the Wheel quite to your satisfaction in a little time. We will take care to order the Iron immediately.

We shall be glad to hear from you when convenient what Stock of Lead you find there is in the Neighbourhood of and at Hexham and desire you will send the Lead from the Mill as fast as it is ready and you can do it with convenience to yourself.

We are greatly obliged to you for what you have communicated with respect to Thomas Temperley and we shall give that busyness a full consideration the first time

we meet at Gateshead or Newcastle and afterwards send to him to have some conversation with him upon the Subject. The House it is clear must have an addition made to it.

We are Yours etc

W & T

3 Nov 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster.

Farnacres 3d Novr 1780

Yours of the 27th & 28th Ultio were duly reced and we are obliged by your care as to the Lead Carriage but as the present demand is satisfyed they need not now hurry, however it will we believe not be right to take pains to stop them.

As every thing respecting the Smelters was fixed when we were at the Mill we cannot go from that and therefore it will undoubtedly be proper not to take Joseph Bell on as a Smelter of Ore and your answer was very proper to him. If we can take him to the Slagg Hearth in the way you mention and you think it right, we shd be glad to encourage him and after Tryal we may have it in our favour afterwards on some future occasion to do more for him but we can assure you he has had no promises of Employment at Langley Mill, yet at the same time we must say we wish to oblige him but every thing must depend upon his behaviour for no consideration shall induce us to permit any Person being at Langley Mill who we do not think will do his Duty to the best of his ability.

We shall be glad to receive the Silver at Newcastle this day Sennt and are

Yours etc

W& T

5 Nov 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

To Mr Peter Mulcaster.

Farnacres 5th Novemr 1780

Mr Mulcaster

Yours of the 31st Ultio is now before us and we are glad to find Mr Waltons calculation has been so near the truth & hope you may get to the Length of 4200 or 4150. We cannot think it proper to employ Wm Brown of Langley as a Smelter any more and desire you will tell him so in case he makes a further Application.

Joseph Bell is now here and desires to be employed in anything we can let him have. The Slag Hearth Work has been mentd to him & he has been told that our Number of Ore Smelters is quite full. He is willing to undertake the Slag Hearth Business upon the usual Conditions and we desire you will set him on as soon as that can be done with Convenience to the Work at Langley & tho' we wish to oblige him, he

must be set on sooner than that & we hope this may be done before Christmas, we must however leave the whole to you and doubt not you'll set him on as soon as you see it can be done without Inconvenience. We have made him thoroughly sensible that he is to be entirely under your Direction & he has promised to observe what you say to him & that we may depend upon his good behaviour. We are

Yours etc

W & T

7 Nov 1780 Nicholas Walton to Richard Probert

Mr Probert.

Sir

I have reced all your Letters and will immediately call upon Mr Holmes who will pay you for the last 50 Casks of Bone Ashes sent on Board the Pearl according to your advice upon the 16th Octor. I do not know they are yet arrived. I am for Mr Turner & Self.

Your hble Servt

N W Junr

7th Novr 1780

12 Nov 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

We have reced yours of the 6th inst. What you observe as to the Lead Carriage is entirely agreeable to our Sentiments and if on Acct of our Letter respecting the Silver on Friday, the Work has been hurried, we are sorry for it, as all we meant was to receive it then if that could be done with convenience. We still hope that the Quantity of Ore will be 4200 Bings.

It gives us pleasure to hear you have discovered the two Brass Weights and Mssrs Landell & Chambers shall be acquainted with the circumstance.

We observe what you mention respecting the Bells and hope Joseph of Pytroone will behave so as to deserve encouragement & we do the like with respect to the other Joseph Bell.

What you mention with respect to Carr the Miller we are obliged to you for, & as we may possibly want a Miller, if you can learn his & his Sons Character both as to Honesty and Circumstances, we shd be obliged by your communicating the information you can get the very first Opportunity.

We are Your etc

W & T

Farnacres 12 Novr 1780

14 Nov 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster.

Farnacres 14th November 1780

I have received your Letter and as Thomas Temperley is now here take the Opportunity by him of acquainting you that we have agreed subject to the approbation of the Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich Hospital. Thomas tells me you may have any Quantity of the Yard Coal at present & therefore had not you better lay in a Quantity directly for you need not go on at Throckley & there is no reason for you to write to Mr Brown. I am to be at Newcastle tomorrow and will try if I can see Mr Blackett as 'til he is applied to I would not have you say anything to Mr Hunter.

I am Your etc

N W Junr

19 Nov 1780 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 19 Novr 1780

Dear Sir

Yours of the 14th inst we reced last Friday and also the Recet for the Bone Ashes for which you have paid Mr Probert. We are sorry to hear he is so ill.

Yesterdays Carrier brings you a Box containing 750 1/2 Ounces of Bullion.

We are Dr Sir Yours etc

W & T

19 Nov 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster.

Farnacres 19 Novr 1780

The Silver is come safe to hand and weighs exactly 750 1/2 Ounces.

I am Sorry you are prevented getting the School House covered in this Season and desire you'll take care to get the Walls covered with Turf to prevent their being injured by the Frost.

It will give us pleasure to hear that you get Coals to answer for the Reducing and I shall be glad to hear how you get on. Mr Blackett I saw yesterday & he has assured me he will write to Dukesfield to Mr Hunter about letting us have a Tryal of their Men we

letting them have ours & I would not have you apply 'til you hear again from me but should in the meantime like to know whether you would wish to have one or two Men from there.

I am Yours etc

N W Junr

24 Nov 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster.

Farnacres 24th Novr 1780

As we shall make a Pay when you are ready with the Lead Ore Carriers Accounts I desire youll let me have the Ore Carriers Bill as soon as convenient. I don't wish to hurry you as it may possibly be some little time before it is convenient to make the Pay and I rather think that likely.

Yours of the 20th & 21st are both reced and I am glad the Quantity of Ore has proved so well and so near my calculation. I must not expect to be so near at any other time. I am obliged by the enquiry you have made as to the Carrs. What you mention as to the Yard Coal Seam is very proper. I am glad to hear the Governor & Co are making a Tryal of Smelting in the Air Furnace and wish them success with all my Heart. Pray by all means Employ Nevin when the School House is Thatched. The mode you propose as to having the Workmen from Dukesfield is certainly the best & I will try to get it so fixed. I hope the alteration in the Furnace will prove for the better. I expect there are <60> Casks of Bone Ashes now come in for you. The Butter is arrived.

Your Humble Servant

Nich Walton Jr

PS The inclosed is for T. Temperley

3 Dec 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster.

Farnacres 3d Decemr 1780

Yours of the 25th 27th and 28th are all received together with the Account of Ore reced this year and Pay Bill for the same.

Yesterday Mr Walton saw Mr Blackett who will speak to Mr Hunter in a few days about the Reducing Business, after which we will endeavour to fix everything with him relative to that matter.

We must approve of what you propose to the little Bingsteads as conveniences to the Washers etc but desire you will take care in the laying of the Ore into them that the side Walls of the Mill are not injured.

Before we reced yours of the 27th Mssrs Surtees Rewcastle & Snowball had fully wrote us that you were no way to blame about the casting of the Sheet Lead, and the whole mistake arose from a Misapprehension of Mr Joblings.

It seems to us awkward to have a Person to teach Children to write who himself writes with his left Hand, but in case Ridley of Fourstones has a good Character we shd on acct of his Misfortune be happy to contribute to his Relief and on this Acct shd be glad to have a trial made of him.

We are glad the Reducing Works seems to promise better & hope the produce will continue better and better.

We have not yet examined the Pay Bill but doubt not it is right. What you propose as to the weighing of Blagill Ore is certainly right. We desire to see you and John Friend at this place early on Monday Morning the 16th instant and desire you will fix the Pay to be at Hexham or at your House as you think proper the next day. We are

Your Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

PS No reasons for any body else to come.

6 Dec 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster.

Farnacres 6th Decemr 1780

We have received yours of the 1st inst with the Operations which we doubt not are now right. We are clearly of Opinion that you have detected the Error as to Blagill Ore delivery so clearly that Company ought to admit your Account of last year and also make up the deficiency of the 2Cwt and we will look sharp to that when the Ore Accounts of this Year are settled. We have no wish to have the Thortergill Syke Ore Tails washed separately. We are glad to hear the Bone Ashes are some of them arrived and hope to receive the Silver by the Friday's Carrier of this Week.

We are Your Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

PS. The Assays I have not yet had time to Weigh.

6 Dec 1780 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr Jno Holmes

Farnacres 6 Decr 1780

Dear Sir

Yesterday's Post brought us your favor of the 2d by which we are much obliged and thank you for the trouble you have taken in getting the accompanyments for the Copying Machine.

We have this day drawn upon you for £197.14.8 being the balance of acct as below.

Miss Smeaton is very well and desires her love. We are very much concerned to hear of the Forgery upon the Bank and Sincerely hope it will soon be detected.

We are Dr Sir Yours etc

W&T

The Bill is payable 35 days after date

Due from Mr Holmes

For 750 1/2 ounces of fine silver at 5s 10 1/2d	£220	9	2	
For Ticket No. 27,062 English	20			NW Junr
For Do. No 12,627 Irish	7	10	6	247 19 8

Due to Mr Holmes

For cash pd Me Probert 14 Novr	£22			
For Do pd for Tickett No 20,515	13	5	6	
For Do pd for Do No. 9,338	13	18	6	NW Jnr
Copying Paper &c	1	1		£50 5
Balance				£197 14 8

£197:14:8. Farnacres 6th Decem 1780

Thirty five Days after Date pay to the Order of Mssrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint One Hundred & Ninety Seven Pounds fourteen Shillings and Eight pence. Value reced as advised by Walton & Turner
Mr Holmes London

18 Dec 1780 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr Holmes.

Farnacres 18th Decer 1780

Dear Sir

Last Saturday we delivered a Box to the London Carrier containing 918 1/2 Ounces of Silver Bullion which hope you will receive safe. The several articles for Copying are come to hand.

We are Dear Sir

Your most Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

26 Dec 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 26th Decemr 1780

Mr Mulcaster

Yours of the 19th & 20th came duly to hand and we are glad to hear you got well home and have finished the Pay. You say you hope all is right. We hope you have no reason to think any Mistake has been made. The Cash you have received we shall immediately place to the Accounts of the Persons from whom you received it Viz £8 to John Elliot's Account and £44 to Ann Brown's and an Acquittance for each and for those Sums making together £52 - 8 we desire you will sign a Recet on Account for £50 - 8 which will settle the Sum of £2 over received of you for Lead sold at the Mill in our Lead Mill Pay the 18 Octor last. We are obliged to you for the trouble you took about Carrs Leases and desire you'll take care of them 'til you hear further. We have received John Friends Letter about the Water Course and hope that Business will now be got forward. What you mention respecting John Friend we return you thanks for and doubt not he will be careful to alter what may have been wrong taken in from himself to you by his most-stating the Matter for if he was clear in his Account we are pretty sure you wd represent everything truly. What you have your done with regard to the Washing Business is perfectly agreeable. We wish you and all Connections many happy Returns of this Season & are

Your etc

W & T

PS I return yours & Jno. Friends Recet for the Money you had to make the Pay which was £989.2.8. Which of the Parcels was short 20s?

N W Junr

28 Dec 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster.

Farnacres 28 Decemr 1780

We have received your Letters of the 24th & 25th and observe their Contents. Having fully considered the matter as to Thomas Temperley's House and the accommodating him with Ground near Stublick and not being quite clear that we can get his House at the Colliery ready in time for him to go there against May Day we desire you will tell him that you have reced our direction to acquaint him that tho' we are determined to observe the little Farms at Langley Mill for the use of the Mill yet as there may be an uncertainty as to the time of getting his House at Stublick Colliery ready we think it will be prudent to let him remain in the House he now is till the new one is ready and that you have our directions to that purpose and also that he is to have the Farm which belongs thereto for one year from the 12th of May next at its present Rent and to continue in possession of it till there is occasion for it -the House

for the Mill and with regard the other House let it remain empty till there is occasion for it; and the Farm we desire you will take from year to year, till it is wanted, in this way there will be time for us to see the Old House at Stublick and consider fully what is necessary to be done, and in the mean time we would have you to employ James Watson & Wm Howdon to view the House and let us have an Estimate of the Expence of putting every thing right so as that the Hospital Agent at Stublick Colliery may have a comfortable House. We expect Thos Temperleys immediate answer to the above and you may show him this Letter. We are

Your Humble Servts
Walton & Turner

We cannot yet say anything abt the new Winning Thos proposes yet.

29 Dec 1780 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 29th Decemr 1780

We have reced your two Letters and thank you for the attention you have shown to the busyness about the House at Stublick. We are clearly of opinion that it will be right to have a House same size as yours with a Byre & Stable at the Parlour End as you describe and a Toofall for a Dairey & we will send a plan for Messrs Watson & Howdon to make a Computation by but in the mean time that is, as soon as possible we would have their report and computation as to what might be done where the present House at Stublick now is. We will not give a farthing more than 3d P Yard for winning the Walling Stones & 3d P Fodder for Slates and 2d for Flags, of each sort, such as shall be approved & to be <dashed> at the Quarry. We are

Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

5 Jan 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 5 Janury 1780
shd have been - 1781

We have reced your Letters of the 28th Ulto & in answer thereto send this to acquaint you that we are much obliged by your care of the Trees. We have received the Recet for £50-8. Whenever convenient to you we shall be glad to receive the Account of the Materials. The directions for the Estimate are right we have not the least doubt of, and we shall be glad to receive also an Estimate for the new one as soon as possible & have wrote to T. Temperley to consult you about giving the proper dimensions to the work which we wd have set down in the Estimate if Watson can draw and can desire

him to <see> done at the same time the Estimate comes. We also want to have an Estimate what the Materials of every kind will cost for carriage & much approve of yours and T Temperleys joint opinion as to the situation of the New House. The sooner the Winning of Stones Flaggs and Slates is got about the better and perhaps some if not the whole might be Ledd during the Winter when Frost comes. Poor Dunwoodie we hope will get well again after all but fear from what you have before mentioned there is little chance however we certainly wish him to recover his health. We are

Your Humble Servts

Walton & Turner

6 Jan 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 6th January 1781

Dear Sir

Your Letter of the 30th was duly reced and we have this day drawn upon you for £271.14.6 being the amount of 918 1/2 Ounces of Bullion at 5s/11 P Ounce and we are sorry to find the Trade is in so bad a state. The particulars of the Bills you have etc.

We are

Dear Sir Your most Humble Servts

Walton & Turner

PS We join in wishing you and yours many happy Years.

Bill payable to the Order of Hall and Company at 40 days	£222 13 8
Do Mr Richd Prime at 10 days	£ 49 10
918 1/2 Ounces of Bullion at 5s11d	£271 14 6
Overdrawn for. 1/2	

£222.13.8d. Farnacres 6 January 1781

Forty Days after date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell, Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint Two Hundred and Twenty Two Pounds Thirteen Shillings and Eight Pence.

Value received as advised by Walton & Turner

Mr Holmes London

£49.10. Farnacres 6 Janury 1781

Ten Days after Date Pay to the Order of Mr Richd Prime Forty Nine Pounds and Ten Pence. Value received as advised by W & T

Mr Holmes London

7 Jan 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 8 January 1781

Yours with the Operation and Annual Accts of Materials is come to Hand.

As we recollect Dunwoodies complaint is a Rupture if so he certainly may be much relieved by going to the Infirmary at Newcastle do ask him & let him know we will get him recommended if he chooses to go to the Infirmary no operation or cutting of any kind will be necessary but more of an application which will relieve him if his care admits of it. The application is no more than a Truss wch he may wear at all times when he works.

We are Your Hble Servts

Walton & Turner

PS Pray tell T Temperley he is to apply for wood to Mr Thornton. We have reced his Acct of Materials & he will soon hear from us.

7 Jan 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Mr T Temperley

Farnacres 8 January 1781

As we want to have some conversation with You about the Winning to serve before the Levell is got up we desire to see you here on Monday next in the Morning at Ten o Clock.

Yours with the Acct of Materials is come to hand.

You must immediately apply to Mr Thornton for Wood. If any can be had from Lees Cleugh it will come most convenient; if not it must be got at Brokenheugh Cleugh.

We are Yours etc

W & T

8 Jan 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Mr Thos Temperley

Farnacres 8th January 1781

Thomas.

As we think it will be proper to allow the Workmen Boots for Stublick Colliery Levell we desire youll order them immediately, but must desire further that you'll give them strict orders to take great care of them.

We are Yours etc

W & T

15 Jan 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

[Note: This and following letters of mid-January are to be found in the volume between those dated 10th and 24th April]

1781 January 15.

Directions to Thomas Temperley as to the preparing Stublick Colliery for working Coals against Mayday 1781

To make Tryal of the Stone Coal to supply the demand and this to be done as soon as possible and great care must be taken when the openings are made into the Waste lest the foul Air should Hurt the Workmen.

To endeavour to supply Langley Mill at Mayday with Coals from the Yard Coal Seam without being at the expence of making the winning of 30 yards of breadth under Level; but in case that is found to be impracticable. Thos Temperley is to write his sentiments to Mssrs Walton and Turner.

To make Tryal of the new Coal as soon as the same is cut by the Level for the new Winning and to have Tryal made of the same at Langley Mill and Thos Temperley must let Mssrs Walton & Turner know when the Coal is cut and how the prospect appears to be of its being workable.

Tryal to be made of the Stone Coal for Reducing and the utmost care must at all times be taken to have the Coal for Langley Mill of the very best sort and worked out of the Seam in such manner as shall be found to answer the purpose best.

The Stones for the House to be got Won by the beginning of April and also the Flaggs & Slates and in case it shd be the opinion of yrself & Mr Mulcaster or the Workmen to be employed in the Building the House that the persons employed in the Winning the Stones etc will not get done in time we must be at liberty to set on others <lo abut> so as that we may not be disappointed.

Walton & Turner

15 Jan 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 15 January 1781

Yours of the 10th 11th & 12th are now before us. The Estimates and Plan being now arrived it appears quite clear that a New House must be built at Stublick Colliery

and we have an offer so much below Watson & Howdon that we must take the lowest bidders they being Workmen who have approved themselves in many instances worthy of our encouragement; and the sooner Watson and the Howdons know this the better. Thomas Temperley will tell you it is expected the difference between the two sets of workmen will be £15 at least but this to yourselves the directions you have given are perfectly clear as to the dimensions, and it is determined to have the House 17 feet high.

We are glad Dunwoodie thinks he will be well again without applying to the Infirmary but we are of opinion he should try the Infirmary as in case he can be Relieved it will cost him nothing, but staying a Week at Newcastle and he will afterwards be able to do his work comfortably to himself several of the Quarry Men at the Grindstone Quarries by hard Lifts bring on those kind of complaints and most of them are so relieved by wearing Trusses that they can work as well as if nothing ailed them.

Thomas Temperley says he has done what is necessary about Wood for the Level.

What you mention about the Smelting is a very agreeable to us and we desire Joe Bell of Pytrune may be tried at the Ore Hearth as you point out.

The raising of the price of Coals at Stublick Colliery rather than the lowering them & decreasing the number of Hewers would have been the thing not only for the Lessees but G. Hospital and in that case the Lessees might have increased their number if they had found that necessary in short they might have done as they pleased but now they are tied to their Men & the Men to them and the lowering of the Coals cannot as we shd apprehend give them relief. There is time for us to consider before we fire 'a Prue' and we shall certainly consult with you before we do that. It is surprising you don't hear from Mr Tweddle of Unthank; but do you think it would. It be well for you to acquaint him that you have made Tryal of his Cynders & it appears it will not be worth our while to make an alteration tho' they are very good ones & that we must beg he will be so good as let us pay for what we have had. Thomas Temperley does not make the least difficulty about furnishing us with Cynders and from what he says there does not indeed seem the least hazard but that we shall always have a good supply both before and after the Level is up but particularly after that or apart of the Main Coal may be reserved for the purpose and a Cynder Oven Built.

We are Your Humble Servt

Walton & Turner

PS. Mr Walton has been so sadly plagued w. a sore Toe that he could not write you yesterday and hopes youll receive this as soon as you wd have done if he had wrote by yesterdays Post.

Youll perhaps hear again from us tomorrow.

15 Jan 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mssrs Mulcaster & Temperley

Farnacres 15 January 1781

Yours if the 8th is now before us, and we desire you will make agreement with Stokoe and Howdon for the Winning of the Stones at 3s, Slates at 3s P Fodder and Flags at 2s P Fodder, such of the two latter sorts as they may raise in winning the necessary quantity of Walling Stones - Smith Shop twofall to be included you are also desired to agree with the Men. Jno Robson and Thomas Coats, for Leading the Stones at 4 1/2 P Yd; and if you can, we wish you to agree with them for Carriage of the Lime, Sand, Door & Window Stuff to be included in the Stones; and we should also be glad to have them undertake the Carriage of the Slates and Flags, in the Leading of which, care shd be taken to get proper Loadings; we do not mean too much but what is fair between Man & Man & the sooner the Slates now in the Quarry are taken away to the place for the new House the better, so we beg that may be done immediately.

As the Men who built the Hovel will want their Money, we desire Mr Mulcaster will be so good as Pay them.

It is expected that all the Walling Stones and Slates and Flags should be ready against the beginning of April, and if you or the Persons who contract for the Building shd think it necessary at any time to set on assistants on the Idea of Stokoe and Howdon not being able to get those things ready in time, there must be a Clause in the Agreement with them to enable us to set on additional workmen so as that we may not be disappointed.

We are Your Humble Servts

Walton & Turner

15 Jan 1781 Nicholas Walton

Messrs Walton and Turner desire to see Messrs Surtees Rewcastle and Snowball on Tuesday the 23d in the Morning when they expect to contract with them for Building a House, Byre & Stable wth a Toofall for which they received an Estimate yesterday.

Farnacres 15 January 1781

16 Jan 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 15 January 1781

You have as follows the produce of Silver compared with the Assay for the two last Operations.

	Grs 80ths	Oz pwt Grs	
Operation ending 25 Nov 1780 3	64 equal	9 6 4 3/10 p	Fodder which
multiplied by 81 the number of fodders produces			754 2 4 6/10
Real produce			750 10
Short of the assay			3 12 4 6/10
Silver left in the Refined Lead in each Fodder			9 19 2/10

	Grs 80ths	
Operation ending 30 ulto 4	60 assay equal 11 12 18 p	Fodder which
multiplied by 81 the number of fodders produces		942 12 18
Real produce		918 10
Short of the assay		24 2 18
Silver left in the Refined Lead in each Fodder		4 6 2/10

Thortergill Syke Lead produces p assay	18 5 1 2/10 p fodder
Cowslitt &c	6 9 20 4/10 p fodder

We are Your humble servants
Walton & Turner

PS We wish to get the Leading to the New House at Stublick forward as fast as possible and shd like it if Forster could carry the Timber and Deals from Newburn as we will order them there & will let you know when we do.

19 Jan 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Thomas Temperley

Farnacres 19th Janury 1781

We have received yours of the 17th with the Boring Notes of 1757, of which you have taken Copies & we are obliged by your care of the Letters. As soon as convenient we shall be glad to have your Opinion on getting a fresh Field of Coal between the Dykes & we shd also like to have as good an Estimate as you can make what the driving of the remaining part of the Level will cost including Staples & walling the necessary ones & youll remember no Wood is to be used in the Level for where it wont stand it must be Walled & covered in the same manner as the Conduited part? We approve of your trying the Stone Coal immediately. We observe what you say of the quantity of Slates to do a yard, and approve of what Mr Mulcaster and you have done abt Winning Stones etc. We shall be glad to hear how you have agreed wth Robson & Coats. It will be proper to have the oven in the Twofall part of the Back Kitchen and the Smiths Shop and Back Kitchen to join with a Gabel between of two foot Wall. We are Your real well wishers

Walton & Turner

19 Jan 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 19 January 1781

We are glad the winning of the Coins & Stones winning is got so well on with and shall on Tuesday order the Wood and Deals to Newburn where they certainly will be got the next Week if the Frost does not set in and prevent their being carried by water so far and if that shd be the case they must be brought directly from Newcastle. The Wood now at the Mill had best be kept there. What you mention about the Oven is undoubtedly right as is every thing else about the Twofall, & we have mentioned this to Thomas Temperley as from ourselves. As we wish to see you to consider about the Reducing desire youll be here on Saturday Afternoon the 27th inst or rather ag. dinner.

We are Your Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

19 Jan 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr Jno Holmes.

Farnacres 19th January 1781

Dear Sir

By the Newcastle Coach by way of Leeds you will receive a parcel for Mr Stephen John Moule at Greenwich which desire you will be so good as take care of til called for. It will arrive at the Bull and Mouth in Bull and Mouth Street on Tuesday Evening.

Next Weeks Carrier will bring you a Box of Bullion but it not yet being taken off we cannot mention the quantity now.

