

[Note: This set of transcriptions is extracted from volumes ADM 66/122 and 66/123 rather than the complete set. The first letter is from ADM 66/122 and the remainder are from ADM 66/123]

24 May 1790 Nicholas Walton to Joseph Dickinson (TNA ADM 66/122)

[Note: Although the recipient's full name is not stated it seems highly likely to have been Joseph Dickinson, possibly the mines steward for the Blacketts at Coalcleugh, and who could be the same man who lived at Lovelady Shield at Alston]

Farnacres 24 May 1790

Mr Dickinson

Herewith you will receive an Abstract of Estimate of Expenche of making a Turnpike Road from Burtry Ford near Cowshill to the Town of Alston and from Alston Bridge through Raise Wanwood and Howgillrigg Tenements and Whitley Ground to the old Road in the Manor of Whitley which you will observe after adding the Expenche of obtaining the Act <Erecting> Turnpike <Barr> And Contingencies amounts to the Sum of £2538.15.9.

When on the view I understood that the Owners of Estates in Wanwood and Howgillrigg Tenements and in Whitley Ground would not only give Ground necessary for the New Road but would Fence the New Road on each Side at their own Expenche and they certainly should not only do that but contribute by subscribing towards the making of the New Road or otherwise I fear the Road from the Bridge End to the Old Road in Whitley Manor must be entirely dropt. If on the Contrary that Road can be got forward with I see it to be absolutely necessary to have a Clause in the Act of Parliament to entirely stop up the present public Road by way of Black House over Wanwood Bank And that after the passing of the Act it should only be considered as a private Road which would effectually prevent all evasions of the Gate proposed to be <erected> at Foul Loaning.

After having said so much it will now be necessary for the Gentlemen of Alston Moor to consider what Subscriptions they can have for this obtaining of the whole Object of making the Road from Burtry ford to the old Road in the Manor of Whitley and to state that and also to consider what Subscriptions they can have for making the Road from Burtry ford to Alston and to state that. After this I desire to hear from the Gentlemen & beg you will <assure> them that I Shall be <...> to forward what shall appear to be most <likely> to the <.....> with <.> in the <.> I shall <join> in that being effected. I am

Yr hble servt

Nicholas Walton Junr

19 Sep 1791 Nicholas Walton to Nicholas Ruddock (TNA ADM 66/123)

Mr Walton Junr's Comp[limen]ts to Mr Ruddock, and has recd his favor of the 15th Inst accompanying the Minutes of the Meeting in Allendale Town on Thursday the 11th of last month, but no Minutes made since tho[ugh] Mr Ruddock says he sent the Resolutions formed at the first meeting & since. Mr Walton thinks it will be too much to divide 1/3d of the whole of the Commons, and it requires great consideration what part sh[oul]d be divided. It is presumed that all the Incroachments that have been made 20 years & upwards are to continue to the several properties to which they are attached and that all such parts of the Common as have been incroached within 20 years shall be considered as a part of the quantity to be divided. Mr W. observes that it is the intentions that the Lord of the Manor shall have 1/16th part for his consent to the Division. Should it not be that he is to have one sixteenth part for his consent to the dividing and inclosing the specific number of Acres to be divided, and to have one sixteenth part of the stints in the parts of the Commons which are to be stinted. It will certainly be a very desirable thing to have an Allotment made for the extinguishing of all Tithes Moduses etc both in Allendale and Hexhamshire and that a part or parts of the Commons Sh[oul]d be sold to defray the expences of obtaining an Act etc. – As no doubt there is <are several> parts of the Boundaries in dispute it w[oul]d be well to endeavour to have these matters adjusted as <quick> as possible previous to the Application to Parliament, and in all such parts where such Disputes can be settled it is? We certainly prefer to set forth the

Boundaries in the Act of Parliament so as to settle the same for ever, and Mr W. hopes that the Dispute between Sir Thos. Blackett & the Comm[ision]ers & Gov[erno]rs of Greenwich Hospital may be settled amicably <and appear> in the Act in case the Division goes forward. Mr W will be obliged to Mr Ruddock for his Sentiments on the above when he sends the further Resolutions.

Farnacres
19 Sept 1791

25 Jan 1792 Nicholas Walton to John Dickinson

Dates of Proposal An Acc[oun]t of Proposals for Lead Mines

1790

Nov 6th Fairhill Flow Edge. Jno Bradwell & Thos Shaw. Sh[oul]d not this be entered in the working list and taken out of the unworked list.

Same Dt John Waltons Proposal for discovery of Veins. Query if this was not given up by the Brownley Hill Company. It is so marked in our Proposal Book. It was given up and a new Proposal made 5 Febr[uar]y 1791

1791

Aug 27th Nentsberry Greens Cross Vein Thos Kirkpatrick

Sept 3d Crag Green Middle Vein Ulrick & Robt Walton

24 Holy Field North Vein Thomas Stephenson

Such of these are worked sh[oul]d be ent[ere]d in the working List ending at Xmas & taken out of the unworked List then

Same Dt Farnberry Sun Vein Thomas Stephenson

To be ent[ere]d in working List if worked

Goangill

Blagillburn Cross Vein

To be taken out of the worked List & put into the unworked

<Slate> Query what sh[oul]d be done as to this

Farnberry Middle Vein to be taken out of the worked List and put into if worked

The above relates to the Quarter ending at Christmas 1791

1791

Oct 29th Holy Field Isaac White

Nenthead Field Wm Bell & Wm Greenwell

To be ent[ere]d