We are Dear Sir Your most Hble Servts

Walton & Turner

PS Mr Smeaton who was very well left this part of the Country last Monday. Miss Smeaton we still have the pleasure to retain & she is in good health.

23 Jan 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thornton

Mr Thornton.

Farnacres 23d January 1781

You are desired to consult with Mr Mulcaster and Thomas Temperley & Surtees & Ptnrs about getting Lime for the House at Stublick and you must take care to do every thing in your power to have what is wanted ready against the Time you find from them will suit.

We are Your Humble Servts
Walton & Turner

PS. Be sure not to disapoint us in the above.

23 Jan 1781 Nicholas Walton to James Johnson

James Johnson

Farnacres 23d Janry 1781

We have some Wood and Deals to come from Mr Harvey for a House at Stublick Colliery and desire youll bring as much on Friday as you can and the remainder as soon afterwards as you can. The Deals must be delivered at Langley Mill but the Wood must be laid down at the place where the House is to be built. No time must be lost in doing the above.

We are Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

23 Jan 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 23d Janury 1781

We approve of your having set Joe Bell of Pytrune to the Ore Hearth & shall be glad to hear he goes in and behaves well. As to Dunwoodie we beg he may be left to himself; we wished to continue to employ him, and for that purpose, meant to have him so far relieved of his complaint as that he might be enabled to work for us. If he continues in our service, expecting to become unserviceable to intitle him to our further favors, it seems going not a little too farr. What we mean us to have an application called a Truss to prevent his complaint coming on. We shal not trouble ourselves further on this Subject if he shd still be averse to try the Infirmary & we wd not by any means have him come without it is quite with his Will. We hear there is a Box with Silver arrived at Newcastle. We are sorry the Reducing Business still continues so bad and growing worse and this plainly shows how necessary it is that we shd have a consultation & we shall be glad of yr Brothers Assistance when you come here on Saturday & therefore hope his busyness at Blaydon will admit of his being here when you are. We had heard of your Brother James having given up his place at Nenthead Mill before you mentioned it in yrs of the 20th inst.

We are Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

PS. When your Brother James was here we had a great deal of talk wth him about his Law Suit & from an Opinion which Mr Walton has seen and which he has sent to Mr Wordsworth it seems yr Brother is quite clear.

23 Jan 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster.
Mr Temperley

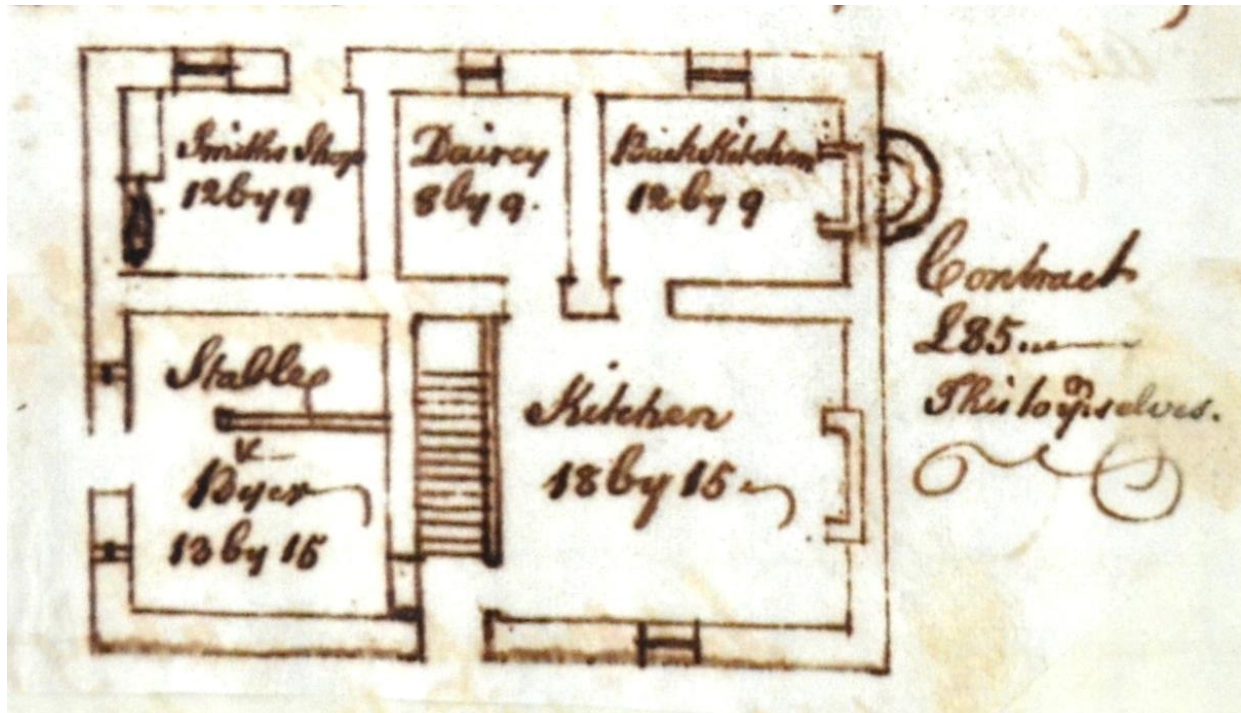
Farnacres 23d January 1781

We approve of the agreement with Coats & Robson for carriage of the Stones, including Door Windows & Coin Stones. The Chimney Stuff must be pd for by day. You had best agree with them for carriage of the Sand, at 2s P Fodder of Lime on which Sand is to be mixed The Slates & Flags, we clearly see must be Ledd by day, and Thomas Temperley it is expected will see that we have proper Fodders. What is done as to Leading the Lime is perfectly agreeable to us. The cutting of the foundation will be fixed by you and the Contractors, who we expect you will see very soon, Viz Mssrs Surtees Rewcastle & Snowball who have certainly to finish the work upon or before the 1st of May next. The cutting of the foundation and Levelling the floors is to be at the Expence of Greenwich Hospital, and we are to furnish Lime, Walling Stones, Rough Stones from the Quarry for Doors Windows and Coins, and Slates and Flags Supplied at the Quarry as they are delivered to us at 2s/6d & 2s P Fodder, Surtees & Ptners having agreed to do the work being furnished with those Articles by us gratis. As Thos Temperley says he will make a cut to take off the Water, that had best be done during the proceeding with the House works & the four feet breadth shd undoubtedly be paved, & a Wall built to keep the Bank up. We have wrote to Mr Thornton to do everything necessary abt the Lime & we beg to know if he does not, as we must not be disappointed. We have ordered him to call upon you & doubt not he will do everything in his power.

As Forster is circumstanced we have thought it right to employ James Johnson in carrying the Timber and Deals and expect to pay him the same prices as we have pd for these articles to the Mill. The Deals must be dried as Mr Mulcaster proposes at the Mill. The Wood and Deals were we expect ordered this day and will be ready for James Johnson on Friday. Indeed we believe it wd be impossible to get any Timber to Newburn now as the Weather is. We are particularly obliged to Mr Mulcaster for his plan and have delivered it to the Workmen to proceed by but inclose you one which is duplicate as it has been altered by Mr Walton. It is intended to have two 2 feet Walls one between the Dairy and Back Kitchen and the other between the Dairy & Shop to prevent the Dairy receiving hurt by the Fires and that the Shop and Back Kitchen should be each 12 by 15.

We are Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

PS. If Forster does not get up the Wood immediately which he was pd for let any of our Carriers that go to Newburn bring it and we will deduct it from his Lead Carriage.



30 Jan 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 30 January 1781

I have not time to say more than that I have fixed Thomas Forsters having the bringing up the Wood and remainder of the Deals for Stublick Colliery House and that I hear one Hundred of the Deals have been taken away by James Johnsons Man. If you can send the inclosed so as to be at Alston before James Johnson goes I beg you will but don't send a special Messenger. Let T Temperley know I have been so much engaged as never to have been able to go thro' his Letters etc in such manner as to have it in my power to write him in answer. I am

Your Hble Servant

Nich Walton Junr

PS if you cannot send the Letter otherwise before James Johnson goes be so good as send it by him. It must not be later in getting to Alston than Saturday Morning.

30 Jan 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr Jno Holmes

Farnacres 30th January 1781

Dear Sir

Last Weeks Carrier will bring you a Box containing 656 Ounces of fine Silver which we hope will come to a good Markett on Saturday the 10th of next Month but perhaps the arrival of the East India Ships will lower the price of Silver. We all including Miss Smeaton join in every good wish to you and yours & are

Dear Sir Your most Hble Servts

Walton & Turner

2 Feb 1781 Nicholas Walton to William Hollier

Mr Hollier at Mrs Pearsons Westgate

Farnacres 2d February 1781

Sir

Having received a Message from you in which you desire to know whether we have any Grey Slags to dispose of and at what price, we take the first opportunity of acquainting you that a considerable Quantity of Grey Slags are produced from the work where we have the Direction, but we are not desirous to sell them and have refused Offers, which have been made for the Grey Slags produced at our Work; if however you will make us an Offer of what you will pay for each Hundredweight we will give the matter a full consideration and are

Sir Your etc

W & T

PS. We shall expect ready Money on delivery at the Work. The work where the Slags are produced is near Thirty Miles West from Newcastle.

2 Feb 1781 Nicholas Walton to Christopher Bell

Mr Chr Bell.

Farnacres 2d February 1781

As it may admit of some doubt whether you can be permitted to sell Coals lying at Stublick Colliery after the End of yr Term, though you have an undoubted right to remove such Coals, at any time within Six Months after the End of the Term, we beg leave to propose it to you that the Lease be paid before Mr Fawcett, & for that purpose, should be glad that you or your Son would come down, & bring The Lease, and we will attend Mr Fawcett along with you & whoever you think proper, and shall be concluded by his Opinion; and we assure you we do not wish in the least to abridge you of any right you may have under the Lease. We shall be glad to hear from you and are

Dear Sir Yr etc

W & T

2 Feb 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Farnacres 2d February 1781

Thomas Temperley

We duly received your two Letters of the 22d with the accompanying observations and Estimate and since that your Letter of the 25th all of last Month. The observations you make as to the Borings seem very proper and there seems to be no fear but we shall have plenty of Coal to chuse of after the Level now driving is got up but we hope the work may be done for less Money than you have set down and doubt not yr care in seeing that everything is got forward as low as possible. With regard to trying the two 18 Inch Seams that may be done at any time after Mayday if the same shd be thought proper but wished like to have your opinion in the meantime what length the Levell would be to drive and how long it might probably be in getting done and the probable Expencc. We are glad to find the Slate in the new Level will stand up without Walling. We would not have the Pit ridded out where the Man was killed till after Mayday, and after that time we shall not scruple furnishing a sufficiency of Props; and in case the Stone Coal does not answer, the demand for Coals till the new Level is got up may be supplied undoubtedly in the manner you mention by working the Main Coal Walls and therefore you are desired to speak to Mr Thornton to reserve us as much of the refuse Wood as you can think necessary for Props both for this purpose and the working the Yard Seam where the Roof is jointy. We approve of yr proceedings as to the Sinking of the Staple but are sorry you have met with so hard a Stone. You must get through as well as you can & we must sink as few Staples as possible. Pray could not we work with a Water blast? It is quite agreeable to us on the present difficulty that you join in the boring work. If Mr Mulcaster and you think it proper to make any alteration in our Plan of the House Toofall we desire you will do so as you and he will better judge on the Spot than we can hope.

We are yr real well wishers

Walton & Turner

PS We have no objection to yr Joining in the Sinking.

Let Mr Mulcaster see this Letter, & let him know what is done about Thomas Forster is very proper.

4 Feb 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Farnacres 4th February 1781

Thomas Temperley

As the Manure produced from the Hay & Straw of the Farm your Father has at Langley Mill and also some of the Manure which is lying there Shd be considered as belonging to that Farm, and as you are to have the Farm next year it is expected that you lead to and lay upon such parts of that Farm as most require the same Two Thirds at least of the Manure above mentd and what remains at the end of the time you are to have the Farm above which is one year whoever is Tenant of it must have liberty to take such manure and all lead afterwards till the 12th May 1782 away at any time after the 1st of January 1782.

Mr Mulcaster mentioned the Manure when he was last down here and he also mentioned to us that it might be a convenience to you to have the Hospital be at the Expence of improving you some Ground in the Pasture you paying Interest; this we shall be glad to recommend if when we view the Ground and talk with you upon the spot it shall appear proper for Greenwich Hospital to be at the Expence of

As the Limestone Quarry and Kilns at Langley are now kept in Greenwich Hospitals Hands for the accommodation of Langley Mill and are connected properly with the Colliery at Stublick we must expect you will take them under your care after Mayday without any additional Salary for as you will be so near a very little attendance tho frequent will be wanted. We are

Your real well wishes

Walton & Turner

4 Feb 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 4 Febry 1781

Mr Mulcaster

We have reced yours of the 30th Ulto and duly observe its Contents. We are glad you got well home after your difficult traveling and that you have got all to work again as we are to hear that no harm has been done by the sudden Thaw. As soon as John Dixon has been tried we should be glad to hear from you as to the Produce in the Reducing way. We inclose a Recommendation for Wm Dunwoodie and he must come down to Newcastle so as to be enabled to go to the Infirmary next Thursday Morning against Eleven o'Clock or the following Thursday Morning agt 11o' Clock and he must take the inclosed Recommendation along with him. You can describe to him where the Infirmary is and anybody will tell him where it is after he gets to Newcastle. We have heard from Mr Bell that he has reced the Lease of Old Carrs and have wrote to Mr Harvey to deliver the Remainder of the Wood and Deals to James Johnson. Your Proposition contained in yr Letter of the 23th Ulto shall be attended to the first opportunity.

We are Your Humble Servants

Walton and Turner

5 Feb 1781 Nicholas Walton to Christopher Wilkinson

[Note: Forename not given but iron goods were ordered from Christopher Wilkinson in 1779]

Mr Wilkinson.

Farnacres 5th February 1781

Dear Sir

You are desired to send by James Johnson Hexham & Alston Carriers this day
5 Cwt of 3/4 Inch Square

And 1 Cwt of 1 3/4 Inch Square.

I am Dear Sir Your Humble Servant

Nich Walton Junr

5 Feb 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster.

Farnacres 5th February 1781

You are desired to send directed to Mr Hollier at M[es]rs Pearsons Westgate Newcastle 14 pound weight of Grey Slag such as is on a Medium produced from our Work & take care that it is real Grey Slag without Ore as sometimes there may be sticking to it. The Quantity is for a Tryal by a set of Gentlemen who we understand are setting up a Refining work opposite to, Blaydon, and upon the issue of this Tryal the Company will make an offer. We are

Your Humble Sevants

Walton & Turner

PS Let the above be sent by Fridays Carrier.

9 Feb 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thornton

Mr Thornton

Farnacres 9 February 1781

Langley Lime Kiln being properly connected wth Stublick Colliery and Langley Mill we have desired Thomas Temperley to take it immediately under his care. We are

Your etc

W & T

PS. Have you got Edwd Nicholson to execute his Lease and what has been got done about Thomas Fall.

9 Feb 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 9th February 1781

We have reced yours of the 6th and duly note the Contents. It certainly will be proper for Thomas Temperley to have the care if the Limestone Quarry & Kiln immediately and we have wrote to Mr Thornton about it and desire youll Name it to Thomas as we have not time to write to him this Evening. The Iron was intended for Nent Force Levell & we are sorry to find that our directions were not properly given when it was ordered. You are desired immediately to let us know whether it will suit you or not at Langley Mill because if it will you may as well keep it & we will send some more to Nent Force Levell but beg to know by Sundays Post and we will give directions accordingly. If it should not suit you we must get it from the Mill to Alston as well as we can and as soon as possible, as it will be wanted. We are

Your Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

PS We have not yet had time to go through your Proposal of the 23d Ulto but shall do that as soon as possible and you may always be assured of our best wishes.

9 Feb 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 9th February 1781

Yours of the 5th with the Operation is come to hand and we are really surprized to see so very bad a produce from Gallygill Syke and Carrs Ore but it cannot now be helped. We have wrote to the Contractors to be with you very soon & doubt not they will be so, as now they shd be getting every thing ready but we would not wish them to begin any walling till March. We observe you have settled with Mr Bell for his lost Pig of Lead and have reced the Recet which was given him. We wrote you the 4th which hope you have reced as it was ordered to be sent from Mr Ion's by a special Messenger. We are

Your Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

PS. You are desired to send 20 pieces of Lead by James Johnson and directed for Mr Watson Plumber in the High Bridge NCastle and we wish Johnson to deliver them as soon as possible at Mr Watsons House. Let them be marked No 1 to No 20 and send us the weight of each Pig & we beg they may be the softest Refined Lead.

9 Feb 1781 Nicholas Walton to Rewcastle

Mssrs Rewcastle Surtees & Snowball

Farnacres 9th Februry 1781

We are much surprized you have never yet been at Langley Mill to consult with Mr Mulcaster & Thomas Temperley about getting every thing ready for the new House at Stublick & desire youll go there the first opportunity without fail. We are

Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

9 Feb 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Thomas Temperley

Farnacres 9th February 1781

We have reced your Letter of the 5th and approve of what you propose with regard to the Winning the Little Coal and Estimate of Expenses and time it will take to Winn the same; as also of what you intend as to the tryal of the Stone Coal. Tho' it appears you have had a hard Job in the Boring way we hope it may prove better in the driving. What you have done as to Letting the Sinking is very right as we doubt not your having Lett it as low as the Nature of the case required. We are glad if Water in the Level still increases and for the reasons you give we are satisfied it will not be worthwhile to have a Water Blast. We have reced Mr Mulcasters Letter about the House & think what has been done is very proper. We write this day to desire the Contractors to take the first opportunity of seeing Mr Mulcaster & you. We wrote you the 4th inst which hope you have received.

We are Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

10 Feb 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 10 February 1781

Not having had an opportunity of examining strictly any of your operations since the ending of last year's Account till within those two Days we now send as follows our notes on several Errors.

We observe that the Total quantity received from Rampgill agrees with the General Acct of Ore reced from that Mine wch is 544 Bings of Bouse Ore and 1<3 [or] 8> Bings 2Cwt of Cutting Ore; but by the Operations ending the 27 May and 24 June there are only set down in the former 74.4 and in the latter 76.2 which make together only 150.6 but till it was altered you had it 250.6 which we suppose is right and that either the 74.4

should have been 174.4 or the 76.2 shd have been 176.2. There are none of the Operations altered as to Rampgill Quantity but that of the 24 June. There is also another error as to Rampgill, or otherwise there has been less reced than set down in the General Acct by 100 Bings for in the Operation ending the 24 June you set down only 122.2 as Stock which is right if there was only 150.6 reced to that time but if there was 250.6 reced the Stock ought to have been 222.2 and ought in the last Case to be 100 more than it is in all the Operations afterwards.

In Operation ending 29th July you had set Blagill Quantity upon Thorngill West End Line Thorngill West End upon Middle Cleugh, Middle Cleugh upon Scaleburn Moss & Scaleburn Moss upon Rampgill those mistakes we have rectified except Rampgill; and you will also observe that we have made an alteration in Old Cowslitts Line, 23.4 Bouse & 5 Cutting agreeing with the Genl Acct. The figures below in pencil 25 Bouse and 3.4 Cutting are wrong & may be taken out.

In Operation ending 30 Septemr: there wanted the words Black Slags Smelted - which we have added.

In Operation ending 25 November you had 63.4 Bouse and 7.2 Cutting at Scaleburn Moss; at Guddamgillburn X Vein S.End No. 283 - 17.4 Bouse & 1.6 Cutting; and at Cowslitts all Bouse and they shd all have been as you will see they are altered which makes them agree with the General Account of Ore reced from all the Mines last year. In the same Operation you had 296.3.2 which ought to have been 246.3.2 if the Quantities saved are right set down & youll observe the remaining Operations have each of them been 50 Cwt too much set down & that we have rectified those Errors.

We have herewith sent you all the Operations for your examination and desire youll set those we send all right as also those you have for yourself. The last Operation is wrong either in the delivery or the Stock of Refined Lead Ninety Seven Pieces.

All the Blanks for Silver are filled up with the right Quantities.

We are Your Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

PS. Pray return all the inclosed Accounts at any time convenient as we are not in a hurry about them.

11 Feb 1781 Nicholas Walton to Richard Probert

Mr Probert.

Farnacres 11 February 1781

Sir

We shall be obliged by your sending us directed as usual one Hundred and Fifty Casks of Bone Ashes Fifty of which as soon as your convenience can admit of it. We are

Sir Your etc

W & T

13 Feb 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 13th February 1781

Dear Sir

We have reced your Letter of the 10th and return you thanks for the trouble you had as to the Parcel for Mr Maule and delivery thereof.

The Silver last sent you being 656 Ounces we have this day drawn for & which at 5s11d P Ounce amounts to £194.1.4; and as Mr Mylne acquaints Mr Walton Junr he has pd £13.13 - to you on his Account for Dr Pitcairne, we have taken the liberty to add that to yr Bill, making the whole £207.14.4. The Bill is payable 30 days after date.

It gives us the highest satisfaction to hear of the safe arrival of the East India Fleet, & we have nothing to do but all to be of one mind, in this Country to make everything agreeable; if we could be heartily joined our Enemys would not dare but to be peaceable.

We are Dear Sir Your etc

Walton & Turner

£207.14.4 Farnacres 13th Febru.ry 1781

Thirty Days after Date Pay to the Ordet of Mssrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint Two Hundred and Seven Pounds Fourteen Shillings and 4. Value received as advised by Walton & Turner

Mr Holmes London

16 Feb 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 16th Febry 1781

We have reced yours with the Operations all corrected. We have also reced the Genl Acct of Lead Ore for last year. Mr Walton expects to be with you at Langley on Sunday the 4th of March in the Evening and will stay the next day and Night with you & he will then talk over the matter with you respecting the Reducing Furnace Ashes.

We are Your Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

PS. Yours of the 12th & <.. that ..> the Weight of the Lead for Mr Walton is come to hand.

Let Thomas Temperley know that he must be in the way when Mr Walton is at Langley Mill. We have reced T Temperleys Letter of the 11th which be so good as let him know.

We have this day transmitted your Proposal to the Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich Hospital.

26 Feb 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 26th February 1781

Dear Sir

This serves just to acquaint you that by last Saturdays Carrier you will receive a Box of Bullion weight 675 Ounces. We are

Dr Sir Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

8 Mar 1781 Nicholas Walton to Rewcastle

Mssrs Surtees Rewcastle & Snowball

Farnacres 8 March 1781

We desire you will let the Windows in the Front of the House at Stublick be made Mock Sashes with Springs & that there may be Window Boards for the Low Windows that are Glazed. We are

Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

PS The Deals at the Lead Mill want turning the other side up very much.

11 Mar 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Harvey

Mr Thomas Harvey.

Farnacres 11th March 1781

Dear Sir

I desire youll be so good as take the trouble of Ordering Four Bags of Nails for us to be sent to Mr Peter Mulcaster at Langley Lead Mill by Jno Corbett Hexham Carrier to morrow. Viz - One of Double Tacks, One of Single Tacks, One of Kitch & One of Sixpenny. We wish to have them from Mssrs Taylors and expect them at the Whole Sale Price. And pray excuse me when I give you the further trouble of ordering a Barr of Flatt Blistered Steel from Mr Chr Wilkinson fit for Cap Mells wch also to go to morrow to Mr Mulcaster by the same conveyance. I am

Dear Sir Your most Hble Servt
Nich Walton Junr

PS. I beg my Compliments to Mr Harvey

11 Mar 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mr Mulcaster

Farnacres 11th March 1781

Yours of the 9th & 10th were received this Evening and as you are desirous to know how the Wood is to be Sawn up & that without loss of time we take the first opportunity of acquainting you that it must be cut so as to suit a Building 18x15 inside measure. You know if we shd alter our opinion and make the Building less, the loss cannot be at all material and every thing had but be cut up & suited to 18x15 and then stowed in any of the Buildings by laying the whole upon the Main Beams in different places, where they may remain in safety till wanted.

The Nails shall be ordered the first convenient opportunity, as also the Steel & very probably you will receive the Steel by Jno Corbett tomorrow from Newcastle. The Nails if ready will come at the same time.

We are very happy to hear the Young Man is so little hurt and hope a little Black Beer will be of service to him; we are also happy to be informed that Mr Waltons other Patient is likely to get well without any material attention; and that Mr Mulcaster does not complain more than when Mr Walton was at Langley Mill.

You must be careful as to Thos Forster & take your directing from Mr Thornton who is in hospital wth that matter & we beg youll see him & let him see this part the Letter we are now writing.

With respect to the reducing we cannot say any more till further notice except that we are glad you have got some Throckley Coals & shall be glad also to hear of a good produce by means of their being used.

We are Yr H.ble Servts

Walton & Turner

PS. All well from Alston Moor.

Desire Surtees & Ptners from us to use all possible Expedition & that we expect they will not lose one moment in getting all finished at Stublick as we shall want them, you may tell them, a good deal elsewhere.

14 Mar 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 14th March 1781

We received your Letter of the 10th yesterday and Mr Walton will deliver your Letter to Mr Hawthorn himself tomorrow. This day we have drawn upon you for

£201.15.11d being the amount of 675 Ounces of fine Silver at 5s11d 3/4 and the Bill is payable 30 days after date. We are glad to hear from Austhorpe that Mr Smeaton is much recovered and hope to hear of his being quite well.

We are Sir Your most Humble Servts

Nich Walton Junr Turner

PS. Be so good as drop a Line to Richd Probert at the Bone House Hoxton & let him know we expect soon to receive 50 Casks of Bone Ashes in part of 150 which we ordered the 11th Ult.

£201.15.11. Farnacres 14th March 1781

Thirty Days after Date pay to the Order of Mssrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint Two Hundred and One Pounds Fifteen Shillings and Eleven Pence. Value

Received as advised by Walton & Turner

Mr Holmes London

16 Mar 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres March 16 1781

Mr Mulcaster

We have reced Thomas Temperleys Letter & are very glad to hear his Child is got well again. The Chimney we desire may be Stone but wish to have them made better next and raised rather higher than common. The Part◇ had best be Brick except those between the Dairey and Back Room & Smith Shop & we desire you and Thomas will tell Parkes & Rewcastle this immediately. The Bricks may be got at the Mill. We shall be glad to hear you get fast forward with the House. Pray tell the workmen we expect they will finish every thing with all possible dispatch and we doubt not of yours & Thomas Temperleys assistance. Immediately on Recet hereof you are desired to send to James Watson & let him know we must see him and the Howdons here early on Monday Morning as we wish to set them to work. We are

Your Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

PS. We intend raising the Rents at Hexham on the 23d & 24th of next Month and shall dine with you on our way to Alston on the 25th and return again to the Lead Mill on Saturday the 5th of May and if every thing could be got ready for the pay we would pay the Lead Mill Work and Stublick Colliery the 7th of May but we doubt this cannot be effected.

19 Mar 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 19th March 1781

Mr Mulcaster

We have reced yours of the 17th inst inclosing the Assays. The Reducing we observe is rather better this Operation but hope youll do better when you get full work of Throckley Coals. There cannot be any risk it is imagined by delivering the Lead in the way you mention only Thornton must take care to see that it is got delivered at Newburn & to get Receipts for it & we have wrote to him to do so. We are glad to see they get so well on at the New House. Don't hurry the work too much to finish all before we return from the West Country as we shall not make the pay till all is Smelted of last years Ore that can be except Tails etc as usual. This comes by Watson & the Howdons. We are glad to hear Mrs Mulcaster seems easier. The Silver is a considerable Quantity & from the appearance of the Assays looks as if it wd overrun considerably.

The advantages ag[ains]t the Dutch are very great indeed & will probably be the occasion of great commotions in Holland & we hope in God be also the occasion of Peace. We are

Your Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

PS Pray tell T Temperley we shall want Lime for Wm Howdon & Ptners & that they will apply to him. They must have Credit and so must Surtees & Ptners.

27 Mar 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 27th March 1781

Dear Sir

By the London Carrier from Newcastle of the 24th inst we sent you a Box containing 909 Ounces of fine Silver which we hope will come to a good Markett. We are

Dear Sir Your etc

W & T

1 Apr 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 1st April 1781

Mr Mulcaster

We have reced yours of the 31st Ulto and most assuredly think you very excusable on being silent on so solemn an Occasion as that you've been engaged in. The loss you have sustained of a Parent was fully expected by Mr Walton when he last left you and we doubt not you are fully resigned upon this Event.

When the next Weeks Work of Reducing is finished we shd be glad to hear from you.

Your Nephew acquainted us how the Building was going on at Stublick and you are desired to deliver the inclosed Letter to the Contractors the first opportunity you have.

We shall not expect the Operation 'til it is quite convenient to you to send it.

We have not yet received any directions concerning the application you made for your Brother to join you in the Agency at Langley Lead Mill, but as we have no doubt of the Proposition being agreeable to the Commissioners of Greenwich Hospital we shd be glad that your Brother might come and reside with his Son when he finds it convenient to leave his present Dwelling place, and as soon as we can give further directions in this matter we certainly shall. We are

Yours etc

W & T

1 Apr 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Farnacres 1st April 1781

Thomas Temperley

We duly reced your Letter of the 25th Ulto and observe what you mention about the Collieries at Brokenheugh Fell End and Fourstones.

What you mention about Stublick Level gives us pleasure because we are likely to get faster forward by what has happened, but the circumstances show us how very carefull we ought to be in our proceedings. If it should happen that we meet with a dip Dyke to throw the Whin Posts below us, we shall be in luck and hope it will prove so, at least in some degree.

When you write next let us know how the Workings and Sale of Coals go forward at the time.

Last Week was very unfavourable for the New House but we hope this Week will do a great deal towards making up what was lost, upon the whole we cannot help thinking the Weather has been remarkably fortunate for that busyness.

We are Yours etc

W & T

6 Apr 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 6th April 1781

Mr Mulcaster

I have received your Letter of the 2d with the Operation for last Month and have examined & find it right. I am glad to see you have got so well forward & hope you may make a finish of the Ore before the end of this Month, but I would not wish to have anything hurried tho' the sooner all is done the better & more agreeable & I believe the best way will be to let alone making the Lead Mill Pay too and therefore I would have you keep spurring the Lead Carriers to bring the Lead down as fast as they get it for I wd have all last Years Ore Lead brought in before we pay. This last is as I recollect agreeable to your wishes. Let there be two Cakes of Silver. Mr Thornton was I suppose Married on Tuesday. He judges improperly to keep our Workmen from the House at Stublick. Yours of the 31st Ultro was duly received & answered the 1st inst. I am concerned to hear of Nicholas Temperley being so ill and fear as you do that he will scarcely see out the Lease of Stublick Colliery. I am

Your Humble Servant

Nich. Walton Junr

PS. Lead has got to £15 for Refined - small quantities. Large Quantities I suppose about £14.12.6 & 15s.

8 Apr 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Farnacres 8 April 1781

Thomas Temperley

We have reced your Letter of the 6th inst and approve of what you have done as to Fourstones Colliery & Limestone Quarries, at your convenience shall be glad to have your report about the Collierys & Quarries.

When you write next let us know how the Workings & Sale of Coals go forward at Stublick Colliery and whether there is any prospect of Coals being left at Bank at the End of the Term & what quantity & how long that Quantity may probably supply the demand.

What has happened at the Levell is not unexpected & we hope as you do that there will soon be another Dike which will relieve you from the Hard Stone. Your meeting with Water is very agreeable.

It gives us much pleasure to hear the House gets so well on & we flatter ourselves to see it quite compleat in our way to Alston.

We are Your real well wishers

Walton & Turner

PS. We are much concerned on Account of your Fathers Illness as he has our best wishes & we hope he may still get well again.

8 Apr 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 8 April 1781

Mr Mulcaster

We have reced yours of the 7th and are very glad to see the good produce from the Reducing Furnace which as well for the sake of our employers as for the Credit of the employed we wish most heartily to continue. We approve of your permitting another Tryal of Stublick yard Coals & also of your continuing to send for Throckley Coals.

Our Sentiments so often are the same when we happen to be upon the same subject that the instance as to the Lead Pay shows we are going on in the same agreeable way that we trust we always shall do.

The House at Stublick Colliery will we hope be finished against the time you mention and pray tell the Workmen we shall have great pleasure in seeing it so when we do come to the Lead Mill.

We are Your Humble Servts

W & T

PS. We are much obliged to your brother Robert for his obliging by giving his advice as to the Reducing busyness; in a little time we hope to be enabled to ask leave for you or your Brother James to come and get a few Lessons from him at Bladon.

10 Apr 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 10th April 1781

Dear Sir

We have your favor of the 7th and have this day drawn upon you for £296:14- being the Amount of 989 Ounces of fine Silver at 6s P Ounce.

We are Dear Sir Yours etc

W& T

PS. The Bill is at 30 days after date. We shall send you another Cake very soon, we expect 4 or 5 Hundred Ounces.

Farnacres 10th April 1781

24 Apr 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Farnacres 24 April 1781

By Saturdays Carrier we sent you a Box containing 502 Ounces of Bullion.

We are Yours etc

11 May 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Farnacres 11th May 1781.

We duly received yours of the 5th and have this day drawn upon you Forty days after date for £127.12.11 being the amount of 502 Ounces of Bullion at 6s - 1/2 P Ounce and £20 for the Lottery Tickett No 20515 in last Years State Lottery after deducting £44 which youll be so good as pay to Richd Probert for 100 Casks of Bone Ashesfor which he must Sign the Inclosed Receipt. The Account is stated as below. We shall be obliged by your sending Two Ticketts as soon as they are out. You will receive by the Carrier who set out from Newcastle last Saturday a Box containing 533 1/2 Ounces of Bullion. We beg our Compl. to Yourself & family & to Mr Smeaton.

W & T

PS Be so kind as take the trouble of Dropping the Inclosed into the Penny Post.

Tickett 20

	£171:12:11
Deduct Bone Ashes.	44
Balance.	£127:12:11

£127:12:11. Farnacres 11th May 1781

Forty Day after Date Pay to the Order of Mssrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint
One Hundred and Twenty Seven Pounds Twelve Shillings and Eleven Pence. Value
received as advised by Walton & Turner
Mr Holmes London

11 May 1781 Nicholas Walton to Richard Probert

[Note: the letter referred to in the previous letter to John Holmes]

Mr Probert.

Farnacres near Gateshead 11 May 1781

Having been from home for some time we have been prevented desiring M Holmes
to pay you for the two last 50 Casks of Bone Ashes. The first 50 we never had any
advise of from you which we think very wrong, but for the last 50 we had advice from
you by Letter & Bill of Parcels of the 4th April. We shall be glad to have the Order
compleated as soon as possible & will then determine whether we are to have any
more this Season or not.

We are Yr Hble Servts
Walton & Turner

PS. You are desired to call upon Mr Holmes the first opportunity.
When you write next let us have a Bill of Parcels for the 50 Casks of Bone Ashes sent on
Board the Success.

Reced. May 1781 of Mssrs Walton & Turner Forty Four Pounds in full for 50 Casks
of Bone Ashes sent on Board the Success Captain Edward Hutchinson in March last
and Fifty Casks of Bone Ashes sent on Board the Peggy Captain Thomas Middlemass
last Month.

Witness.

Richd. Probert his mark

13 May 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mssrs Peter and James Mulcaster

Farnacres 13th May 1781

We address you as above, tho' we know James to be the Elder Brother, and we shall continue to do so, as we think the Commissioners & Governors of Greenwich Hospital, will chuse the Seniority to go by Servitude under them, and we hope the Brothers will agree in this.

As we are now writing to you for the first time since you have jointly, by your own wishes, entered into the Service of Greenwich Hospital, we beg to assure you we are very happy in the prospect of your joint endeavours, and that you may depend upon our Friendship, as we doubt not, you will jointly, and severally, exert yourselves, on every occasion, to promote the Interest of the Hospital, and we very heartily wish you health and every satisfaction in your present employ.

The Anvil and Vice are ready, and will, we are certain be sent from Newcastle on Friday next along with 60 Fathoms of Rope for Stublick Colliery by James Johnson, and other 60 Fathoms of Rope will be sent by John Corbett, also for Stublick Colliery. The Anvil & Vice, you must take to the Mill, and let Thomas Temperley have the Anvil and Vice now in the Shop at the Mill & you will acquaint Thomas with the above.

We are Your most Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

PS. Get the Howdons & Watson to let us have an Estimate what additional Expenche there will be by Building Harsondale House as we last fixed by raising the Back part as high as the Front. We wish this to be done with all Expedition.

20 May 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mssrs Peter & James Mulcaster.

Farnacres 20th May 1781

We have reced yours of the 16th & 17th inst and duly note their Contents. On calling yesterday at Mssrs Sandell and Chambers Shop we found that the Anvil & Vice had not been sent on Friday owing to their having been much hurried in compleating some other Orders which they had previous to ours but we are assured they shall be sent by Jas Johnsons Waggon tomorrow and the Bellows for Stublick Colliery Smiths Shop are ready and will be sent tomorrow in John Corbetts Waggon. What you have done about the Old Anvil or propose doing is quite agreeable. We have reced the Account from Thomas Temperley of the Materials valued by Thomas Iley and John Elliot and shall pay the Money to Mr Bell when we make the Lead Mill Pay. The Estimate for Harsondale House is much wanted and we are not a little displeased at Wm Howdon on Acct of his want of attention in the altering of the Housing for Mr James Mulcaster and pray tell him this. We say nothing about the produce from

reducing, til we hear further about the running out of the Furnace. Whenever it is convenient we shall be glad to have the Silver sent. You are desired to get all the Lead of last Year delivered as soon as possible and after it is all got to the Warehouse we will give you further directions but til then no new Lead must be delivered to any body.

We are Your hble Servts

W & T

PS. Send all your Letters by the Post Man that comes on the South side of Tyne

20 May 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Thomas Temperley

Farnacres 20th May 1781

We have received your Letter of the 4th with the Estimate of the Old Materials but it only arrived yesterday morning 10th we are rather surprised at. For the time to come we desire all your Letters may be sent by the Hexham Post Man that comes down the South side of Tyne. We intend paying the Money for the Materials when we make the Lead Mill & Stublick Colliery Pay & at the same time shd be glad to pay for the Chain Pump. The taking of the Iron of the Old Gin is perfectly right. The Bellows will come by Jn Corbett tomorrow. They are 5 feet 8 inches long. We shall be glad to hear how you get on in the working of Coal, from time to time & when you write we shd like to have your Letter & Mssrs Mulcasters Letter come together. We are

Your well wishers

Walton & Turner

22 May 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 22d May 1781

Dear Sir

We have reced your favor of the 19th inst & thank you for the trouble you have had & your Goodness in paying Mr Probert agreeable to our desire. We have this Day drawn upon you payable Forty Days after Date for £161:14:4 being the Amount of 533 1/2 Ounces of Fine Silver at 6/- 3/4d P Ounce and are

Dear Sir Your etc

W& T

£161:14:4. Farnacres 22nd May 1781

Forty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Mssrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint One Hundred and Sixty One Pounds Fourteen Shillings and four pence. Value received as advised by Walton & Turner

Mr Holmes London

22 May 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Thomas Temperley

Farnacres 22d May 1781

We have reced your Letter of the 19th and have no objection to your employing such number of Miners you mention that is Eight provided you are clear to have a Vend for the Coals but shd not we see how our Vend goes on for a little before we have that Number. We are glad to hear the Coal is promising. Wm Walker we think shd not be employed & desire he may not be employed 'till we have an opportunity of considering that matter when the pay is to be made. The Setting on of a Gin may as well be let alone till the same time & we will then talk over what relates to that. The Leading & Winning of Stones etc must be pd for at the Pay including the Carriage of Wood and every other article. The sooner you get holed into the Old Waste the better but pray be careful that no accident happens by that. We are

Your well wishers

Walton & Turner

27 May 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mssrs Peter & James Mulcaster.

Farnacres 27th May 1781

We only received your of the 23d and have got the Estimate for the addition to Harsondale House. We are very glad to hear the House for Mr James Mulcaster is finished and that it is to your satisfaction. There will be no occasion for you to bear any part of the expence. We approve of what you propose about the Lead Carriers, and shall be glad to receive the Pay Bill Operation and Lead Carriage Account, as soon as your convenience will admit of it. On examining we find the loss by the last Operation of Refining and Reducing, to be under a Twelfth part. Pray tell Thomas Temperley we desire to have the Level Account or Pay Bill, to come down along with the Lead Mill Pay, as also an Account of the Leadings, and Winning Stones, Slates and Flags for his House etc. When you write with the Pay Bill let us know much Money you will have to bring us to the Pay, as we must bring as much as to make what will be wanting, after deducting that from the Pay Bills.

We are Your Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

PS Jno Friend tells us there is a good Grove cut at Dowgang.

We expect the Silver left with you to answer for that Pay and we shall not bring any Silver.

27 May 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mssrs Peter and James Mulcaster

Farnacres 27th May 1781

We have received your Letter of the 26th since writing our Letter this morning. The Lead we hope is nearly all in and we shd be glad to have whole at NewCastle without amoments delay otherwise we may have a difficulty in getting things ready agt the Pay. What you propose with respect to the Reducing is quite agreeable to us. When ever it is convenient to you shall be glad to receive the Operation, Pay Bill, etc but do not wish to have them a moment sooner. What we have received as to the Expençe of the alterations of the Housing for Mr James Mulcaster does not in the least alter our sentiments, with regard to the payment for the work and materials on that Acct. We are

Yr Humble Servts
Walton & Turner

30 May 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mssrs Peter & Ja Mulcaster.

Farnacres 30th May 1781

We have reced Yours of the 28th May inclosing the Account of Lead delivered from Langley Lead Mill. You are desired to include the Bills for Iron etc when you send the Pay Bill and as we find that John Elliot, Francis Carr, and Francis Robinson were short pd 4/s for Weighing Refined Lead the 29 June 1780, you must put in 24 fothers extraordinary in the Pay Bill you are now making out. We think it right that the Wages for Labourage shd be lowered to 12d P day.

We are Your etc
W a& T

2 Jun 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr Jno Holmes.

Farnacres 2d June 1781

Dear Sir

Inclosed you have a Letter for Mr Smeaton which I desire youll be so good as deliver to him in case he is yet in London and if returned Home be pleased to send it to him in the inclosed Frank.

This days Carrier brings you a Box containing 782 Ounces of fine Silver. I am for Mr Turner & Self.

Dr Sir Your etc
NW Junr

5 Jun 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Thomas Temperley.

Farnacres 5 June 1781

We have reced yours of this day wth the inclosed Accounts wch we shall examine the first Opportunity, And with regard to James Johnsons Bill, think it necessary you should write to Thos Snowball & Ptners to know the real Quantity of what Wood was brought for Stublick House; we wish you at all times only to call it Stublick House but that the Colliery should be called Stublick Colliery neither High nor Low. The Price of the Wood should be settled at the Pay. Your charging the Coals is certainly right. We are glad to hear the Air Pit has been got down so readily. We have no objection to your employing two more Men as you find it necessary. We are sorry the Men meet with such hard Stone in the Level etc but hope that will be soon over. When we are together at Hexham, it is hoped the Colliery etc Accounts may be still further improved, & we shall then settled what is necessary with respect to the paying of the Money to Mssrs Mulcaster. With regard to the Lease, there seems to be some difficulty which we can scarce at present comprehend, however that will be best explained at meeting. It is rather odd that we cannot have so trifling a Matter as a rotten Chain Pump & Old Chains valued without so much Fuss, but we shall get that Matter settled by Mr Thornton unless it shd prove far more difficult than we expect. We are

Your Humble Servts
Walton & Turner

10 Jun 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mssrs Peter and James Mulcaster

Farnacres 10 June 1781

We have got within 486 pieces of the quantity of Lead sent from the Mill and cannot get the rest from Newburn till the Flood will let them get to it as it is now covered with Water.

We must desire that the people who are to be at the Pays will come very early in the Morning, and do you both and Mr Temperley come to Hexham on the Sunday Evening with all the Books and papers that will be wanted and also the Cash. I wish you all to be at Hexham about Six o' Clock & that several of the Workmen may be here on the Monday Morning by Seven o' Clock & the Lead Carriers there so as that we may begin on Tuesday Morning at the same Hour.

The Operation's Cash sent have not yet been examined. We have sold the last Weeks 1000 pieces of Slag at £14 10.

We are exceedingly displeased with James Johnson for charging 6d P foot for carriage of the Wood to Stublick House and 4d a piece for the Single Deals. You may tell him you will not pay him more than 10/6 P 40 feet of Wood & 20s P 120 Deals.

The Vouchers for the Lead Mill, Stublick Colliery, Stublick Level and Stublick House Pays are all ready and dated the 18th inst & we hoped to get thro' the busyness with ease by getting to work early on the Monday & Tuesday mornings. Everything relative to the Mill & Stublick Colliery & Level & House Pays must be got done on Monday.

We are Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

28 Jun 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr Holmes.

Farnacres 28th June 1781

Dear Sir

We have reced yours of the 16th inst and this day have drawn upon you for £215-10d being the amount of 782 Ounces of fine Silver at 6s/-3/4d P Ounce after deducting £22 which you are desired to pay Richd Probert who will call upon you on Monday or Tuesday

We are exceedingly concerned on Account of the unfortunate accident to the Hinchbrook and the great loss Captain Maxwell must have sustained we however rejoice on the recapture and hope he will be fortunate for the time to come. We are

Dear Sir Your most Hble Servts
Walton & Turner

PS A Cake of Bullion will be sent you by this weeks carrier, at least we expect so.

£215-10d Farnacres 28th June 1781

Thirty five days after date Pay to the Order of Mssrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Two Hundred and Fifteen Pounds and Ten pence. Value received as advised by Walton & Turner
Mr Holmes London

28 Jun 1781 Nicholas Walton to Richard Probert

Farnacres near Gateshead

Mr Probert.

28 June 1781

We have this day wrote to Mr Holmes desiring he will be so obliging as Pay you for the 50 Casks of Bone Ashes sent on Board the Peggy Captain Michelmas the 2d inst.

We have acquainted Mr Holmes you will call upon him which you are desired to do on Monday or Tuesday. We are

Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

29 Jun 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

[Note: Bell's Close is in Lemington, just to the east of Newburn]

Mssrs Peter & James Mulcaster.

Farnacres 29 June 1781

We have had an application for 25 Tons of Grey Slag for the new undertaking at Bell's Close which we have promised to let them have by way of Tryal and they will after the Tryal make us an offer. You are therefore desired to acquaint us in what time we could let them have 25 Tons without laying off our Slag Hearth Men and also what it will cost P Ton for carriage of the Slags from Langley Mill to Bell's Close and also from Langley Mill to Newburn. So you will immediately make enquiry of the Hexham Carriers and also of Wm Pattinson etc what you can get them carried for delivered at both the above places. We reckon Bell's Close will be 3 Miles further than Newburn. If we don't agree upon price to go on delivering Slag after the Tryal is made we shall have the fixing of the price of the 25 Tons ourselves. We are

Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

PS Pray be expeditious as possible in giving us a full and particular Answer to the above and we shd be glad to know what Quantity of Slag is produced P Week from one Hearth we however cannot doubt that will be uncertain as it will in some degree depend upon the kind of Ore and whether the Hearth is upon the whole in a good or bad state of working.

30 Jun 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Farnacres 30th June 1781

Dear Sir

I send this to acquaint you that this day we have sent you by the London Carrier a Box containing 683 1/2 Ounces of Bullion.

We are Dear Sir Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

Mr Holmes

8 Jul 1781 Nicholas Walton to William Hollier

Mr Wm Hollier.

Farnacres 8 July 1781.

Sir

On Enquiry we find the carriage of Slags to Bells Close will be 15/- or at the lowest 14s/6d P Ton. If after the Tryal you make, we can agree for such Quantity as we can annually spare you, we shall consider the Quantity which we send for the Tryal as a part, but in case your Prices do not agree after the Tryal, we must set such a price upon such Quantity as you get as not to lose by letting you have them. You'll be so good as let us know whether you would have 20 or 25 Tons; if equal to you, we wd rather chuse you to fix upon 20 Tons and it is expected we shall be enabled to send you that Quantity in about one Month from this Day. We are

Yr etc. Walton & Turner

13 Jul 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Thomas Temperley.

Farnacres 13 July 1781

We have reced your of the 5th instant and certainly approve of you employing such persons as you think most likely to be serviceable to Greenwich Hospital in carrying forward the Works under your care and would by no means have that left to a Lottery.

We approve of your employing an additional Man at the Colliery but are not quite clear you acted properly when you applied to William Walker who was at the time working for Mr Wilson. If Mssrs Mulcaster approve of taking the One Hundred fathom of Yard Seam Coals, the sooner they get them the better, and you will act in the sinking of another pit to the Stone Coal and ridding out the yard Coal Pit as shall appear to you right. We are glad to see there is a Plate Bed of 10 faths thick and wish we were well thro' the hard Stone and fairly in the plate, and we doubt not your care in keeping every Expençe as low as possible. We are

Your Humble Servts

Walton & Turner

13 Jul 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 13 July 1781

Mssrs Peter and James Mulcaster

We have reced yours of the 9th and 11th inst together with the Lime and Colliery Accounts which with those delivered by Mr Peter Mulcaster when here we expect takes

in the whole from the Beginning not having yet had time to examine them. We observe what you say respecting the Business as to the Grey Slags and are obliged by your particular Attention to the Matter, but you have never yet told us what Quantity each Hearth will produce P Week.

It will be the Business of the Carriage Men to engage to deliver the Slags as they receive them and therefore if they fall short at Bells Close, they should make that up.

We have engaged to send 20 Tons with all convenient Dispatch and not to be later than One Month in the Delivery, and therefore we desire an immediate Beginning may be made with the Delivery.

It certainly will be proper with the Slag Hearth Men to make Trial of the Slags from Scaleburn Moss but that must be done in such manner as not to interfere with the Delivery of the 20 Tons and we wd be glad to have 17 Tons smelted so as to make the Trials equal. We think the best way of carrying the Slags will be in good Coop <Ichoes> or Carts.

We have reced the two Receipts from James Johnson & Isaac Burnhope amounting to £3:5:- so that allowing 9d for Bankage we will be indebted to you £3:4:3.

Immediately on Receipt hereof, we desire you will send to James Watson to be here on Monday Morning and that he must bring with him an Estimate for a House & Twofall at Cophill such as was first intended for Harsondale. We are

Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

17 Jul 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Harvey

Dear Sir

Farnacres 17 July 1781

I desire you will send by James Johnson on Friday 30 of your best & cleaned 1 1/2 Inch Deals to be directed to Mssrs Mulcaster at Langley Lead Mill and to be charged to the Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich Hospital for Langley Lead Mill. Send a Bill of Parcels with them. I am

Your Humble Servant
Nich Walton Junr

Mr Thomas Harvey Junr

17 Jul 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mssrs Peter & James Mulcaster.

Farnacres 17 July 1781

We have reced your Letter of the 14th and approve of what you have done and propose as to the Slags and particularly that you shd try the difference of produce in weight of Slags from different kinds of Ore. We have ordered you 30 Deals. We are

Your Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

26 Jul 1781 Nicholas Walton to Christopher Wilkinson

Dear Sir.

Farnacres 26 July 1781

I desire you will send by James Johnson Hexham Carrier on Monday first

10 Barrs Square Iron rather better than 1 1/8Ins but not 1 1/4 Ins

3 Barrs Smallest Square Iron

3 Barrs Smallest Flat Iron

1 Bundle of Nail Rods

For Langley Lead Mill & to be directed to Messrs Mulcaster

1 Bundle of Nail Rods

For Stublick Colliery & to be directed to Mr Thos Temperley

Be so good as send Bills of Parcels wth particulars & charge the whole to the Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich Hospital. I am

Dear Sir Your most Hble Servt

Nich Walton Junr

PS If Johnson cannot take the above you may send them by Corbetts Waggon.
Mr Chrisr Wilkinson

26 Jul 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 26th July 1781

Dear Sir

I reced your Letter of the 14th inst just when I was setting out upon a Journey into Northumberland and therefore now take the first convenient opportunity of writing you in answer thereto. I have this day drawn upon you for £181-11 payable 30 days after date being for Balance of Account as below, and am much obliged to you for the trouble you have had in paying Mr Probert and getting & paying for the Tickets. Be pleased to register the Tickets which are Nos 1079 & 25512.

I am glad to hear you are in a way of dealing further with Greenwich Hospital by increasing the supply of water & hope this Letter will meet with you at home and in good health after your Journey.

I am Dear Sir Your most Hble Servt
Nich Walton Junr

683 1/2 Ounces of fine Silver at 6s/1d P Ounce £207 17 11

Deduct

2 Lottery Tickets including Registering	26 17 -
	£181 11

£181:11d.

Farnacres 26 July 1781

Thirty Days after Date pay to the Order of Mssrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington &
Saint One Hundred and Eighty One Pounds & Eleven Pence. Value Reced as
advised by Walton & Turner
Mr Holmes London

27 Jul 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mssrs Peter & James Mulcaster.

Farnacres 27th July 1781

We have reced yours of the 19th & 26th inst and have ordered the Iron to come by
James Johnson who will also bring the Nails Rods for the Mill & Stublick Colliery.

What you mention with regard to the Slags is duly observed as also what relates to
the Reducing & shall be glad to know how the Tryals of both turn out. We think that
after all the Furnace will be found the best way & we rather imagine much the best. The
loss of weight in Smelting exceeds every Idea that could possibly be formed we see
there is a loss of 96 Cwt out of 372 which is more than a fourth part, notwithstanding
the addition of Lime & Coal to the Slag.

The Silver is arrived and we hope will go to a good Markett, the price as last drawn
for was 6s/1d POunce and Lead is now £15:10-.

The Weather has been so fine since the 19th to the 24th inclusive that we doubt not
you have got your Peats all safe. We are

Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

PS. The sooner you proceed upon the Tryal of produce from Scaleburn Moss &
Brownley Hill Slags the better. In yours of the 26th we reced Thos Temperleys Account
ending 22nd July inst.

28 Jul 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Thomas Temperley

Farnacres 28th July 1781

We have received your Letter of the 19th inst and approve of your going on in working, with the present Men till you see whether the demand after Hay Harvest will answer or not and we also approve of your lowering the Price of Cynders to 9d P Sack for the reasons you have given & desire you will acquaint the Agent at the Cupola immediate & make it as publick as you can only don't call it anywhere. The price for the Stackyard Wall seems rather high, but don't let it stop. When you get the Coal shall be glad to have your Acct of it and that a Tryal shd be made of it for Reducing let it cost what it will getting.

We are Your well wishers

Walton & Turner

30 Jul 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 30th July 1781

Dear Sir

By the Carrier who set out from N.Castle on Saturday we sent you a Box containing 756 Ounces of Silver Bullion.

We are etc

Walton & Turner

31 Jul 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Thomas Temperley

Farnacres 31 July 1781

We have reced your Letter of the 29th & think it will not be worth while to try the Seam of Coal you have met with as it is so thin as 8 Inches.

Mr Bell certainly ought to fill up the Old Pits. Glad to hear all goes well on at the Collry.

When you write again upon half a Sheet let it be inclosed in a Blank Half Sheet & in the making out of your Colliery Accounts for the time to come begin them on the Inclosed Sheet & then all will seen at one View.

We are Yr Hble Servts

Walton & Turner

3 Aug 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Peter and James Mulcaster.

Farnacres 3d August 1781

On looking over the last Operation for the Ore of 1780 we find that you gave set down 1000 pieces of Refineable Lead less than had been refined and had reckoned the Refined Lead produced in that Operation to be 1Cwt pieces instead of 1 1/2 Cwts which errors we gave rectified and desire you will set the Originals in your hands right.

By James Johnson we send your Books of Operations and two of your Books Copied from them by which you will see there are some errors which you will we doubt not rectify.

It will be necessary in the forming of a calculation of the Value of Slags to know which weight of Black Slags is produced from a given Quantity of Grey Slags.

We have every great satisfaction in acquainting you that, tho' our produce in the Reducing way has not been so good last year as usual, the Profits by Langley Mill for last Years Ore vastly exceed any thing before made by the undertaking & that we have the best Opinion of your attention to the different articles committed to your care.

We are. Your Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

16 Aug 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Peter and James Mulcaster.

Farnacres 16th August 1781

We have reced your Letter of the 13th and as it is probable we shall be with you on the 9th of next Month desire youll have every thing as farr forward as you can against that time as to the Walls Cynder House and Road & with regard to the latter we wish you not in the least to leave any part uncovered for our View as we shall be perfectly satisfied if you are. We did not forget that part of the Wood had been Sawn into Deals, but thought there would shall be some wanting. It gives us pleasure to find there will be none wanting & we hope a great progress will have been made in getting Stones to the place where the Rooms are to be built before we come to the Mill upon the 9th inst as in case the Rooms can be done this Season without inconvenience that had but be got compleated without loss of time. We are

Your Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

PS After reckoning the Material we now have ready for the Rooms to go towards building them without changing them in the Accts we shd be glad to have an Estimate what the Rooms will cost but believe that had best be let alone till we come as then the manner of doing every thing will be settled; however let the Stones be got won & Ledd. The Materials we now have we reckon to be Wood & Deals, Slates & Flaggs. The Peats

need not be removed till we come to the Mill. You must send us an Account of the Tillage Land at Langley Mill the first convenient opportunity.

24 Aug 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Peter & James Mulcaster

Farnacres 24th Augt 1781

Your Letters of the 17th, 20th & 23rd are now before us. What you propose with respect to the Road is very proper and we must do ourselves what is necessary after we have got as much as we can from the Lead Carriers & dont let us wait too long for their work as we agree with you no great amount is to be laid to it. The new Rooms must be built this Season; and therefore the Kiln must be again fired & the sooner the better if it can be done before the Harvest is over we wish that. What you have done as to the Agreement with Trench is quite agreeable to us. We have not had time to weigh the Assay of Thorngill Lead yet. As you do, we wish the Ore we would come in faster, but we must be content and take according to the produce from the Mines. Thomas Temperleys Accounts are come to hand, with the above Letters, to the 18th inclusive, as also yr Tillage Account. The Lead must now be Sold at the Mill for 22s P Pig. We shall be glad to sell some Fume but cannot readily find out what the price was for that which was last Sold we therefore beg you will yourselves consider and fix such a price as you think it deserves after being washed. We are

Your Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

PS. We hold our resolution of being at the Mill on the 9th of next Month in the Evening and will stay the next day.

Mr Walton was at Mr Smeatons in Yorkshire last Sunday and had the pleasure to meet with him in good health.

26 Aug 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

[Note: Austhorpe was John Smeaton's house in Yorkshire]

Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 26th August 1781

Dear Sir

We duly reced your Letter of the 14th inclosing two Tickets in the present State Lottery Nos 29.133 & 4.115 and have this day drawn upon you payable 40 days after date for Balance as below & return you our best thanks for the trouble you have taken for us.

This day Sennt Mr Walton had the pleasure of a <.op> visit at Austhorpe & had the satisfaction to find all well including the Family at little Preston where Mrs Brooke & her little Girl we were told were doing as well as possible. We are

Dear Sir Your most Hble Servts

Walton & Turner

756 Ounces of fine Silver at 6s 3/4d P Ounce	£229. 3. 3
Deduct Two Lottery Ticketts Nos 29,133 & 4,115	27.17 -
Balance	£201. 6. 3

£201.6.3. Farnacres 26th Augt 1781

Forty days after date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint Two Hundred and One Pounds Six Shillings and Three Pence. Value received as advised by Walton & Turner

Mr Holmes London

29 Aug 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Peter & James Mulcaster.

Farnacres 29 August 1781

We have reced your Letters of the 24th & 25th inst and are glad to see yr produce in the Reducing better than it has been. The Silver is arrived but we do not yet know its weight. We approve of your postponing the Repair of the Reducing Furnace and of the agreement you have made with Thomas Trench & are glad to hear the Garden wall is finished & that Stones are laid towards building your Stackyard Wall.

We are Your Humble Servants

W & T

29 Aug 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Thomas Temperley.

Farnacres 29th August 1781

We are glad to hear you still continue to get water tho' it is rather hard in the work at Stublick Colliery Levell; as we are also that you have got into the new Pit at Stublick Colliery & have plenty of breadth of good Coal and we approve of your having set off Walker for the reason you have given. We must not desert selling for ready Money. We approve of what you have done & propose with respect to the Yard Coal Pit ridding out & securing the Roof. You are desired to get such Pits filled up as you judge necessary & take care to get that work done as low as you can & let us know the

expençe & we will settle that matter with Mr Bell when we see him at Hexham. We are

Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

Messrs Mulcaster

Farnacres 29th Aug 1781

Yours with the Operation and Thos Temperleys Weekly Account is come to hand this moment just after we had Sealed the Inclosed.

Under the circumstances you mention we shall not think of building the Rooms till the Spring & therefore they need not do any thing as to getting Limestones.

We are Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

PS. Notwithstanding the Rooms are not to be built this Season we wd have the Stones of all kinds got to the place.

4 Sep 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 4th Septemr 1781.

Dear Sir

By last Saturdays Waggon we sent you a Box containing 701 Ounces of fine Silver and are

Dear Sir Your most Hble Servants
Walton & Turner

20 Sep 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster.

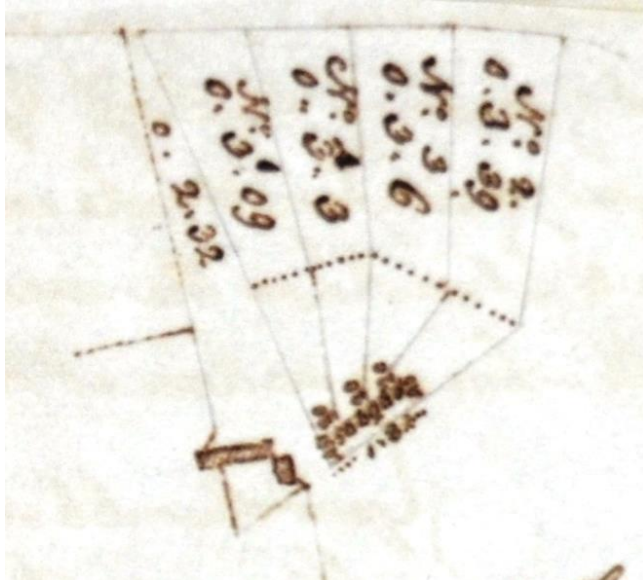
Farnacres 20th Septemr 1781

Above [below here] you have a Sketch showing how the small pieces of Ground now in Common is to be divided. The Fence dotted is to be taken down. In the first place the Lane of Watering place is to be done and the size of it must be 10 yards broad and the length 40 yards measured along the South East Fence of your Field in which your Housing Stands or adjoins. The bottom of No1, is to be 50 Links, the bottom of No 4 62 Links, and the bottom of No 3 60 Links but perhaps these measures will not exactly answer upon the Ground in which case you must proportion them amongst each other. From the ends of Nos 1, 4 & 3 set off the Lines exactly Square from the Lines of the Long 20 Links and from the ends of the 20 Link divisions set out the Lines

to the ends of the present division Lines of Nos 1, 4, 3 & 2. From this Letter and the above Sketch with the measures thereon we doubt not you will get the whole done according to your wishes and we are

Your most Humble Servants

Walton & Turner



PS You need not attempt sending the Pay Bill to Farnacres. We have received T. Temperleys Account and Mr Wallers Bills of parcels and return you the Plan of Langley Mill Ground herewith. Mr Walton Senr continues to recover finely.

22 Sep 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 22d Septemr 1781

Sir

We duly received your Letter of the 15th and have this day drawn upon you for £216.17.5 being the amount of 701 Ounces of Bullion at 6s/2 1/4d P Ounce, the highest price we have ever drawn at. The Bill we have made payable 40 days after date. We are

Sir Your most Humble Servts

Walton & Turner

£216.17.5. Farnacres 22d Septemr 1781

Forty days after date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Two Hundred and Sixteen Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Five Pence. Value Received as advised by Walton & Turner

Mr Holmes London

Mr Joseph Saint. Farnacres 22d Septemr 1781

Sir We inclose you our Bill in Mr Holmes for which desire you will send us a Recet and are

Sir Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

PS The amount of the Bill is £216.17.5

29 Sep 1781 Nicholas Walton to William Hollier

To Mr Hollier.

Farnacres 29th Septemr 1781

Sir

As we have compleated our Experiments to enable us to form a Judgement of the Value of our Grey Slags P Ton, we shall be glad to see you here on Thursday Morning to talk over that Business, and afterwards Mr Walton will be happy to have the pleasure of your Company at Dinner. Hope it will be convenient for you to settle for the 20 Tons at the same time. We are

Sir Your most Hble Servts
Walton & Turner

5 Oct 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Mssrs Mulcaster.

Farnacres 5th October 1781

On Monday Evening Mr Farrer will be with you at Langley Mill on his way to Alston on Thursday I shall be with you in the Evening and stay the three following days. Mr Farrer will return from Alston on Thursday and John Wren with him who will leave Langley Mill the day following but Mr Farrer will stay as long as I do.

If you can I desire you will make two Assays from the Lead which was smelted from the 17 Tons of Grey Slag and two Assays from the Lead which was Smelted from the 15 1/4 Tons of Grey Slag. I wish much to have the above done against I come up to the Mill.

I am Your Humble Servt
Nich Walton Junr

PS We have only had £3 P Ton offered for Slags.

7 Oct 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 7th Octor 1781

Dear Sir

This days Carrier from Newcastle will bring you a Box containing 798 1/2 Ounces of Silver Bullion which we doubt not you will receive safe.

We are Dear Sir Your most Hble Servts
Walton & Turner

7 Oct 1781 Nicholas Walton to Jonathan Airey

	<Ss	Ls>
Stock of Lead in the Warehouse 16th June 1781	1267	1879
Delivered Since from Langley Mill		
1781 June 30 - Operation ending then	24	1004
July 28. Do		920
Augt 25. Do	36	1021
Septem 29. Do	14	992
Total	1341	5834

	<Ss	Ls>
Lead Sold Viz.		
2 June Dr Hall & not <dd> the 16th	1000	
3 Aug Sevl Sales as p Acct then dd	60	3224
1 Oct Do then dd	26	331
Remains for sale after delivering Dr Halls 1300	255	2279

Dear Jonathan

Farnacres 7th October 1781

Above you an Account which shows what Lead remains for Sale after deducting all that is sold to the 1st inst inclusive and we shall go on for some Months producing about 1000 pieces P Month. I am glad to acquaint you that the Mines are lately improved & I hope will still grow better. I am

Dear Jonathan Yours very Affectly
Nich Walton Junr

21 Oct 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Thomas Temperley

Farnacres 21 Octo 1781

Last night I wrote to Messrs Mulcaster and acquainted them that Michael Lumley, his Son, & another Workman wd set out this Morning and wd be at the Mill this Evening & I desire that every thing may be done to get forward the Work with all Expedition. Stokoe & Howdon are to be employed, so I expect the Work will soon be got finished. The Iron Work for the Door will come by tomorrow's Carrier and the Door on Friday. Good Cement or Mortar is necessary in that part of the Oven which is exposed to Fire. They use here a kind of loamy Sand mixed with Lime which binds and becomes as hard as Stone or Brick, but as we cannot have this Loam at Langley Mill, great care must be taken to have the best Materials which the neighbourhood of Langley Mill will afford and in this Messrs Mulcaster, you and Mich. Lumley must consult together. The utmost care must be taken in annealing the Oven & the Fire applied very slow at first, & very gradually increased for many Days before it will be fit for burning Cynders in, & I doubt not your Care & Attention to all those Matters. Michael Lumley has built several Cynder Ovens & therefore knows well the Construction, & he has a Plan & Section with all the necessary Measures thereon for his Government.

I am Your Humble Servant
Nich Walton Junr

21 Oct 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster

Farnacres 21st Octor 1781

We have not yet had time to examine into the Particulars of the Pay, but shall do that as soon as possible after our Return from the North, but you are desired to send us all the Due Papers which we delivered to you when at Hexham as also the Account which showed the Money you had advanced to the Workmen etc another Account showing the particulars of what that ought to have been as some part did not come within the present pay. You will at the same time let us know what Sum we had paid you out of the Dish which was set to collect your Money in, and any other particulars which you may think necessary to communicate to us. Inclosed we send you Langley Lime Kiln Accounts. We are

Your Hble Servts
Walton & Turner

26 Oct 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster

Farnacres 26th Octor 1781

We have reced your Letter of the 23d but not in time to send you an Answer by the News Man this Evening. We now inclose you the Due Papers, the Acct of Money advanced by you to the Workmen with Memorandums on its back, & the Acct of Money reced and paid. With regard to the 3s/6d for Swills it certainly was either pd to Mr Ja. Mulcaster or given to some one for him when he signed the Recet for them but the Shilling for Lime was undoubtedly put into the Dish & was or shd have been there when the £56.14.6 was pd you. By the Inclosed Acct drawn out here this Evening it appears there will be due from you 3s/7 1/2d & that we shall settle with you at Meeting or next pay. In your Letter you mention that the Money pd on Acct to Trench & Lumsdon was only £5 - if so we will want 8s/7 1/2d but we suppose you have made a mistake in setting down £5 - in your Letter instead of £5:5:-

The Men are to be paid for two Days traveling one going & one returning. The Iron Door will come by Johnson on Monday.

We are glad you have agreed with Thos Trench to make the piece of Road & hope you will get Stones sufficient from the Levell Shaft Heaps. If it will not interfere with the making of this Road we wish Trench to have the levelling of the old Fence. Fifteen pence P Rood is certainly enough for the Walling the Walls you mention but don't let the Work stand for a penny P Rood.

The Deals are ordered & will certainly come by Corbett.

Thos Temperleys Accounts are reced and be so good as let him know that from the last Settlement we desire he will begin again at No 1 & that we shall alter 21,22 & 23 into 1,2 & 3 & desire he will do the like.

As you have so good a Stock of Bone Ashes will it not be right to let alone sending for any 'til the Spring?

We wish James Watson to send what Paint etc will be necessary for the Doors and Windows at Lowbyer & that he may go without loss of time to paint them himself but shd be glad that the Paper was finished before he went at least so far as that he may paint what is necessary there & therefore do you write to Messrs Hilton & Friend to know this.

We are Your Humble Servts

Walton & Turner

26 Oct 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres 26th Octor 1781

Dear Sir

We have this day drawn upon you for £250:7s:3d being the amount of 798 1/2 Ounces of fine Silver at 6s/31/4d P Ounce being the highest price we ever heard of. The arrival of the India Fleet will we expect make an alteration in the price but it was so expected when the Fleet arrived last year and it had not that effect so how that will turn out time must show & probably in a little time.

We are Dear Sir Your most Humble Servts
Walton & Turner

PS We have drawn at 40 days. Mr Walton is much obliged to Mr Holmes for his message from Mr Prime.

£250:7s:3d. Farnacres 26 Octr 1781
Forty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint Two Hundred and Fifty Pounds Seven Shillings and Three Pence. Value received as advised by Walton & Turner
Mr Holmes London

2 Nov 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster Farnacres 2nd Novr 1781

We have reced your Letter of the 31st Ulto with the Operation, are obliged by yr acquainting T Temperley as to Numbering the Acct and particularly glad to find that the calculations of 3000 will be exceeded. It is certain that none of the Slag Lead that was produced from the first Tryal is refineable by a great deal and therefore if you can pick it out I desire youll do so and let it be melted & cast into 12 Sto[n]es Lead. This shows that when we have any poorish Lead for Silver that we shd have Assays of the Slag Lead & indeed I believe it will be right never to make two Assays in the same Test nor to Assay more than a Quarter of a pound of Lead & I desire this may be done so in future. We are glad the Fire Door etc are arrived as also the Deals in your next let me know how you like the Deals. I thank you for your care abt the Painting.

I am for Mr Turner & Self Your Humble Servt
Nich Walton Junr

2 Nov 1781 Nicholas Walton to Mr Lawton

Mr Lawton. Farnacres 2nd Novr 1781.

Sir

As we find it will not by any means suit us to part with the Lead Warehouse we give you the trouble of this to acquaint you that we shall certainly keep it to the end of the Lease.

Sir Your Humble Servts
Walton & Turner

2 Nov 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Thomas Temperley

Farnacres 2nd Novemr 1781

I am very well pleased to hear that your Cement is likely to turn out to Mich Lumleys liking, and hope it will prove very good. We shall not grudge the Expençe if all turns out well and we flatter ourselves this Oven will fully repay Greenwich Hospital and with good Interest. I am glad you have got all the Iron work & we are also glad to hear the Trade is so good at Stublick Colliery. I am

Your Humble Servt

Nich Walton Junr

9 Nov 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster

Farnacres 9th Novemr 1781

Having looked over and recomputed the several articles so as to see how the price of Lead and Silver as they now are will affect the produce of Refining 37Foddr 8Cwt 2 Qrs 14 Lb which is only one pound more than the Tryal was made upon, of Mr Wilkinson of Cos Lead I find that the Loss by Refining supposing 5 Ounces P Fodder of Silver to be produced from each Fodder will be 2s/3 3/4d for the whole Operation, by which youll observe that a small matter more than 5 Ounces P Fodder will still answer but it is clear we never shd Refine any Lead that does not produce by Assay 5 1/2 Ounces or thereabouts, at least so farr as my calculation has gone but I am going forward in making a Table from whence it will be seen at one View how farr this can be carried. In the mean time I send you two calculation papers and shall send the remainder when finished.

The State of the Assays you have as follows.

	P[er] Fodder Oz pwt grs
First Assay No 1 Middle Clough Brownley Hill & c slag	R 5 11 9
Second Do Do Do	R 5 17 14 4/10
First Do No 2 Scaleburn Moss Brownley Hill &c Do	X 3 19 15
Second Do Do Do	X 3 18 9 6/10
Corn Riggs	R 6 4 22 8/10

Those marked R are Refineable the others are clearly not so and must be melted down again I mean No 2. I beg to have a 1/4 of a pound Assays for the time to come.

We are obliged by your attention to the above and also for the proper advice you gave Jno Friend who seemed in away of getting strangely wrong. We wish to have the

Ore so circumstanced kept till next years Ore comes in or however smelted by itself & not reported in your Acct til you can do it the first Operation of next yrs Accts. I am

Yours etc

N W Junr

PS Copy the Inclosed on paper & we will send you the Remainder of No 3 & No 2 afterwards.

10 Nov 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster

Farnacres 10 Novemr 1781

I now inclose you the remaining calculations as to Refining - The way I make out the Table No 3 is as follows.

Produce of No 1 Lead Silver and Savings	£633.18. 9
2 Do. at 5s P Fodder less price	£625. 7. 6 3/4
Decrease in produce by lowering price 5s	£ 8.11. 2 1/4
Value of Lead & amounts of Charges Pr No 1	£634. 1. 3/4
Do at 5s P Fodder less price Pr No 2	624.14. 1/2
Decrease by lowering price 5s P Fodder	£ 9. 7 1/2
Increase produce by Refining	£ 15.10 1/4

And therefore as the difference of 1d p Ounce for silver on 188 1/4 ounces is 15/8 1/4 I proceed as follows to make up No.3

Loss

Less as pr No.1 Silver at 6/3d & lead at £16.15	£ 2 3 3/4
6.2 & lead at £16.15 decreases by 1d fall	15 8 1/4
Loss	18
6.1 Do	15 8 1/4
Loss	£ 1 13 8 1/4

And so until silver comes to 5/6d p ounce

Gain

Less as pr No.2 Silver at 6/3d & lead at £16.10	£ 13 6 1/2
6.2 & lead at £16.10 decreases by 1d fall	15 8 1/4
Loss	2 1 3/4
6.1 Do	15 8 1/4
Loss	£ 17 10

To find out how I am to proceed after No.1 I say

No. 1 loss was	£ 2 3 3/4
Advantage by 5s lowered in price of refined lead pr No.2	15 10 1/4

Silver at 6s/3d & lead at £16.10 Gain pr No.2	13 6 1/2
At 6/2 & do decrease by 1d fall	15 8 1/4
Loss at 6s/2d	2 1 3/4

I desire youll Copy Nos 1,2&3 the former upon half sheets & the latter upon a Whole Sheet which will take it in if you get as much in as I have done in the Copies sent you wch I doubt not youll be able to make out. If you understand the whole on considering, it is very well, but if you do not I certainly will make it clear when you come down about the Money for the Pay of the Ore Carriers which we would not chuse to be till after Christmas Holydays..

I am. Your Humble Servant

Nich Walton Junr

16 Nov 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 16th Novr 1782

Dear Sir.

We are in want of a very good pair of Assay Scales that will weigh accurately to an Eightieth part of Grain and shall be much obliged by your enquiring what such a pair with proper weights & a Glass Case to hang them in will cost, including the necessary packages to keep all safe so as to come by the London Waggon to Newcastle. The sooner we know this the more agreeable it will be.

By tomorrows Waggon we expect you will receive a Box containing about 715 Ounces of fine Silver. Mr Smeaton who we expected to have had the pleasure of seeing here this day is not yet arrived. We are

Dear Sir Your most Hble Servts

Walton & Turner

16 Nov 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster

Farnacres 16 Novemr 1781

We have reced yours of the 14th & 15th instant this Afternoon and you have as follows the produces from Assay

Brigalburn	7: 6:19 3/10 P Fodder
Middle Cleugh	10.15.14 4/10 P Do
Operation	9. 3.18. P Do
After Refined	9.19 2/10 P Do

The produce of Silver this Operation will be as follows

Weight of Silver according to your Weighing.	714: 5
Do. According to Assay shd have been	744. 3.18
Short of Assay	29.18.18
Left in the Lead & Rich Litharge at least	39.18.18
Over	10

We are sorry to see the produce so bad, it is just 1/8th & a Quarter part not deducting the Litharge saved.

There was no difficulty in weighing the Small Assays. It is clear you are right in what you suggest as to judging of the Slag Leads produce in Silver under the circumstances you mention.

The loss by melting down 84Cwt 2Qrs 2Lbs is in value by computation 10s/4 1/2d besides the labour & being about a One hundred and fourth Part.

It gives us satisfaction to hear your Ore Accounts turn out right on comparing. We are

Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

18 Nov 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 18 Novemr 1781

Dear Sir.

We have this day drawn upon you for £26 payable 50 days after date to Mr Smeaton, which we shall deduct from the value of the Cake of fine silver now in the Road, which weighs 715 Ounces.

We are Dear Sir Your most Hble Servts.
Walton & Turner

£26 - Farnacres 18th Novemr 1781

Fifty days after date Pay Mr John Smeaton or his Order Twenty Six Pounds. Value Received as advised by. Walton & Turner
Mr John Holmes. Watchmaker Strand. London

26 Nov 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Thomas Temperley.

Farnacres 26 Novemr 1781

We are exceedingly happy to hear the Cinder Oven answers well. We hope the future burning will not be attended with so much trouble. We are glad to hear you

have Let the Level on such terms as to be likely to make amends for the last bargains and we approve of what you are doing about the Sinking to the Yard Coal. We are

Your Humble Servts

Walton & Turner

PS. Your last Accounts are come in the way we wished.

26 Nov 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 26 Novemr 1781

Messrs Mulcaster

The Assays will stand as follows.

	Ozs.	Pw.	Gr.	Tenths	
Scaleburn Moss	8.	6.	14.	4	P Fodder Refineable
Do. Slag	4.	15.	13.	2	P. Do. Unrefineable
Browngill Sun Vein	14.	14.	-	-	P Do. Refineable

Lead now Selling at £16:15 Silver at 6.1. P Ounce but Silver is rather upon the fall.

We have ordered you a Pair of Assay Scales which we will send as soon as they arrive at Newcastle but they must not be opened 'till we come to the Mill.

On Sunday we shall expect to see you both as also your Brother Robert and John Friend; dinner will be ready at One and you must all be here about Twelve when the Cash may be delivered to you so you may either make the Pay on Tuesday or Wednesday Sennt. We are

Your most Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

PS. The Pay Bill is examined and found right.

We shall be happy to hear Thomas Barrow is getting better again and that the Black Beer has been of service to him. The proper Name of the Bird which was shot in the Dam is the Golden Eye. There's a very exact description of it in a Book I have which says "These Birds are very common at Venice in Italy, and not rare on our Sea Coasts." It was very good to Eat. Thos Temperleys Acct came safe and right.

26 Nov 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes.

Farnacres Novemr 26th 1781

Dear Sir

You are desired to be so obliging as order a pair of Assay Scales immediately for Silver but before you order them I would wish to try some other Scale maker to know his prices. However at all Events I beg you will order them to be got with all convenient expedition of such person as you can most approve for accuracy in making such kind of things and desire when they are ready that they may be sent by some of the Merchant Trader Vessels that bring Merchandise from London to Newcastle then let them be packed so as they will bear carriage by Land after they arrive at Newcastle.

I was much concerned to hear of the death of your Friend but happy when you acquaint me your Family are in good health to whom Mrs Walton joins me in best wishes. I am

Dr Sir. Your most Obliged Hble Servt
Nich Walton Junr

3 Dec 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

[Note: The silver produce account was not included with the copy letter used here]

Farnacres 3d Decemr 1781

Messrs Mulcaster

You receive Inclosed an Account of the produces of Silver compared with the Assays including the last Operation.

We are sorry to have occasioned you so much trouble by forgetting the Account of the Rents which you have a List of as below with Recets Inclosed & filled up as far as they can be 'till you receive the Money. All that we have to observe is that in case the Rents are any of them paid in full- the Recet must be expressed in full for Rent if in part it must be expressed in part for Rent. We wish you a good journey & are

Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

PS. As soon as the pay is over we wish to receive the Recets and an Acct of what money you got from the Tenants & will return your Recets.

Rents due 12th May 1781

Ann Brown	Langley Castle	£46
John Elliot	Silly wrae	£32
Joshua Elliot	Plankey Pasture	£16
Anthony	Robson Lough	
Nicho Woodman	East dean Raw	£27 5
		£121 5

4d to be taken for each Receipt

4 Dec 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Erasmus Blackett

Prices of Silver Bullion at the London Markett

1780

January 7	5 8	p ounce [s/ d]
Febry 11	5 7 1/2	
March 17	5 7 3/4	
April 21	5 9 1/4	
May 18	5 9 3/4	
June 2	5 9 3/4	
June 30	5 8 1/2	
Augt 4	5 9 3/4	
Septembr 8	5 10 1/4	
Octr 20	5 9 3/4	
Decembr 4	5 10 1/2	
Decembr 29	5 11	

1781

Febry 9	5 11
Mar 9	5 11 3/4
April 6	6
May 4	6 1/2
May 18	6 3/4
June 15	6 3/4
July 13	6 1
Augt 10	6 3/4
Sept 14	6 2 1/4
Octbr 19	6 3 1/4
Novr 30	6 2 3/4

Farnacres 4th Decemr 1781

Dear Sir.

Above we have for your information the prices at which we have sold our Bullion in London for the last and present year. I am

Dear Sir Your most Obedt Humble Servant

Nich Walton Junr

J.E. Blackett Esqr

5 Dec 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 5th Decemr 1781

Dear Sir

Yesterday's Post brought us your Letter of the 1st inst and we have this day drawn upon you for £196.13s.10d being the Balance of Acct as below; and we return you thanks for your goodness in attending to the Scales. We are

Dear Sir Your most Hble & Obed Servts
Walton & Turner

715 Ounces of fine Silver at 6s/2 3/4d P Ounce	£222.13.10
Deduct Bill drawn 18 Novr payable to Mr Smeaton.	26
Balance	£196.13.10

£196:13s/10d.

Farnacres 5th Decemr 1781

Forty days after date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint One Hundred & Ninety Six Pounds Thirteen Shillings and Ten Pence. Value received as advised by
Walton & Turner
Mr Holmes London

9 Dec 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 9th Decemr 1781

Messrs Mulcaster

We have reced your of the 6th inst and observe its Contents; we have also reced the Vouchers for the Lead Ore Carriage Pay all right and Thos Temperleys two weekly Accts ending with the 1st December instant & the Cinder Acct ending at the same time. We observe you have received £94.6.1 for wch you acknowledge to be accountable, and we desire it may rest with any other Sum you may receive from the Elliott's till further order. What you have done in giving the Elliots your own Recet is proper. It gives us concern to hear of Jno Mulcaster having been so ill & we heartily wish him soon perfectly well, as we do likewise, Thomas Barrow who we are sorry to hear continues badly. You must not Sell any Lead for less than £1.4 P Pig at the Mill.

Lead now for Refined	£17.2.6	P Fodder
Silver	6.2 3/4	P Ounce

We thank you for your care of Mr Thorntons Letter and sending him the Message we desired. We are

Your Humble Servts
Walton & Turner

14 Dec 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster

We have received the Computations Nos 1 & 2 as also two Assays of Thortergill Syke Lead which being clearly Refineable we shall not weigh them 'till we receive the other Assays you propose sending us. We much approve of what you intend as to the Cowhill etc, Brownly Hill and Broomsbury Ore Lead as also with respect to the Nine Pieces of Refined Lead being reckoned part of the Quantity reduced from the Furnace after being Repaired for the reasons you have mentioned which are quite satisfactory. We are

Your Humble Servts
Walton & Turner

PS. You may be Winning Stones and getting some to the place for the Toofall to the House wch Mr James Mulcaster lives in.

15 Dec 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster

Farnacres 15th Decemr 1781

We have received your Letter of the 12th and you have as follows the weight of the Assays last sent and a calculation of what Silver appears from the Assays to be contained in the following kinds of Lead from the Ore P Fodder:

	Gr.80ths.	Oz.Pwt.Grs	tenths	
Thortergill Syke	1 58	16. 18.	2. 4.	Refineable
Guddamgill Burn X Vein No 2& 3.	58	7. 2.	2. 4.	Do
Brownleyhill &c.	64.	7. 16.	19. 2.	Do
Cowhill &c.	58.	7. 2.	2. 4.	Do

We are glad you have got the Reducing Furnace to work again and it appears promising and we flatter ourselves our produce will now be better than it has been. We have ordered you a Ream of Paper.

You give us a great satisfaction of letting us know that John Mulcaster has got almost quite well and at work and that Thomas Barrow is in hopes of joining his Partner after the Holidays. We are

Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

16 Dec 1781 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr Jno Holmes.

Farnacres 16th Decemr 1781

Dear Sir

We give you the trouble of this Letter to acquaint you that we have the Liberty of drawing upon you this day for £13 payable to Mr Richd Prime of Bucklersbury 20 days after date which we shall allow in Account for the next Cake of Bullion.

We are Dear Sir Your very humble Servants
Walton & Turner

17 Dec 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster.

Farnacres 17th Decemr 1781

We have reced your Letter by John Friend and the Assays having been weighed you have an Acct of them as follows

	Gr. 80ths.	Oz.pwt.Gr.tenths.	
Windy Brow	60 equal	7. 7.	P Fodder
Browngill & Sun Vein Slag	70 equal	8. 16. 9. 6	P Fodder
Thortergill Syke Slag.	6. 36 equal	14. 4. 4. 8	P Fodder
Greengill	1. 54 equal	16. 10. 7. 2	P Fodder

We are Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

PS. We inclose you a Copy of our Letter of the 15th inst.

20 Dec 1781 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Thomas Temperley.

Farnacres 20th Decemr 1781

We have reced your Letter of the 14th inst and are glad to hear you have got to work in the Yard Coal, and desire all possible care may be taken to have as many of those Coals wch it will now be necessary to work, kept in store for the use of the Reducing at Langley Mill, as Messrs Mulcaster can with convenience put under Cover; and after you have cleared the Yard Coal of Water, let the remainder of it when that is done, be worked only as it may be wanted for the reducing.

What you have done as to Hutchinson is for the reasons you have given very proper, but you shd have immediately acquainted us when you discharged him, or rather we think it ought to have been before that.

We do not see any objection to Geo Parker Senr and John Robinson being employed at the Level in manner you mention.

In due time we do not fear having good Custom both for the Coals and Cinders and shall acquaint Mr Monkhouse & Co that we are able to furnish them with Coals at 4d P Load and Cinders at 9d P Sack.

We are Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

25 Dec 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster

Farnacres 25th Decemr 1781

Having reced your Letters of the 23rd inst and weighed and weighed the Assays you have as follows the result:

	Grs 80ths	Oz Pwt. Gr 10th
Dowgang	2.12 equal	21 1. 9. 6 P Fodder
Caple Cleugh & Sun & North Vein	1. 2 equal	10 21. 6 P Do
Greengill Slag	1. 8 equal	10. 15. 14. 4 P Do

Silver 6s 2 3/4d P Ounce Refined Lead £17 PFodder are the present prices.

Your intentions as to Lead Carriage are very proper.

The price Thos Temperley charges is as low as the Yard Coal can we think be afforded indeed we are doubtfull they are too low but afterwards they will we hope answer at a lower price. We have reced Thomas Temperleys Accounts with your Letters above mentioned.

We are Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

PS. We will send you an Acct of the Assays you mention, the first time they fall in our way.

You receive herewith an Acct of the Assays from wch you are desired to Copy what you want and then return it carefully to us.

30 Dec 1781 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster

Farnacres 30th Decemr 1781

I am very concerned at the damage wch has been done to your Roofs and greatly approve of your alertness in getting the whole of the damage repaired and I beg you will continue to exert yourselves to get the work finished with all possible expedition. The weather is now favourable and will I hope continue good till you effect this. I am in not the least hurry about the Assay Accounts.

I was sorry to hear of the death of John Friends Sister. He I understand from my Man Isaac, was at Newcastle attending her Funeral yesterday. I think it very strange indeed that he shd not call here.

I am Your very humble Servant
Nich Walton Junr

31 Dec 1781 Nicholas Walton to Henry Airey

Date when Delivered	To whom sold	<Type>	Ps	Fod	Cwt	Qr	Lb	Price	Amount
1781									
Augt 10	Mr <.... & Ch Rowley>	L	20		1	9	1 7	£15.10	£ 22 7 5 1/2
11	Mr J R Headlam	L	200		14	3	1 21	£15.10	223 4 6 1/2
	Mr Edw Bell	OS	1			1	2	£15. 8	1 2
	Mr Alex Richardson	L	42		3	2	7	£15.10	46 18 3 1/2
17	Mr Wm Milburn	L	15		1	1	2 21	£15.10	16 14 10 3/4
17	Do	RS	15		1	1	2 14	£15. 5	16 8 7
21	Mr Wm Watson	L	50		3	12	3 14	£15.10	56 1/2
	Mr Alex Richardson	L	42		3		3	£15.10	47 1 3/4
24	Messrs Robinson & Co	L	10			15	14	£15.10	11 3 3 3/4
31	John Hall Esq	L	700		50	10	3 7	£15. 7.6	776 13 3 3/4
Octb 3	Do	L	500		36		1 21	£15. 7.6	553 16 4 3/4
23	Do	L	200		14	9	7	£15. 7.6	221 17 8 3/4
	Do	L	600					£15. 7.6	
			2395						

Messrs Henry & Jona Airey

Farnacres 31 Decemr 1781

Gentlemen

Above you have an Acct of Lead Sold by you for which we desire to settle on Saturday Morning when Mr Walton will call at Mr Henry Aireys Office at half past Ten or Eleven o'Clock. We heartily wish you many happy years and are

Gentlemen. Your most Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

PS. We have no particulars of the delivery of the 600 & cannot help think it to be extremely wrong that the delivery shd be so long delayed a thing we cannot by any means admit of for the time to come for it certainly seems strange that we shd now be delivering Lead at £15.7.6 when the real price is £17 and that the Lead which has been sold at £16.10 may perhaps remain in the Warehouse for Six Months and further time be expected for payment tho' we are put to the inconvenience of keeping it for the purchaser. In Mr Harveys Acct Dr Halls last Quantity is £222:5:2 1/2 Qr whether 14.9.-.7 [ie.Fodders/Cwt/Quarters/Lb] is the right quantity

5 Jan 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster

Farnacres 5th January 1782

Having tryed the Assays I find they are as follows.

	Gr 80ths. Oz Pw.Gr		
For the last Operation Refineable 2 Assays	1 30 equal	13. 9.12.	P Fodd
After Refined	6 equal	14.16 3/10	

Dowgang I have tryed again and find it the same as was before reported which I am sure is 21. 1. 9 6/10 P Fdr

By Assay the last Cake should have been.	1091. 9.12
and the real produce being	1110
it is over the Assay	18.10.12

I observe the loss by Refining & Reducing is near upon an Eleventh but rather more.

I am very sorry the Weather has been so bad for your repairs but hope it will now be more favourable.

We are obliged by the readiness of the Makepeaces & they certainly shall be preferred to the Nevins.

I am concerned to hear Tommy Barrow still continues poorly. We have no objection to the Smelting being carried on as you propose but desire Wm Browns behaviour may be strictly attended to.

It is desired that Wm Wilson and Isaac Burnhopes Son may have as much Lead as you can provided they come at times when the Weather suits to save the Roads and I desire that may be a rule not to be given up you will therefore acquaint Mr Thornton that he must give the above Persons notice that they are not to have Lead unless they come in Frosty or Dry Weather according to your Judgement proper to answer the end as to the Road, and not to give umbrage to the other Carriers.

I am. Your very Hble Servt

Nich Walton Junr

11 Jan 1782 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr Jno Holmes.

Farnacres 11 Jany 1782

Dear Sir

By last Saturdays Carrier we sent you a Box containing 1110 Ounces of Bullion which we hope you will receive safe & by one of Lord Ravensworths Servants we sent you a parcel for Mr Stephen John Houle which we expect will be delivered to you on Monday or perhaps Tuesday & youll be kind enough to take care of it till called for.

We are Dear Sir Your most Hble Servts

Walton & Turner

PS. What is become of my Bro Smeaton I know not but as I have not heard from him in answer to a Letter I wrote concerning the agreeable termination of the busyness with Sir Geo Rodney I conclude he is from home.

N Walton Junr

Since writing the above yours of the 8th is come to hand and you may depend on its being duly attended to. Many thanks for your attention to the Assay Scales.

Pray forwd the Inclosed P penny post.

11 Jan 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster

Farnacres 11th January 1782

We have reced your Letters of the 5th and 7th and hope before this you have got the Roofs repaired, we realy are concerned on Account of the distress you have been in & shall be happy to hear the difficultys are over.

The produce from the Assays last sent will be as follows.

	Gr 80ths	Oz pwt Gr	
Caple Cleugh & N&S Vein Slag.	56 equal	6.17. 4 8/10	PFod
Dowgang Slag	1.34 equal	13.19. 7 9/10	PFod
Nattrass	65 equal	7.19. 6	PFod
Thortergill	1.74 equal	18 17. 7 2/10	PFod
Do Supposed not true		14.14	PFod

Lead came Price as last mentioned by us and Silver is now £...6.21/2 P Ounce.

Along with the above Letters we received your annual Acct of Stock at the Lead Mill, your Operation paper for December and Thos Temperleys Stock Paper and Two Weeks Coll.y Accounts.

We are Your Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

15 Jan 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster

Farnacres 15th January 1782

The account of the last Assays you have as follows.

	Gr 80ths	Oz pwt Gr tenths
Thortergill Slag	1.16 equal	11.15. 4 8 PFodder
Windybrow Slag	56 equal	6.17. 4 8
Rich Lithareg lead	1. 8 equal	10.15.14 4
1.74 equal	18 17. 7 2/10 PFod	

Price of Refined Lead £17 PFodder

Silver Bullion 6s.2 1/2 POunce

We were glad to find Dowgang Assay turned out on the Second weighing as good as at first and certainly should not have pardoned your doubts unless you had communicated them to us but as we had them communicated by you we think ourselves obliged by this attention to your duty.

It shocked us to hear of the accident to poor Dixon but hope from your Account he will get well again very soon, he however ought to be extremely cautious how he ventures abroad.

We are very happy to hear your work as to the Repairing of the Roofs is over and congratulate on getting over so troublesome and disagreeable a busyness.

We would not have you give the Elliots any Recets but to return the Recets we sent you in the meantime however we would have you tell them we are extremely dissatisfied at their not keeping their word.

The damage at Blaydon Mr Blackett spoke to me about and I find it has been very considerable & it was very fortunate that no Lives were lost. We are

Your Humble Servts

Walton & Turner

PS The Assay Scales are expected every day & we have ordered them to be ordered to you but would not have them unpacked till we come to the Mill. We are much obliged to Mr Jas Mulcaster for his comparative View of the Value of Browneyhill and Dowgang Ores it is surprising it shd come so near at the first fire but clearly Dowgang is the more valuable of the two. We send this by Mr Thorntons Boy.

21 Jan 1782 Nicholas Walton to Henry Airey

[Note: Recipient unstated but given the similarity to other such letters to the Airey brothers this is assumed to have been for them. Henry Airey used here.]

	S's	L's
Stock of Lead in the Warehouse 16th June 1781 & delivd since to the 31st Decemr 1781 from the Lead Mill.	1523	7667

Sold & delivered to the 3rd Jany 1782 inclusive	1126	5214
Sold to Dr Hall & Mr Chapman & not dd 3d Jan	2000	
	1126	7214
Unsold 3d January 1782	397	453

Gentm.

Farnacres 21st January 1782

Above you have an Acct showing what Lead was remaining unsold 3d net of Lead which was actually delivered from the Lead Mill

	S's	L's
besides wch there were	1	307
then at the Lead Mill undelivered & so the whole unsold was	398	760
taking in the whole of the Lead that was in the Warehouse on the Road and at the Mill.		

We are

Gentm. Your Hble Servts
Walton & Turner

22 Jan 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster

Farnacres 22d January 1782

The Assays reced with your Letter of the 18th December 1782 (it is so dated) are as follows

	Gr. 80th.	Oz.pwt	Gr.10th	
Brownleyhill & Slag	26	3. 3.	16. 8	PFodder
Black Slag - Ore Hearth	56	6.17.	4. 8	P Do
Do Slag Hearth	40	4.18		P Do

Refined Lead £17 PFodder
Silver 6s 2 1/2d POunce

From the above Assays your supposition as to there being a difference between the Black Slags at the first & Second Fire is found to be right.

We are very glad to hear that Jack Dixon returned in good health.

I have told Mr Hopper one of the Brownley Hill Co. of the value of Dowgang Ore but this I mention to you not to have it named again. Mr Turner and I have no objection to your giving the Partners at Dowgang a Copy of the paper Mr J Mulcaster sent us but do that as from yourselves.

You are desired to do as you mention as to the Elliot Rents.

I am Your Humble Servant

Nich Walton Junr

22 Jan 1782 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Temperley

Thomas Temperley

Farnacres 22nd January 1782

I have received your Letter and approve of what you have done as to the Level & the Staple; and I am glad to hear you are getting on well at the Colliery and wish heartily to have Success to attend the inoculation of the Putters. I am

Your Humble Servant

Nich Walton Junr

23 Jan 1782 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr Jno Holmes.

Farnacres 23d January 1782

Dear Sir

We have this day drawn upon you for £380.2 being for the Balance of Account as below. The Bill is payable 40 days after date.

We are obliged to you for the trouble you have had about the Scales. The Vouchers are very satisfactory only in the Bill made out by you the sum is set down £8.16 whereas Mr Philips charge is £8.18.6. You will therefore be so good as let us know how this should be. We allow as below £8 18.6

The Rental of the Derwentwater Estate wch is the Parcel you have for Mr Moule we wish to have delivered first convenient opportunity. We are

Dear Sir Your most Obed Hble Servts

Walton & Turner

Mr Holmes

To the Comm.rs & Governors of Greenwich Hospital

Dr

For 1110 Ounces of fine Silver at 6s/1/2d

£342.5. -

Cr By Bill payable to Mr Prime	£13. -. -	
Mr Stephen Jno Moule	15. 4. 6	
Note pd.Mr Philips for Scales etc	8.18. 6	
		£ 37.3. -
		£305.2. -
Mr Holmes Dr to N Walton Junr for his Moiety of		
Cash reced of Sir George Rodney		75.-. -
Balance due from Mr Holmes		£380.2

PS I have not heard anything from Mr Hawthorn since Saturday.

£380.2. Farnacres 23d January 1782
Forty days after date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington &
Saint Three Hundred and Eighty Pounds Two Shillings. Value received as advised by
Walton & Turner
Mr Holmes London

25 Jan 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster Farnacres 25th Janury 1782

We inclose you a Table showing the produce of Assay of Bullion computed for
One Fodder of Lead and supposing the Assay to weigh for 1/80th part of a Grain to a
whole Grain from One Pound of Lead.

When you were at Farnacres we delivered you several Tables showing at what
prices of Lead and Silver the Lead seemed worth Refining. When you have copied
them we shd be glad to have them returned.

As we expect soon to have the Howdons and James Watson here to settle their
Acct you are desired to get James Watson to bring an Acct with him what Wood and
Deals wd be wanted for the Toofall for Mr James Mulcaster & if anything more will be
wanted for the two new Rooms he shd bring an Acct of that too& he shall then have
directions to order what is necessary. We are

Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

1 Feb 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster Farnacres 1st Februry 1782

We have received your Letters of the 27th & 30th Ultio and also the accompanying papers therein mentioned for which we are much obliged to you. We have not had time yet to look thro' the Estimatory Paper relative to the Values of the respective Ores in Alston Moor but on thinking of the busyness we judge it may not be expedient to give all the Lead Mine Adventurers information as to our Opinion of the Values of their Ores as it would look like interfering with the persons who purchase Ore we notwithstanding are clearly of opinion that in all Cases where the Ore really looks worse or from extraordinary circumstances is considered of less Value than it ought to be, information should be given to the Lessees that they may know the value thereof.

We have ordered James Watson to chuse some Deals that they be sent to you by Corbett with a Bill of Parcels.

The Frost is now very hard and therefore the Lead Carriage may go on as fast as you will. We are extremely angry with Mr Ions about the bringing the Lead down. All that we can say to him he will bring it down irregularly either in small quantities or large & when the latter it fatigues our Men so much in getting it into the Warehouse that our best labourer has given up & left us and the others we now have are talking of doing the same & there is another thing which is farr worse; we have sold a Quantity of Lead which if called for we cannot deliver if the Frost continues occasion by the Lead being locked at Newburn. You will therefore press the Carriers as much as possible to bring the Lead to Newcastle.

	Gr. 80th	Oz.pwt.Gr tenths
Lough Vein Assays	51. Equal	6. 4. 22. 8. PFodder

Refined Lead. £17.	P Fodder
Silver	6.2. P Ounce & expected to fall

We are Your Humble Servants
Walton & Turner

PS We are rather surprised to see so small a Week at Stublick Colliery ending 26 January. T. Temperley not mentioned the Bore Rods tho' they belong to Nent Force Level they shd have been put into the Stock as such.

4 Feb 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs. Mulcaster

Farnacres 4th Febr'y. 1782

You have as follows the result of the weighing of the Assays sent in your letter of the 1st Inst.

	No. Assays	Grs. 80ths	Oz. Pwts. Grs Tenth
Carrs <West> of Nent	No 1	3 63 equal	5. 2. 21. 6 p Fodder
	2	1 17	4. 3. 7. 2
Thorngill West End		2 60	7. 7.
G. <burn> x Vn. S. End 2 3 Slag		2 42	5. 2. 21. 6
Brownley Hill &<do.> Cutting		1 47	11.10. 7. 2

Refined Lead £17 p[er] Fodder
 Silver 6.2 p[er] Ounce likely to be lower

Two Assays formerly made Carrs was as follows

Ore Lead 6 1,2 p[er] Fodder
 Slag Do 4.10.15.6

We do not in the least blame you concerning Carrs Lead but the circumstance shows how necessary frequent assays is & you are clearly right in what you say as to keeping the different kinds of Ores separate & that must be done in future. We are

Your Humble Servants.

Walton & Turner.

	S's	L's
Stock of Lead in the Warehouse and delivered from the Lead Mill as p[er] Accot. sent you the 21st January to the 31st Decemr. 1781	1523	7667
Delivered from the Mill in January 1782		431
	1523	8098
Sold and Delivered to the 3d Jan1782 incl.	1126	5214
Sold to Dr. Hall & Mr. Chapman & not dd then	2000	
	1126	7214
Remainder	397	884

From the above Remainder deduct what has been Sold & delivered since the 3d January 1782 not taking notice of Dr Hall & Mr Chapmans Quantities and that will leave the Quantities remaining unsold.

NB. Upwards of 500 pieces of Refined Lead have been delivered from the Mill in February 1782.

5 February 1782

10 Feb 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs. Mulcaster.

Farnacres 10th. Feby 1782

We have recd your letters of the 6th & 7th & very much approve of what you have done as to Thomas Ions and the Lead Carriers. We think this matter shd. not be carried further as we hope what has been done will have the desired effect but doubt that Frost will soon stop the Navigation between Newcastle & Newburn.

Oz Pw Grs.

Carrs Ore Lead W of Nent 4.3 7 2/10 p Fodder Not Refineable

5.2 21 6/10 p Fdr	at 5 Oz	Loss	10 3/4 pFdr
	at 5.2	Loss	3 1/2 pFdr
	at 5.2.21	Loss	<ab>1/4d

Guddamgill Burn X Vein S .end No 2 & 3 Slag 5.2.21 6/10 p Fr.

Refineable leaves	7 1/2 pFod
at 5 Ozs.	

Brownley Hill <of> Do. Cutting 11.10.7 2/10 p[er] Fr. Refineable

From the above it is evident that none of Carrs Lead is Refineable for we cannot expect to get all the Silver or to work up to the proportion of the Assay and probably we shall not get more than 5 ozs. 2 pwt. from any Ore Lead p[er] Fodder the Assay of wch. comes to 5.2.21.6/10 p[er] Fodder. The desire you express of having the above further explained than in ours of the 4th Inst is very agreeable to us. We are

Your Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

PS The Snow here is better than Six Inches deep on a Medium.

The above calculations are made upon the present prices of Lead and Silver – Refined Lead being at £17 p[er] Fodder & Silver at 6s/2d p[er] Ounce. The latter still expected to drop.

12 Feb 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs. Mulcaster

Farnacres 12th February 1782.

We have recd. your Letter of the 8th inst with the Assays which prove as follows:

	No. of <Assays>	Weight Gr 80ths	Oz pw Grs tenths	
<Operative> lead	2	58 equal	7 2 2 4 p	Fodd.r Refineable
After Refined	2	4	9 19 2 p	Fodd.r After Refined
Thorngill Cutting	3	1 32	9 2 16 6 p	Fodd.r Refineable
Carrs Bouse & Cutting	2	38	4 13 2 4 p	Fdd.r Not Refineable
Carrs Cutting	3	62	5 10 8 p	Fdd.r Not Refineable

Refined Lead £17 p[er] Fodder. Bullion 6s/2d p[er] Ounce

Silver of last Operation by Assay should have been 575.10. 2.4

Real Weight of Silver 603. -. .-

Produce more than by Assay 27. 9.21.6

The Assay Scales are ready to be delivered to James Johnsons Man on Friday & we have desired Mr: Harvey to give a strict charge to the Man to take the utmost care of them and Mr Harvey is also desired to write to James Johnson to forwd. them to Langley Mill the first Opportunity. The Assays for Carrs Cutting were found to be all of a weight & Thorngill Cutting Assays were also all of equal weight with one another.

We are glad to see the Reducing better than usual and observe what you say as to the Money paid by Jno. Elliot. You will probably have directions about the School by Fridays Post. We are

Your Humble Servants

Walton & Turner.

16 Feb 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs. Mulcaster

Farnacres 16th. February 1782.

We received both yours of the 4th & 12th inst relative to the School at Deanraw, and think Willm. Swinburn has behaved very impudently and improperly in sending his Sons there without applying to you or us, for as he did not contribute towards the Building, we think him not entitled to any expectation of use from the School except by permission, & therefore unless he comes to you and acknowledges his fault in sending the Boys without leave and pays you as much Money as is equal to the expectation you had of what in reason he ought to have contributed along with others, we insist upon it that none of his Children shall be permitted to go to Deanraw School. With regard to

Thomas Coats, he has behaved foolishly impertinently and insolently, and therefore we beg you will immediately acquaint him that unless he acknowledges his Fault to you, our Friendship to him is at an End, & we do insist that for the time to come when any Differences arise the same be referred to you to settle or otherwise it would seem proper to level the School with the Ground or convert it into a Cottage for some of our Workmen at Langley Mill, for we will neither allow Thomas Coats or any other of the Hospitals Tenants to be Ruler. The above are our Sentiments after having consulted together upon the Subject & we expect that proper Regard should be had thereto & you shd. sooner have heard from us, but we had no time to fix upon what in our Idea was necessary 'til this very Day. Pray acquaint Wm. Swinburn and Thomas Coats with every particular of the above wch. relates to either of them, and in addition tell Coats that if he lays hands on any Child again, we will ourselves be at the expence of prosecuting him. We are

Your &c.

W[alton] & T[urner]

PS Possibly we may prosecute him for what has been done.

16 Feb 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster

Farnacres 16th. February 1782.

Your Letters of the 11th, 12th, & 13th are now before us together with inclosures therein mentioned. The Assays turn out as follows.

	Ozs.	pwts.	Grs.	
Blagill Ore Lead	7.	7 -	p.	Fodd.r Refineable
Do: Cutting Ore Lead	9.	1. 7 8/10		Do
B. Hill <.... ..> X Vein				
Sun Nos. 2 & 3 Cutting Slag	8.	6.14 4/10		Do
Nattrass Slag	7.	4.13 2/10		Do
Carrs West of Nent Slag	2.13.	2 6/10		Not Refineable

<We> approve of what you have done about the Deals & think that they shd. be turned so as to lye upon the other edge after some time & that should in our opinion be repeatedly done till they are used.

Except the Walling of the new Rooms we would wish the whole work to be done by day & that the person you recommend may do the Plaistering.

We approve of the steps you have taken as to the Lead Carriers.

The Assay Scales we expect would be sent you by yesterdays Carrier but whether they were or not we have not yet heard. They must be kept unopened till we come to the Mill.

For the time to come when there is any Eight Stone Lead which proves unrefineable we desire it may be kept and not melted & cast into 12 Stone Pieces.

What you mention as to the Bingsteads is very right & we must be at the expence of doing what is necessary to enable us to keep the different Ores separate. We are &c.

Walton & Turner

21 Feb 1782 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Ions

Mr Ions

Farnacres 21st Febr 1782

The bearers hereof Richd. Scott and John Alnwick by our desire call upon you to let them have Five Hundred Pieces of Lead to bring to the Warehouse in Newcastle Sandgate & it is expected that you immediately deliver that Quantity to them or as soon as they call for the carrier. For the time to come it is expected that your people do carry the Lead from the Wherry or Keel and Pile the same in the Warehouse according to direction from Mr Harvey.

We are &c. Walton & Turner

25 Feb 1782 Nicholas Walton to William Harvey

Farnacres 25th Febr 1782.

Mr Harvey.

I shall be obliged by your acquainting me whether the 606 ½ Ounces included the piece of Silver I delivered you in Mr. Aireys Office or not because if it does I must enter it accordingly in the Mill Accounts. I am

Your Humble Servant

Nichs Walton Junr.

28 Feb 1782 Nicholas Walton to Jonathan Airey

Farnacres 28 Febr 1782

Dear Jonathan

Above [below] you have an Acct how the Sales stand with the Quantities of Lead delivered at Langley Mill. The lead marked O is common or unrefined lead.

Your Affec. Bro.r

Nicholas Walton Junr

PS I am still very <farr from> well

State of Lead warehouse, Sales &c

	OS Slag	LS Lith- arge Slags	RS Ref- ined Slags	O Common	L Ref- ined	Total
Stock of Lead in the Warehouse 16Jn1781 & dd since to 28Feb1782	327	404	967	112	9332	11142
Sold & delivered at the warehouse to the 28 Febry 1782	131	170	358		7112	8271
Remains undelivered 28 Feb 1782	196	234	109	112	2220	2871
Sold to Dr Hall & not delivered Do					800	800
Remains unsold of lead delivered from Langley Mill 28th Do	196	234	109	112	1420	2071

1 Mar 1782 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Ions

[Note: The first part of the letter is a copy of a letter from Mr. Harvey to Nicholas Walton. Mr. Harvey was the warehouse manager or agent for Greenwich Hospital at their lead warehouse in Newcastle.]

Copy

Mr Walton

Newcastle March 1st. 1782.

Sir

I am this Moment inform'd by Messrs. Scott & Alnwick that they delivered your Letter to Thos. Ions Junr. and desired to know whether or not he would allow them to take the 500 pieces of Lead as p[er] Order in your Letter, to which Request he made Answer that no person whatsoever should take a piece of Lead that lay upon his Landing that he had the Charge off, and the said Scott & Alnwick further say that he Thos. Ions Junr. behaved in a most imperious manner to them.

I remain Sir Your most Obedt. Hum[bl]e. Servt.

W. Harvey

Mr Ions

Farnacres 1st March 1782.

Above you have an exact Copy of a Letter wch. I have received from Mr. Harvey and I think it necessary to acquaint you that if you do not immediately come down to Newburn and deliver to Scott and Alnwick 500 pieces of Lead I will myself go with a proper authority and take the whole & I give you this Notice that I shall directly give

orders to Messrs. Mulcaster that no more Lead shall be delivd. for Newburn 'till this matter is settled and all the Lead now there brought to our Warehouse. I am sorry you compel me to be harsh with you. I wished to serve you, you are determined I shall not so find. When you come to Newburn I expect to see you & beg you will not lose a moment in setting this matter right. Youll observe that it is insisted upon your Men carry the Lead into the Warehouse.

I am Your &c

Nichs Walton Junr.

1 Mar 1782 Thomas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

[Note: Thomas Walton was Nicholas Walton's son]

Messrs. Mulcaster

My Father orders me to acquaint you that no more Lead must be delivered except what is to go directly for Newcastle, he being determined that no more shall go to Newburn 'til the present Quantity there is delivered into the Warehouse, in which time it may be seen what other Wherrymen it may be proper to employ. I am

Gentn. Your most Hble Servt.

Tho: Walton

Farnacres 1st March 1782

1 Mar 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

[Note: Although Walton uses the word 'axis' he probably means the end of the axle of the water wheel at the mill.]

Farnacres 1st March 1782.

Messrs. Mulcaster

I am exceedingly vexed indeed on acct. of the falling of the outer Leaf of the Refinery Wall, and desire immediate Steps may be taken for getting the <Damage> repaired; but in case the Wall which supports the Outer End of the Axis will stand 'til the Season gets better, I shd. be very glad of that, and then there will be time to get every thing ready before beginning to make the Repair, and I wish too that the whole of the Refining of this years Quantity might be got finished before this work is done, but if there is any real Hazard of the Wall which supports the Axis tumbling, it must be done immediately; I however rather imagine there is little fear of that, but as you are upon the Spot you will best be able to judge most clearly it will be necessary to take the whole down to the Bottom, that is, I mean the Inner Leaf, and it will also be proper to take down every part of the Wall both at Top and Bottom that appears to be the least

faulty, and to found it well, and tye effectually. Most excellent Tyes may be had from the Flag Quarry, for as I remember they will cut very fair and consequently will make a fair face both on the Inside of the Wheel Case, and the outside of the Wall. I need not say more at present except that in the making up of the Lime for the rebuilding of this Wall, I wd. have you make use of fine Slags and Smithycam, and I am sure I need not desire you to take care that it is well worked. I am

Your Hble Servt.

Nichs Walton Junr

3 Mar 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

[Note: James, as the next letter, of 5th March, shows, is James Mulcaster. Tarras is a volcanic tufa used in making waterproof mortar.]

Messrs. Mulcaster

I dare say it is not necessary for me to desire you not to have the Stamp Mill at Work 'till the Wall of the Refinery is rebuilt and even after that, the Stamp work must stand 'till all is got well set and steady. I shall order two Bushels of Tarras to set the Hewn work in & possibly you may receive it by tomorrow's Carrier. When it is used the following directions must be observed

Take two parts Tarras Two Parts fine fresh Powder of Lime One Part fine Slag perfectly clean – Mix the whole well and in making up only use as much Water as will bring the Materials to a Tough Pasty Substance fit for laying on with a Masons Trowel. The Hewn Stone only for the Wheel Case is to be set in this Mortar and I expect 2 Bushels to be more than you will want so if any is left take care and keep it dry & if none comes use Smithycam and Slags. As I suppose the outer Leaf has not fallen quite to the height of the Wall if that is so the hanging part had best be propped with some refuse stuff to prevent further falling but you must take care not to beat or force anything which may have a tendency to push the Hewn Wall in upon the Wheel.

I am Your humble Servant

Nichs Walton Junr.

PS James continues much the same.

5 Mar 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 5 March 1782

Messrs. Mulcaster

For Cash wch. Mr. Holmes is desired to be so good

As Pay on Messrs. Walton & Turners Acct.

On Messrs. Ibbetson & Everest Signing the

Inclosed Recet: Viz

Mr. Ibbeston £75: 1 .

Mr. Everest 49:17 .

£124.18 . £136.14.7

Balance due from Mr. Holmes

£51: 17.2

51.17.2 Farnacres 8th. March 1782

Two Months after date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Fifty One Pounds Seventeen Shillgs. And Twopence – Value Received as advised by Walton & Turner

Mr. Holmes London

8 Mar 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

[Note: 'Toofall' is more usually rendered as 'Teefall', meaning a room under the slope of the roof and thereby triangular in cross section.]

Farnacres 8th March 1782

Messrs. Mulcaster

I received your Letter of the 4th inst on Wednesday afternoon and am very glad you have got the Refining House Wall repaired & much approve of what you have done wch. I dare say will be found effectual & I shall be glad to know the expense at any convenient time to you both. The Tarras you are desired to take care of & keep moderately dry.

You will be doing as you propose as to the carriage of the Lead but I hope soon to give you further directions

Thomas Temperleys Recets are safe in our hands as also the Operation paper which there was not the least occasion for you to make out afresh & indeed I thought I had given directions which shewed you that.

I do not know what a long ladder means. If you had told me how long I believe I could have ordered you suitable Wood, so pray let me know in your next Letter.

What you propose about the Toofall is quite proper. I am Your Humble Servt.
Nich Walton Junr.

9 Mar 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs. Mulcaster

Farnacres 9th March 1782

Yours of the 5th inst is now before us. You are desired to be easy as to the Refinery Wall and we doubt not it will stand very well and that there is no fear in having the Stamp Mill at Work.

Refined Lead now £17 p[er] Fodder
Silver 6. 2 3/4 p[er] Ounce

For the time to come you are desired to Mark all the Refined Slag Lead G.H.O. except such Pigs as may be harder than the rest and let them be marked G.H.O.S. So the R.S must be quite dropped. We are

Your &c
W[alton] & T[urner]

14 Mar 1782 Nicholas Walton to Francis Hurry

Mr Francis Hurry

Farnacres 14 March 1782.

Dear Sir,

Mr. Walton desired Mr. Jona Airey yesterday to bespeak a Coil of Rope for Greenwich Hospital for Stublick Colliery, and desired it might be consigned to Messrs. Mulcaster at Langley Mill, but as we think it will be better to have it go immediately to the Colliery, we give you the trouble of this Letter to desire you will send it by James Johnson Hexham Carrier on Monday Morning directed to Mr. Thomas Temperley at Stublick Colliery, and send him at the same time a Bill of Parcels. Mr. Temperley does not say what length the Rope is to be; you will therefore make it of the usual length of a Coil of such kind of Rope as is now wanted, and send you a little Scrap of Paper herein equal in length to the proper Circumference of it. We are

Dear Sir Your most Hble Servts.
Walton & Turner

PS. Mr. Walton intends sending the Treatise on Seamanship to Mr. Yeilders tomorrow Morning and thanks you for the Loan of it.

14 Mar 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

[Note: Hexham bridge collapsed in March 1782, as reported here. Designed by Smeaton, it had not long been open to traffic and had replaced the bridge washed away in a flood in 1771.]

Farnacres 14 March 1782

Messrs. Mulcaster

We have examined all the Operations to the 23d February which are all right except some Articles in the Quantity of Ore smelted which do not agree with the Ore brought in, as particularly noted in the Accounts inclosed where Memorandums are made with <Pen>cil which you are desired to examine carefully, and fill up the Blanks in the inclosed Account with proper Quantities and then sign and return them both, and this we shd. be glad you would do the first convenient Opportunity.

We return you the Operation first sent ending the 23d February which, on comparing with that last sent, we find would not have answered.

We had almost forgot to mention one Error in the Operation ending the 26th January. There were 8 pieces of Lead reported to be made from Black Slags for Sale, and in the same Operation there were 8 pieces of that same kind of Lead reported as being in Stock. For the Operation ending the 23d. February, it appears there were 6 pieces of Black Slag Lead sent for Newcastle, and consequently there ought to have been 2 reckoned as Stock, but there are none in the Account of Stock.

We yesterday reced. yours of the 11th. and are glad to hear you have reced ours with the Tables and approbation of your Conduct as to the building of the Refining House Wall which work we have no doubt will fully answer the load, and we are very happy to find that the Expence including Labour and Materials amounts to no more than £1:19:11.

The Circumstance you mention as to the Fraud respecting the taking of the Eight Stone Lead from the Refiners &c. is a very disagreeable one, and we verily believe it happens in the way you suspect. We assure you we are very much concerned on acct. of it, but cannot at present think of any particular Method of detecting the Villany, but desire that your Attention may be unremitting, that, if possible, a discovery may be made, and you may depend upon it the most severe punishment shall be inflicted. A Discharge will not content us. We shall certainly follow the Villain or Villains let them be who they will 'til a more severe punishment is inflicted, if that be possible. When we come to the Mill, we shall consider with you and determine upon something by way of preventing a like Attack for the future.

From the circumstance of this Le<ad> being taken, we are apt to suspect that the Produce from the Reducing Furnace has been affected, and you shd. take an Opportunity of talking both to the Refiners and Reducers and acquainting them with your Apprehension of that being the cause of the former of sometimes falling short in their Produce of Lead, and that therefore they ought to be active for their own Justification, in detecting so rascaly a proceeding not only to the Commissioners of Greenwich Hospital but to them.

We are much obliged to you for your Information and Attention relative to the Floods which is the only one that has come from any of the Greenwich Hospital Agents, but we are very much concerned that in addition thereto we have heard from other Hands of great part of Hexham Bridge being fallen, and we doubt we shall soon

receive further information of other considerable damages both to Greenwich Hospital and other persons.

We have reced Tho. Temperleys Accounts and also the Assays the Result of the weighing of the latter of which you have as follows.

	No of Assays	Weight		Oz Pws Grs Tenths
		Grs	80th	
Cowslitts, Hanging Shaw	2	64	equals	7.16.19.2 p Fodr. Refineable
Caple Cleugh Cutting				
Do. Cutting Slag	2	44		5. 7.19.2 p Fodr. Refineable
Scaleburn Moss Cutting	2	1.10		11. - 12 - p Fodr. Refineable
Do. Cutting Slag	2	68		8. 6.14.4 p Fodr. Refineable
Middle Cleugh Cutting	2	1.28		13. 4.14.4 p Fodr. Refineable
Blagill Slag	2	40		4.18 p Fodr. Leaves only 3/4 p[er] Fodder Profit by Refining

As the last leaves so little profit we scarce think it worth refining, but if it is in 8 Stone Pigs it will perhaps be better to melt it down by refining it, than to keep it in that size for Sale.

You have certainly done very properly with regard to Scaleburn <Moss> Cutting Ore and we are very sorry to see so very bad a Produce from it.

We have wrote to Mr. Harvey and ordered Wood for 2 Ladders, one of which to be 14 feet long and the other 36 feet long, and desire when the Ladders are made, that they may have Heart of Oak for Rungs.

Do you think it will be possible to have everything ready so as to make the Pay at the Lead Mill on the 15th. 16th. or 17th. of April or even the 18th. It would be a great convenience to us, if that could be done, and therefore we desire you will exert yourselves to get that done, if you see there is a Probability of effecting it, and we shd, be glad to hear from you upon this Subject as soon as convenient.

We are Your Hble Servts.

Walton & Turner

18 Mar 1782 Nicholas Walton to Thomas Menham

[Note: This was possibly addressed to Thomas Menham, iron manufacturer of Newcastle, of Menham and Hodgson. The drawing referred to in the letter is not included with the letter as copied into the letter book]

Mr. Menham

Farnacres 18 March 1782

Sir

Above you have a Drawing for the Bottom of a Hearth for smelting Lead Ore which we doubt not you will perfectly understand. The Breadth between the two side Ledges you will observe is 22 Inches, and from the Back Ledge to the Front 24 Inches and the Breadth and Depths of the Ledges to be 4 Inches, all which we wish to have particularly attended to, but if the Breadth between the two Ledges of 22 Inches is made 22 1/2 or 22 1/4 it will we think be better, and we desire that the Bottom may be exactly 6 Inches thick.

You are desired to be so obliging as get the above cast so as that it may be sent & to send it by John Corbetts Waggon to Hexham on Friday first wh. a Bill of Parcels directed to Messrs. Mulcaster at Langley Mill, and we beg you will take care to have the Metal very good. We are

Sir your Hble servts.

Walton & Turner

22 Mar 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs. Mulcaster

Farnacres 22d. March 1782

We have reced your Letters of the 17th. & 19th. inst and are much obliged by Mr. Peter Mulcasters readiness to assist Mr. Thornton, but we doubt the Weather is so cold that they will both be hurt if they have made the View in this cold Weather.

The several Errors shall be rectified agreeable to yours of the 17th.

The Lead Mill Pay we desire may be at such time as to be convenient to you, and therefore we desire, if everything cannot be ready against the 27th of April in the Evening, that it may be let alone 'til after we return home after the Hexham Recets.

We very much approve of what you have done and are doing respecting the losing of the Lead, and hope, after all, you may discover the Vilain. We realy cannot help joining you in opinion that Francis Carr is the Man, but we have seen before how dangerous a thing it is to suspect, and, from the Circumstances you mention, we are inclined to hope that he is innocent.

We reced with your Letter of the 17th. the several Papers therein mentioned.

What you are doing about the carriage of the Lead is perfectly right.

We assure you that the Hazards which the Peats and great Peathouse have been in makes us very inclinable to find fault. It certainly was a most idle thing that any person shd. be permitted to carry a red hot piece of Iron to the Peat house, but you cannot always be looking on, and we think ourselves exceedingly happy that this Accident has ended so fortunately.

The Coal and Level Pay must be made at the same time as the Mill Pay is, and we desire it may be ended at the End of any Week so as to have every thing ready in time to suit the Lead Mill Pay.

We approve of your employing Wm. Brown & James Robinson.

Mr. Walton having been at Throckley the other Day observed a great Quantity of Lead lying at the End of the Lane leading from the Turnpike Road to Newburn. We desire you will acquaint the Carriers that unless they remove it and deliver it either at Newcastle or Newburn immediately, we will take care to give Directions to have it taken away, and certainly will not pay one farthing carriage for it from the Mill to the place where it now lyes.

The Carrier who delivered his Lead at Newburn contrary to Direction must not have any more Lead unless he can give a sufficient reason shewing that he could not deliver it at Newcastle without being put to very great Inconvenience.

The Founders have been so very ingenious as to get wrong in the only place they could get wrong, for instead of making the Breadth from the Back Ledge to the Front 24 Inches, they have made it 22 $\frac{1}{4}$ Inches, and between the two side Ledges they have cast it 24 Inches. If those Dimensions can be made to do without inconvenience to the Work, we desire it may be taken, tho' not cast according to Direction, but if the least inconvenience shd. arise by our taking it, we desire it may be rejected, because we certainly ought not to put our Work to an Inconvenience on acct. of the [struck through: 'Stupidity'] of the Founders. Whichever way you determine, you are desired to send a Letter to Mr. Menham at the Foundry at Skinner Burn, and he will either send you that which is now cast, or cast you another.

We are Your &c.

W[alton] & T[urner]

22 Mar 1782 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

[Note: Smeaton had designed the Hexham bridge which was destroyed by a great flood on 10th March 1782.]

To Mr. John Holmes

Farnacres 22d. March 1782

Dear Sir

I rece'd your favour of the 14th instant and return you thanks for what you have done in paying Messrs. Ibbetson & Everest.

I have the pleasure to acquaint you that Mr. Donaldson has paid the remainder of the Money.

You will be kind enough to send the inclosed to Mr. Smeaton on whose acct. I assure you, I have had very great concern for the disaster which has befallen Hexham Bridge. I am

Dear Sir

Your &c. N WJunr.

24 Mar 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 24th March 1782

Messrs. Mulcaster

You have as follows the result of the weighing of the last Assays.

	80ths		
Middle Cleugh Cutting Slag	82	equal	10 – 21 6/10 p Fddr Refineable
Rampgill	76	equal	9. 6. 4 3/10 p Fddr Refineable

We are much obliged to Mr. Peter Mulcaster for the trouble he had in Viewing and Reporting the damages by the Flood which happened the 10th March Inst.

We shall very probably be at Langley Mill on the 11th of April in the Evening and take Beds with you 'till the 15th or 16th of that Month. We are

Your Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

PS We go from home on Tuesday so you need not write or send any papers to us after you receive this till we return home after the Hexham Recets.

James still continues as mentioned in our last.

25 Mar 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 25 March 1782

Messrs. Mulcaster

We have reced your Letters of the 22d & 23d and return you the Assays which we propose weighing in the New Scales at Langley Mill, and desire that you will take care of them for that purpose. The Result of the weighing of them by our Scales is as follows

	80th	oz Pw. Grs.10th
Rampgill Slag	50	6. 2. 12 p[er] Fodder Refineable
Do. & Middle Cleugh Do.	59	7. 4. 13. 2 p[er] Fodder Refineable

The other Assays of Middle Cleugh Cutting Slag and Rampgill Slag are both refineable.

We have rece'd the Report of Mess.rs Mulcaster & Thornton and are much obliged to Mr. Peter Mulcaster. We are

Your Hble Servts.

Walton & Turner.

31 Mar 1782 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

[Note: The 'N.W.' signature was not normally used, so it is possible that the letter was sent by another of Nicholas Walton's family]

To Mr. John Holmes

Farnacres the 31st March 1782

Sir

By yesterdays Waggon from Newcastle, the Receivers for the Derwentwater Estate sent you a Box containing Five Hundred and Eighty Nine Ounces of fine Silver which I am desired to acquaint you with they being both from home. I hope it will come safe, and shall be glad to have a Line from you acknowledging the Recet. of it. I am

Sir Your &c.

N.W.

19 Apr 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 19 April. 1782

Messrs. Mulcaster

Inclosed you receive a Table of the Weights and Produce of Bullion by Assay, and therefore you will destroy the other which we left you. We also inclose you the Weights and an Acct. of the Assays which were weighed when we were at Langley Mill, and you are desired to destroy the Paper of Assays given you then, and make use of that which is inclosed. We have not time to say more at present except that we are

Your Hble Servants

Walton & Turner

21 Apr 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 21st April 1782

Messrs. Mulcaster

We have reced. yours of the 16th. with the Assays which we have weighed and they are as follows.

Grey and Black Slags from	1/4 lb	26/80th	equal 6. 7. 9.6 p/Fdr
Do from	1 lb	1 32/80	equal 6.18.10.2 p/Fdr
Silver Test Bottoms & Rich Litharge Slags from	1/2 lb	2 52/80	equal 26. 1.20.4 p/Fdr

The Contracts you have made are approved and you must make the best agreement you can as to the Chimneys doing with Stone.

The Joists must lye exactly Two feet higher than the joists in the present House and the upper Room must be 8 feet high from the Floor to the Cieling & to be Cieled flush over and we desire a little door may be made in the East Gable to get into the Roof to repair it as occasion may require. The above heights will determine what height the Walls will be to the Square. There will be no occasion for Beam filling.

You may be going on with the Walls to Window Sill Height and we will give you further directions in a little time. We intend that Mr Richardson of Bywell shall make the Windows which are to be something of the Venetian kind [see below] & the panes each 10 Inches broad by 15 Inches High but Mr Richardson will come and give directions about this We shall write to him this day to come and receive instructions we will also get Richardson to make the Doors Window Shutters and Closets. We are

Your Humble Servants

Walton & Turner

PS When Richardson comes he will give directions abt. the Chimney Pieces so we will have you contract for the Chimney without the Hewn Work except for the Top



22 Apr 1782 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

To Mr. John Holmes

Farnacres 22d April 1782

Dear Sir

Yours of the 13th inst came to hand when we were from home, and we now take the first Opportunity of writing to you, and acquainting you that we have this day drawn upon you for £185.18 being the Amount of 589 Ounces of Bullion at 6s/3 ³/₄d. The Bill is payable Thirty Days after Date. We are

Sir Your &c

W[alton] & T[urner]

£185:18:... Farnacres 22d April 1782

Thirty days after date Pay to the Order of Mess.rs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint One Hundred and Eighty five Pounds Eighteen Shillings. Value received – as advised by Walton & Turner.

Mr. Jno. Holmes London

26 Apr 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 26th April 1782.

Messrs. Mulcaster

Mr. Richardson was here on Wednesday, and had Directions to be at Langley Mill yesterday, which we hope he has been, and that he has given full Directions how you are to proceed.

We have reced yours of the 20th. and have since seen both the Cakes of Silver weighed. That which was weighed when we were at the Lead Mill weighs exactly 312 $\frac{1}{4}$ Ounces which is 10 Ounces less than we made it when we were there, and the other Cake weighs exactly 200 Ounces which is 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ Ounces more than you make it. We were very exact in the weighing of them, and are certain they are the Weight above set down.

You will receive along with this a parcel containing 4 sorts of Lead put up separately within the parcel and marked from No.1 to No.4. You are desired to be so obliging as make us 2 Assays from $\frac{1}{4}$ of a Pound of Lead of each sort. We are however rather doubtful that <No 1> will only admit of $\frac{1}{4}$ of a Pound for one Assay and some Ounces for the second. You will be so good as bring those Assays with you to Hexham, and in case our Portmanteau is not set sent to Hexham before this, we desire you will send it down to Hexham immediately on Recet. hereof. We are

Your Hble Servts.

Walton & Turner

26 Apr 1782 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr. John Holmes.

Farnacres 26th April 1782

Dear Sir

By last Weeks Carrier you will receive a Box containing 374 $\frac{1}{2}$ Ounces of fine Silver and by that of this Week another containing 512 $\frac{1}{4}$ Ounces in the whole three Cakes which contain 886 $\frac{3}{4}$ Ounces.

In Mr. Waltons last Letter to Mr Smeaton he desired him to be so good as leave a small Parcel with you wch. Mr. Cook was to call for but Mr Walton having seen Mr Peters who is coming very soon to London he has desired him to call upon you for it; you will therefore be so good as take care of it 'till he calls upon you. We are

Dear Sir You most Humble Servts

Nich Walton Junr. J.Turner [signed in separate hand in this copy]

PS We expect Mr Smeaton will have left London before this reaches you.

5 May 1782 Nicholas Walton to Christopher Wilkinson

For Langley Lead Mill.

3 Barrs Broad but thin Flat Iron fit for making into Shovels

4 Barrs of Slender Flat Iron

4 Barrs of Slender Square Iron

8 Barrs of Square Iron 1 in 3/16th this to be exactly attended to

Mr. Chris. Wilkinson

Farnacres 5th May 1782

Dear Sir

You are desired to send the above by John Corbetts Waggon tomorrow & youll be so good as order the 8 Barrs to be picked out early in the Morning & Mr Mulcaster will come himself to pick out the other sorts. I am

Dear Sir Your Humble Servant

Nich Walton Junr.

PS For Langley Limekilns ½ of a Barrel of Gunpowder which I beg may be good. The whole to be charged to the Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich Hospital & the Iron and Gunpowder to be in separate Notes which must be sent directed to Messrs Mulcaster at Langley Mill.

5 May 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 5th May 1782

Mr Mulcaster

Your memorandums of the 28th & 30th Ulto. are now before me and in answer thereto you have my sentiments &c. as follows. The Lead Mill Pay is to be at Langley Mill the 24th Inst and the Lead Carriers are to be paid there the 27th Inst and you are desired to be particular in giving everybody notice to attend at the Mill at those times and James Johnson & Mr Corbett or some for him must be desired to attend early on Monday Morning the 27 Inst at the Lead Carriers Pay. I had intended the Lead Carriers Pay to be upon the 25th but have now fixed it to be upon the 27th. The Toofall and Small piece of Wall are to be in the Pay Bill but such work as may be done at the New Rooms we wish to have in a seperate Bill. As to the dividing of the Bingsteads let them not be put into any Pay Bill till next Pay in October. The Lead we expect will be all got to the Warehouse in a day or two or a little more. You are desired to agree with French about carrying Coals in case upon writing to Mr. Hilton & Jno Friend you do not find there will any inconvenience in making such Agreement as

you mention French is willing to enter into – but are you clear French may depended upon. At all events the Agreeemt. must be void in Case of his non performance or any real inconvenience arises to the Commissioners and Govs. Of Greenwich Hospital. The sooner the Smelters can be Set to work the better & it will certainly be proper to employ them as well as we can in the mean time. The breaking of the Dam will be considered at the time we are with you but we would be glad to have an Estimate of the expence when we come up to the Mill. The Iron & Gunpowder we expect you to receive along with this. When your convenience will admit of that we should be glad to receive the Lead Mill Stublick Colliery and Stublick Level Pay Bills & with regard to the Bill for the new Rooms we shall not expect to see that till we are with you which we intend to be on the 23d Inst in the Evening. I am

Your Hble Servant

Nich Walton Junr.

PS Poor James still continues and very poorly but yr Bro[the]r Says he was in better spirits this Morning. Your Bro[the]r Robt. I am concerned to let you know got a fall from his Horse or rather the Horse got a fall upon him and his Leg and Arm are very much bruised. James will write by the same conveyance as this comes and give you a more particular Account.

5 May 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 5th. May 1782

Messrs Mulcaster

It is expected that John Corbett will bring the Iron and James Johnson the Battens and <Uffer> and you are desired to return by them, in case they can Bring the whole, all the <cast> Iron Barrs which, it is expected, will not be of any further use to the Lead Mill, on condition however that they agree to take 8d. p[er] Cwt on delivery of the same to Mr. Menham at the Skinner Burn Foundery who agrees to pay 4/- p[er] Cwt. For the same, and if James Johnson and John Corbetts Carriages shall not be able to bring the whole away the first turn they make to the Mill, you are desired to let them have the remainder equally between them at any future time that is most convenient. We are

Your Hble Servts.

Walton & Turner

5 May 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 5 May 1782

Mr Mulcaster

Since writing to you on the other part of this half Sheet I have reced. your Letter of the 3d with the Lead Carriage Accot. which puts me in mind of a Pig of Lead of Eight Stone yet at the Mill & I desire the Operation may rest, as also the Pig of Lead, 'till I see you abt. both, but you may make out the Operation in your own way, without taking notice of the <lost Pig/s>. What is proposed as to John Friend is right, but I think it is a pity he shd. take a Journey to inform <us/me> as to Facts, and have occasion to go back again to know whether what he had to say was fact or not. The circumstances you mention as to the White Craig Stones are very agreeable to us, & I do not think you need wish you had not sent to the Man who has the White Craig Quarry on any other account than that of the trouble there has been to you in writing and sending to him. It will be undoubtedly right to make use of our own Stones while we can make them answer. You will therefore proceed accordingly. I am

Your Humble Servt

Nich Walton Junr.

6 May 1782 Nicholas Walton to Jonathan Airey

[Note: Addressee is not given, previous such reports were sent to Jonathan Airey in Newcastle, and the same is assumed here.]

	RS	O	OS	LS	L	Total
16 June 1781						
Stock in the Warehouse	967		133	167	1897	3164
27 April 1782 Delivd. at						
the Mill since 16 June		763	293	287	8957	10300
	967	763	426	454	10854	13464
Sold and Delivered since						
16 June 1781 to & with						
1st May 1782	898		131	170	9252	10451
	69	763	295	284	1602	3013
			69			
			284			
		763	648		1602	3013
Sold and not delivered the						
1st May 1782			500		1000	1500
Remains Unsold		763	148		602	1513
Stock in the Warehouse 16 June 1781						3164

Delivered from the Mill since to 27 April 1782	10300
	13464
Recd at the Warehouse to the 1st May 1782 Inclusive	
Including the Stock <at> 16 June 1781	12817
Remained on the Road 1st May 1782	647

Gentn. Farnacres 6th May 1782.

Above you have an Acct. showing the state of your Sales and what remains of Lead unsold and also an Acct. shewing what Lead was wanted from the Carriers the 1st Instant, most of which is we hope come in. We shd. be glad to have Mr Harvey to call upon us on Wednesday morning at the George abt Ten or ½ past Ten o Clock

We are Gentn Your most Hble Servts
Walton & Turner

PS We shall hope to see you both on Wednesday.

7 May 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 7th May 1782

Messrs Mulcaster

On examining the Operation ending the 30th of March I found the following Errors.

Ore smelted	Bs.	Cwts
Cowslitts X Vn Old Cowslitts & X vn & Carrs East of Nent	39	
Should be	Bs.	cwts
Cowslitts X Vn & Old Cowslitts Cross Vein	35	
Carrs East of Nent	2	6
	37	6
Cowhill Hangingshaw & East End & Caple Cleugh Cutting	18	5
Should be		
Cowhill Hangingshaw & East End & Caple Cleugh Cutting	19	7

On the 23d of February there was no Stock of Refined Lead at the Mill and in the Operation ending the 30th. of March there were only 668 pieces of Refined Lead being the remainder of 1020 after deducting 352 <reported> to be produced in Operation ending 23d February. In Operation ending 30 March you report 681 pieces of Lead to have been sent to Newcastle and 186 as being in Stock at the Mill which two Quantities added together amount to 867 which is exactly 199 Pieces more than by Operations has been produced; it is therefore apprehended that in Operation ending 30 March there

ought to have been a Report of 199 Pieces of Refined Lead as having been produced but the Silver not taken off.

	Cwt qs lbs
Stock of Litharge saved	371. 2. 14
Shd. be	371. 2. 24

With regard to the Common Lead wch. happened to be 1 cwt pieces, we desire you will alter the Operation ending 23d. February and make the produce as well as the Stock 30, and in the Operation ending the 30 March take out the two pieces.

Pieces

Refined Slag Lead produced	511
Delivd. for NewCastle	424
You report no Stock but there shd. have been reported in Stock	87

I return the Operations ending the 30th. March to be wrote fair over but shall keep that ending 28th. February and have altered it.

When I come to the Mill I will give Directions what is to be done about the Pig of Common Lead now there, and give Directions how the future Operations are to be made out as to that kind of Lead or any other 1cwt. Lead for Sale. I am

Your Hble Servt

Nich Walton Junr.

10 May 1782 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

[Note: Addressed not named, but from the contents must be John Holmes]

Farnacres May 10th. 1782

Dear Sir

Yesterday I reced. the favor of your Letter of the 4th. which by its date ought to have arrived upon the 7th. but I see it has the London Postmark of the 6th. upon it so that it has come in due course of Post.

I have this day drawn upon you for £118.4. .. being the amount of 374 ½ Ounces of Bullion at 6s/3d ¾ p[er] Ounce. The Bill pay.ble 40 days after date.

I thank you for the Information you give from my Brother Smeaton and I think myself much obliged to him and shall be glad to hear from him as soon as convenient pray be so good as remember me to him very affectionately.

Mr Beilby acquaints me that the Sale of Mr. Hawthorns effects is about closed and that there will be very little if any thing left for the Children He intimated to me that it had been a troublesome busyness to him and tho' he had no wish to have any allowance by way of Agency to take to himself yet if the Creditors would take the

matter into consideration & make any allowance he should be glad to have that applied to the use of the Children. I promised I would Name this to you & having done so I have acquitted myself of the matter.

I am Dear Sir Your most Humble Servant
Nich Walton Junr.

PS Mr Peters is I expect now in London by whom I am sorry I neglected sending my Watch which has gone very ill for some time past & I think it has never done so well since the last cleaning as it used to do bet<ter>

£110:4 - Farnacres 10th May 1782.

Forty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint One Hundred and Eighteen Pounds and Four Shillings – Value Received as advised by Walton & Turner
Mr. Holmes London

12 May 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs. Mulcaster

Farnacres 12 May 1782.

Your letters of the 7th & 8th as also the Scrap of Paper sent me from Ravensworth Castle are now before me.

The Matter as to the carriage of Sir Thomas Blacketts Wood & Coals we have determined not to intermeddle in.

We approve of your having begun to smelt, but no Lead must be delivered 'til we give you Directions; 10,300 pieces of Lead have been reced at the Warehouse but as 4 of them which were discovered at Newburn by the Flood of the 11th March last had the Date of 1771 upon them, it is clear that, of last years Quantity, 4 pieces are short.

It wd. be very agreeable to us to have more Workmen set on at Thortergill Syke, and therefore, if you have opportunity, we wd. be glad to have you mention this Matter to Messrs. Hilton & Friend.

We cannot object to Wm. Thirlwells Step as he certainly has had considerable Loss on the Acct. you mention.

We are glad to hear that the new Building has got so well on, and very much approve of the Steps Mr. Peter Mulcaster has taken as to the Chimneys. It will be right to let Mr. Richardson know now & then how the Building gets on.

What you are doing as to the Bingsteads is perfectly right.

We shd. be glad to encourage Snowdon the Plaisterer, and will consider that when at the Mill.

The Pay Bills we hope will come by Tuesdays Post, or otherwise we shall be put to great inconvenience.

We are surprised that neither the Iron or Gunpowder are arrived but suppose the true Reason is that there is no back Carriage from the Mill. We are very glad to find there is no reason to send any old Cast Iron from the Mill; we certainly cannot do better than use it ourselves.

When we come to the Mill, we shd. be glad you wd. have Memorandums in Writing of every thing which we are to determine upon or give Directions about and amongst the rest desire you will set down Thomas Frenches Proposal about the furnishing Coals to Nent Force Shop and Snowdon the Plaisterer.

The Errors in the Operation ending the 30th. March being rectified there is not the least hurry about, and before we come to the Mill, we will examine that ending the 27th. Ulto. We are Walton & Turner

15 May 1782 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr. Jno Holmes

Farnacres 15th May 1782

Dear Sir

Yesterdays Post brought us your Letter of the 11th Inst advising of the rect of the last Box of Silver Bullion & we are now to acquaint you that we immediately drew up[on] you for £161.13.7 being the amount of 512 $\frac{1}{4}$ Ounces at 6s 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d] It possibly may be five or six weeks before we can send you any more as the 512 $\frac{1}{4}$ Ounces finished our last y[rs.] Account and we cannot produce more 'till we get a fresh Stock of Ore to work upon. We beg our Complent[s] to yourself, Mr Smeaton, if with you and all enquiring Friends & are

Dear Sir Your most Hble Servts

Nich Walton Junr J C Turner

PS Mr Walton sent his Watch by an acquaintance, Mr Morrison, and youll be so good as return it either by him or Mr Peters but Mr. Walton thinks Mr Morrisons stay will be short and therefore rather wishes that Mr Peters may bring it down wth him.

£161.13s.7d Farnacres 14 May 1782

Thirty Six days after date Pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint One Hundred and Sixty One Pounds Thirteen Shillings and Seven Pence – Value received – as advised by Walton & Turner

Mr. Holmes London

19 May 1782 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr Holmes

Farnacres 19th May 1782

Dear Sir

Having by this days Post reced. a Letter from my Brother Smeaton, who I am happy to find has got well home and met with his Family and Friends in good health on Wednesday Evening last, I now give you the trouble of requesting the favor of your sending me by return of Post the Boards order with regard to the Lead Mill Smoke and in case you should not have it otherwise than as it is Sealed up with the Bonds I must beg the favor of you to break open the parcel containing the Bonds and to take out the Boards Minute as to the Smoke and send it without a moments loss of time directed to Mr. Walton Junr. at Langley Lead Mill to the care of Mr Ions to Hexham near Newcastle & afterwds. to Seal up the Bonds & deliver them to Mr Peters & I shall also be obliged by your delivering him a Pair of Spectacles wch. Mr Smeaton left wth. you for a Mr Jopling, but which I desire Mr. Peters will deliver to me at this place. I am particularly desirous to receive the Boards Order as to the Smoke as I shall have an opportunity of acting in consequence of it very soon & wish not to lose it. I am

Dear Sir Your much Obliged Hble Servant.

Nich Walton Junr.

PS I am concerned to find you have some dispute about yr. R<owans>burn Property.

10 Jun 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 10th June 1782

Messrs. Mulcaster

I yesterday sent to NewCastle for the Medicine for Thos. Robson which, having just reced, I send by James Johnsons Man with directions that it may be forwarded at the first Opportunity to Langley Mill. I need not give you any further Directions than you will find in the <above> Recipe and upon the Bo<x>es. I wish success to the operation, and doubt not Thomas will be cured if he takes the Medicine according to Directions.

I am much obliged by your care of the Packet which I have reced safe.

No Directions can yet be given concerning the carriage of the Lead.

Having read over the Memorandums given me <at> Langley Mill and having considered the several Proposals for the walling of the <Home> Pastures I think it will certainly be right to agree with Wm. Pattinson for the winning & leading and with regard to the walling you are desired to make the best agreement you can so as to have the whole well done.

I have ordered 120 Common 1 ¼ Inch Deals but shall not order any <fine> Deals <till further> At all times in future I desire you will set down the lengths of the Deals

as well as the sort and thickness. The Laths & Nails I have also ordered. I suppose the <.> Nails are for nailing on the plaistering Laths. We <call> them Lathing Tackets but I hope they will come right. I have desired Mr. Harvey to send 30 8 & 9 ft. Deals <out> of the 120 & the remainder to be 11 & 12 fts.

28 Jun 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs. Mulcaster

Farnacres 28th June 1782.

Your Letters of the 17th, 20th and 24th are now before me and you have as follows my answers to the several matters therein contained.

Thomas Temperleys Accounts were recd. along with yr. Letter of the 17th. for three Weeks ending 15 Inst, as also the Assays for which we are much obliged to you and are glad the Kesw:k Ore is so good in produce of Silver. Pray be so good as advise as to the best method of washing this Ore as I doubt there is great loss in the washing of it They have neither Trunk Buddle nor Lie<n> & I fear lose a great deal of the Ore. The sooner you write upon this subject the more agreable.

This day I shall write to Jno. Friend and order him to acquaint the Lessees at Nentsberry Hags as to the produce of Silver from their Ore.

The delivery of the Lead to Pattinson was very right as also that wch. you let Johnson have & you may now go on as all is settled at the Warehouse but I cannot yet say how the Carriers Acct. will stand. On the day wch. Jno. Havelock told us he delivered 24 pieces of Lead at NCastle and could only produce a Ticket of ours for 16, I believe it may be proved that he delivered 16 at our Warehouse and 8 to Mr Monkhouse & Mr Hopper at Newcastle.

I observe you have recd. the Deals but I think you desired me to order 30 – 8 & 9 fots & my order was certainly according to your paper but I only now write from memory not having time to look for the paper. I have been very angry about the Lathing Tackets and hope they would come by Johnsons Man on Monday last.

The Copper & Copper Ore came safe

I approve of what you have done as to French & the carriage of the Coals to Nent Force Level.

I am concerned very much on Acct. of the Indisposition of Thomas Craig but hope ere this he may be got better again & I shall be glad to hear my Patient in the Ague has received benefit from his Medicine. I am also greatly concerned for the <loss> of Wm Wilson but cannot say one word as with n<o> consultation with Mr Turner I cannot do anything. All <here well>.

I am yr. &c N Walton Junr

Would it not be worth while to purchase the Keswick ore and bring it to Langley Mill?

14 Jul 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs. Mulcaster

Farnacres 14th July 1782

Yours of the 11th. inst came safe to hand and the Silver which weighs 667 Ounces was yesterday sent for London.

The Price of Lead is now £17.5 Refined p[er] Fodder and Silver now sells at 6s/2d p[er] Ounce but I find is rather expected to fall.

Whenever it is convenient to you we shall be glad to receive an Acct. of the produce of Refined Lead for last Operation as also the Assays, but are in no Hurry.

When Mr. Thornton was here, we gave him Directions to go with you and a Carpenter into Dinnitley Wood to mark such Trees as will suit your present occasion, and desired that he would [struck out: 'immediately'] take them down that you might be accommodated, and we will settle the prices which you are to pay the first time we come to Langley Mill which it is expected will be about the 10th. of August. We are

Your Hble Servts.

Walton & Turner.

PS We hope the two Rooms will be compleated before we come to the Mill as farr as they can be for you know the Floors must be afterwards relaid

14 Jul 1782 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr. Holmes

Farnacres 14th July 1782

Dear Sir

By yesterdays Carrier we send you a Box containing 667 Ounces of fine Silver which will we hope arrive safe in London the 26th. instant.

When Mr Smeaton was in London he purchased a pair of Spectacles for a Friend of ours which cost, I believe, 5s - & if you will be so good as let me know what my Watch is to be for cleaning I will allow for that and the Spectacles when I draw for the above Silver.

I observe Silver has been lowering for some time but yet at a good, or, however, a great price, fine being now 6s/2d by Castaigns paper. I am for Mr Turner & self

Dear Sir Your most Hble Servt.

Nich Walton Junr.

PS Having sent a parcel of Mustard for our Greenwich Friends we have desired Mr Maule to order Six Bottles to you which you will oblige us by accepting.

19 Jul 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs. Mulcaster

Farnacres 19th July 1782

Your Letters of the 12th, 13th and 15th are come to hand as also the Assays and Thomas Temperleys Accounts for two Weeks ending the 13th. Inst, and I have filled up the Blanks in yr Letter of the 11th. agreeable to the paper inclosed in yours of the 12th wch. paper I have destroyed.

I have not had time yet to examine the Assays.

I am glad you have had such good weather for the Roof of your House & that the Ore comes in better than it did, and hope that will continue; we are also glad to hear Craig is recovering and that Wm Wilson has got a Cow and his other is better again but I am concerned that Robson does not get away with his complaint. It vexes me much that you had accommodated yourself with Wood I really had intended to have wrote both to you and Mr Thornton before he came here but in the hurry of busyness forgot it.

Mr Thornton must find out Wood for Sleepers for the Room at Langley Mill & therefore acquaint him he is to do so and I beg they may be got as soon as it is clearly known what kind of stuff will best suit. They may be furnished from Esphill or any other of the Hospitals Wood only let the stuff be such as is proper, certainly if the Esphill Wood will do none can come more convenient.

We are very much obliged to Wm. Armstrong for his Information & I have desired that Bill Hutchinson may view the place & you will hear from him & Jno Friend about this. We are also obliged to you for your early attention to this busyness.

Mr Turner & I intend being at the Mill on the 10th. in the Evening & the next day propose dining at Lowbyer or at Alston. I am Your Hble Servant

Nich Walton Junr.

PS when Bill Hutchinson views at Staward Cleugh I desire Thomas Temperley may go with him & you will therefore acquaint him when you know the day.

26 Jul 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs. Mulcaster

Farnacres 26 July 1782.

In your operation for Langley Mill ending 23rd February last you report 1008 pieces of 1 cwt. to have been refined the Month preceding and 693 that Month making together 1701 pieces of 1 Cwt., which appears to be right. In the same Operation you set down 1006 pieces of 1 ½ Cwt to have been produced from the 1701 pieces, but on looking into your Book of the produce<s> of various kinds by the <several> Workmen I find in the Account of Litharge Reduced that instead of 1006 pieces there were in reality 1009 pieces produced, and I am convinced that is right, because the Weight of

the 1009 pieces is 1515 Cwt.3 <qr>. 24 <lbs> and the weight of 1006 pieces wd not have been much above 1509 Cwt. This I desire you will carefully examine into and let me hear from you. If there were 1009 pieces produced the Lead Mill Account will be 3 pieces short, and as the Carriers pd. for 16 pieces at the last Pay, and the Warehouse Account was only 12 short, I had proposed to return them for 4 pieces, but now to make up the Mill Acct. right we must only allow them for 1. I beg to hear from you the first Opportunity & am

Your Hble Servt.

Nich Walton Junr

2 Aug 1782 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 2d August 1782

Dear Sir

Last Tuesdays Post brought me the favor of your Letter of the 27th Ulto and I have this day drawn upon you payable 40 days after date for the Balance of Account as below, and desire youll be so good as take the trouble of settling the Account with Brother Smeaton at any convenient time.

I heartily congratulate you and my Brother Smeaton on the Event of your Cause at Maidstone as I do also my Friend Mr. Everest. I think you would have had difficulty if the height of the Flash Boards had been uniform and an acquiescence on the part of those under whom you derive your Tithe. I am

Dear Sir Your most Humble Servt.

Nich Walton Junr

PS Pray be so kind as take the trouble of ordering us 150 Casks of Bone Ashes 50 of which to be sent as soon as convenience will admit & the sooner the remainder come the more agreable

Due from Mr. Holmes

For 667 Ounces of fine Silver at 6s/2d p[er] Ounce

£205:13: 2

Deduct. Cleaning a Watch

4:

£205. 9. 2

Due from Mr Smeaton

For a Payment to Mr Chr Bell

of Hexham for Clothes

£5. 4. 6

Deduct. What he J.S. pd. for a pair

of Spectacles for Mr Jobling

5

£4.19. 6

Balance

£210. 8. 8

£210: 8s: 8d Farnacres 2d August 1782

Forty days after date Pay to the Order of Messrs Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington and Saint Two Hundred and Ten Pound Eight Shillings and Eight Pence – Value Received – as advised by Walton & Turner

Mr. Holmes London

23 Aug 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs. Mulcaster

Farnacres 23d Aug. 1782

John Friend in his Letter of the 4th. inst. writes us that he took up 2Bs. 3 Cwt. of Bouse Ore and 2 Bs. 3 Cwt. of Cutting Ore at Greengill West End the 17 July and sent those quantities to Langley for Duty; now it is plain there is some mistake about this as the quantities set down by you in your Operations as reced. from Greengill are as follows.

	Bs	Cwts.	Bs	Cwts
In Operation from 27th April to 25th May.				
Greengill Bouse	2	-	-	-
This possibly may be Ore raised by the Hospital at the Hush				
in Operation ending 27 July				
Greengill Bouse 2:7 Cutting 3 Cwts.	2	7	-	3
	4	7	-	3
		3		
Langley Mill Total	5	2		
Jno. Friends Total	4	6		

but Jno. Friend says the 4 Bings 6 Cwt. of Bouse Ore & Cutting were not Weighed over at Greengill till June and consequently the 2 Bings in Operation ending 25 May could be no part thereof and therefore it would seem that for 2 Bs:3 Cwt. of Bouse and 2:3 of Cutting you have only got 3 Cwt. of Cutting and have received 4 Cwt. of Bouse too much –

Which is over in Bouse	-	4 Cwt.
& Short in Cutting	2	
Short upon the whole	1	4

if the 2 Bings In Operation of 25th May don't belong to the 4 Bings 6 Cwt. You'll enquire into this and let us know how the Acct. should be.

We shall be glad to hear the Carpenters are getting well on and are

Your &c

W[alton] & T[urner]

30 Aug 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster

Farnacres 30th Augt 1782

As I propose being at Langley Mill so soon I will let alone making the Alterations in the Operations till then & I desire to receive the Operation for the present Month by this day Sennt. I am glad any time is fixed for the finishing of the Rooms & I hope all will be compleated against I come on the 15th of next Month. It will be very proper to keep constant Fires in the Rooms & till we get fenders & make use of Bricks set edgewise upon the Slabs. The State of the Tillage Acct. is come to hand. We have exceeding terrible Weather. Yesterday Thunder Lightening and Rain & Hail in great abundance. Many Crops of <fine> Meadows entirely spoiled. What you have done as to Lowes is approved. I am sorry to see the Ore Carriage gone on so slowly & suppose the Bad Weather is the cause. If you will want any Money on Acct. let me know & I will bring it with me.

I am Yr Hble Servt

Nich Walton Junr.

PS We have desired Mr Rewcastle to call upon you for some Sheet Lead for Lowbyer House & desire you will assist him in getting it properly cast as soon as he knows what will be wanted.

2 Sep 1782 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr John Holmes

Farnacres 2 Septemr: 1782

Sir,

By the London Carrier of last Saturday (31st Ulto.) we sent you a Box containing 887 Ounces of fine Silver which we hope you will receive safe on the 13th Inst. We shall be obliged by your pay:g Rich:d Probert for 100 Casks of Bone Ashes for the amount of which we will deduct from the value of the Silver. We inclose you Proberts Account and have wrote a proper Rect. for him to put his mark to & desire it may have the date filled up & be Witnessed & that you will be so good as inclose it when you write about the Recet. & price of the above Silver. We are

Sir Your most Humble Servts

Walton & Turner

PS Mr. Walton desires you will be so kind as examine into the fate of Nos. 1,431 & 22,055 in the late Irish Lottery 1782

Messrs. Walton and Turner to Richd. Probert D.<n>

1782 Sept. 6 To 50 Casks of Bone Ashes at 6s	£15. .- .-
To 50 Casks at 2s/4d	5.16. 8
To Cartage 10s/6d Wharfage 13s	1. 3. 6
	£22. - 2

Reced. Septemr. 1782 of Messrs. Walton and Turner Twenty Two Pounds in full by
[space]

Richard [space] Probert
his mark

Witness.

£209.6s.9d Farnacres 20th Septemr. 1782.

Forty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington &
Saint Two Hundred and Nine Pounds 6s/9d Value Receivd as advised by Walton &
Turner
To Mr. Holmes London

6 Oct 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Farnacres 6th. October 1782

Messrs: Mulcaster

On my getting home I recd your Letter of the 2d Inst by which I see it to be impossible to expect to have a Cake of Silver taken off on Saturday next & therefore have wrote to Messrs. <Winship> and Jobling that youll let them know when the next Cake is to be taken off at which time youll be so good as let them see our other Operations at the Mill & youll take care to acquaint them what time of day they are to be with you. I am glad to see the Reducing tho' not so good as last Operation is better a good deal than it has been on some former occasions. You need not trouble yrselves to send the Assays till it is quite convenient to you. I am pleased to learn you have found out and secured the place where the Rain came in at the New Rooms. We have recd. the Stublick Colliery Acco:t you mention. What you propose as to the new Rooms Pay Bill is quite proper. The weather is so bad that I conceive the slowness of the Ore coming in to be owing much to that. There is no hurry about the Operations. The Peats are certainly lost for this season. Your getting the Bricks of Mr Tweddell is approved they are to be the same price as you pay Mr Thornton & the sooner you let Mr Tweddell know this the better if you want more you may get them. I am sorry the School Master has left Dean Raw School. I think it will be right for you to take the lead in doing what is necessary towards getting a proper person to succeed him and for that purpose I would have you apply to all those Tenants or others who contributed

towards the building of the School and live in the Neighbourhood and let a hand bill be circulated that any person properly qualified will be treated with on application to you. We, I mean my Son & I will be with you on Friday ag[ains]t dinner but it may be late and therefore Roast a Crown of Veal on Thursday to be cold wch. will suit let us arrive when we will.

I am Your Humble Servant

Nich Walton Junr.

PS The Silver weighed 816 ½ Ounces. Silver – 6s/3d p[er] Ounce & likely to rise.
Refined Lead £17:6 p[er] Fodder & we now ask £17.10

7 Oct 1782 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

[Note: Irish Blanks refers to the Irish Lottery for which Nicholas Walton had bought tickets]

Mr. Jno Holmes

Farnacres 7th October 1782

Dear Sir

By last Saturdays London Waggon we sent you a Box containing 816 ½ Ounces of Bullion. The last Bill upon you was drawn at 40 days date wch. we believe we forgot to mention in our Letter of advice. We are much obliged by your paying Rb: Probert & sending his accot. properly drawn out & signed and Mr Walton returns you thanks for examining the Irish Blanks without expence to him. We are

Dear Sir Your most Hble Servts.

Walton & Turner

20 Oct 1782 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Dear Sir

Farnacres 20th October 1782

We have this day drawn upon you for £257.14.2 being the amount of 816 1/2 Ounces of Silver at 6s. 3 3/4 p[er] Ounce. The Bill is payable 30 days after date. We are

Dear Sir Your most Hble Servants

Walton & Turner

No. £257.14.2 Farnacres 20 Octor 1782.

Thirty Days after Date Pay to the Order of Messrs. Bell Cookson Carr Widdrington & Saint Two Hundred and Fifty Seven Pounds 14s & 2d – Value Received – as advised by Walton & Turner

To Mr. Holmes London

2 Nov 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs. Mulcaster

Farnacres 2d. Novemr. 1782

I duly reced. yours of the 30th Ult. with the Coal and Cinder Accounts and the Operation for August fresh copied and am sorry you took the trouble of making a Copy as I had some time ago corrected the Original which you sent. Whenever it is convenient you may send the Operation for last Month. The Assays I doubt not have been right Weighed and that you will act according to their produce p[er] Fodder in Refining or the contrary.

Refined Lead now current at £17.10 p[er] 21 Cwt.

Fine Silver 6s 4 ½ p[er] Ounce

From the above alterations in price I think it necessary to make the following calculations to shew you how I apply the Tables

For Slag Lead

When Slag Lead sells at	£16.10 Silver at 6s <3> d	
	profit p[er] Fodder	£- 11 1/2
Do	16.15 & Silver at Do	£- 15 1/2
	Difference in Profit	£- - 4

For 5s p[er] Fodder <price> of Lead

So when Slag Lead sells at	£17.5 & Silver at 6s <3> d	
	the profit will be	£- - 5 1/2

But as Silver now sells at 6s 4 1/2 add 1 1/2d p[er] Ounce
for 5 Ounces

		- 7 1/2
--	--	---------

And as Shawfoot Slag Lead produces 6oz 4 pwt 22 gr pFddr
Add the Value of 1 Ounce 4 pwt & 22 Grs of Silver
at 6s/4 1/2 p[er] Oz

		7 11 1/4
--	--	----------

Profit p[er] Fodder by refining Shawfoot Slag Lead

		£- 9 1/4
--	--	----------

For Refineable Lead

When Ore Lead sells as common at	£16.10 & Silver	
	at 6s:3d the profit p[er] Fodder will be	£- - 4 1/4
Do at	£16:15 and Silver at 6s:3d the loss will be p[er] Fodder	3/4
	Difference in profit for 5s p[er] Foddr. Price of Lead	£- - 5

So when Common Lead sells at £17:5 & Silver at 6s:3d the Loss will be

		£- - 10 3/4
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But as Silver now sells at 6s 4 1/2 the value for 5oz

at 1 1/2d additional price will be 7 1/2d
And as the Lead from Carrs West of Nent produces
6:2:12 on a Medium p[er] Fodder add the value
Of 1:2:12 at 6s: 4 1/2 p[er] Ounce 7s2d £- 7 9 1/2
Profit pFodder by Refining Carrs Ore Lead £- 6 10 3/4

I realy cannot help pitying both Ore carriage Men and Horses in this dreadfull bad Season and as we are all covered wth. Snow this day I doubt the carriage must stop but after all I wish it to be continued as long as possible & hope it may at least be continued for Blagill and Lough Vein where I am glad to hear they are richer than ever.

After what has been done as to the School Master it most undoubtedly will be right to engage with Thomas Turnbull & I wd. not have you to say that there is a probability of his getting any thing from Haydon Bridge School Trustees & then if any thing shd. be got it will have a better effect; but I don't expect any thing.

You are desired to do the best you can about the Stone Walls and as I have forgot why <Jno> Stokoe was disagreeable to me I shall be obliged by your refreshing my memory.

The bearer Nichs Lumley comes to <..> to cure the Chimneys of Smoking and if he could <do> your Parlour in which we at present dine &c. I desire he may. Such Bricks as are wanted for contracting the Chimneys on the inside had best be got of Mr Thornton if Carriages can get <thro> the Tyne otherwise they may be got of Mr. Tweddell – The Bricks which are not much burnt will be as good as any.

I wish you to try the Keswick Slag as soon as your convenience will admit of I desire to know what sort of Crucibles you will want and the Sizes & number, and I will order them.

It is now (1/2 past three Afternoon) Raining very hard but the Snow <does> <not> melt <but> I suppose it is quite dry with you. I am

Your Humble Servt

Nich Walton Junr

17 Nov 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster.

Farnacres 17 November 1782

Yours of the 9th, 11th, 13th and 14th are now before us and we are glad to see that Nichs. Lumley has got the Chimneys finished and hope that what he has done will answer the end.

We perfectly understand what has been done as to the Keswick Slag but are rather surprised it shd. turn out so very rich; it certainly would pay carriage from Keswick if we could get any considerable Quantity of it so as to have a good Shift or two at the Slag Hearth and we could purchase it at the <cost of> 30 or 40 s p[er] Bing & therefore we desire youll consider that and let us know what Quantity you think

would answer for a Couple of Shifts. We look upon it to be between Grey and Black Slag & that there is no doubt it would run in the Slag Hearth and our Opinion is that Black Slag and a small mixture of Iron would not be an improper <Flux> As to getting so much Lead <in> proportion as by Assay we Shd. not expect it but shd. not be very much surprised if we were even to work up to the Assay. It is a pity it should be lost and it most assuredly will most of it be so if attempted to be smelted by those who Smelted the Ore from whence the Slag or Regulus was produced.

In calculating the produce we find you have made the following errors

		lb Grs 80ths				
Shawfoot Slag	2 Assays of	1/4	51	6. 4.22.5	shd be	6. 4.22. 8
Keswick Slag	1 Assay	3/16	60	29. 8. 4	shd be	29. 8
Do.	1 Assay	3/4	1 40	29. 8. 4	shd be	29. 8
Do.	2 Assays	1/2	3 47	35. 3. 3.5	shd be	35. 3. 3.6
Do.	2 Assays	1/2	4 71	47.17.22.7	shd be	47.17.22.8
Do.	1 Assay	1/16	49	48 9. 5	shd be	48 9.6
Farnberry	2 Assays	1/2	1 25	12.17	shd be	12.17. 6

the above errors are all set right.

We think there is now scarce a doubt but we shall come up to Mr. Waltons calculation of 3000 Bings for Duty. Mr Walton likes a little diversion but does not chuse that either that or his Dog shd. ever be thought of where it is to interfere with busyness.

We are obliged by your sending to Messrs <Winship> & Jobling to see the Silver taken off and shall expect to receive it tomorrow.

We duly reced. Thomas Temperley's Accot. as mentioned in yours of the 11th. – as also the Expende of altering the Chimneys in yours of the 14th & have pd. Nich Lumley & Son. The other part of the charge may be put into the next Lead Mill Pay Bill by the following Title

For altering Chimneys at Langley Mill Housing and setting an Oven.

We are Yr Hble Servts

Walton & Turner

22 Nov 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs. Mulcaster

Farnacres 22d. Nov.1782.

We are exceedingly concerned when you acquaint us that 2 Pigs of Lead have been stolen from Langley Lead Mill, which you will observe we have advertised in the Papers of this day. We approve of a yard and therefore during the course of the Winter desire you will be winning Stones for it. We think the Wall should not be less

than 12 feet high, and we cannot think of a better Method. Your Observations as to the Effect if we have a yard are quite clear and satisfactory. We are

Your &c. W[alton] & T[urner]

PS. The Silver is arrived and we hope will go to a good Market, Silver now sells at 6s 5d p[er] Ounce and Refined Lead in small Quantities at £18 - -p[er] Fodr. The current price for large Quantities being £17.15- . I find I have omitted ordering you some Iron & Steel but it will come by Johnson on Monday.

26 Nov 1782 Nicholas Walton to John Holmes

Mr Holmes

Farnacres 26th Novemr. 1782

Dear Sir

By the Newcastle Carrier for London we yesterday sent you a Box containing 753 Ounces of fine Silver. We are,

Dear Sir Your most Humble Servts.

Walton & Turner

2 Dec 1782 Nicholas Walton to Peter Mulcaster

Messrs Mulcaster,

Farnacres 2d Decemr. 1782.

We have received your Letter of the 24th Ult. and very much approve of your second Scheme of Two Yards instead of one, you will therefore be preparing Stones, and, as soon as the Season suits in the Spring, let the whole be finished.

As soon as the Ore Carriage Accot. can be made out we shall be glad to see you at Farnacres for the Money, but you must send the Accot. before you come, and we will have the Money all ready put up for you.

We observe all the Assays last sent are from refineable Lead. We are

Your Hble Servts.

Walton & Turner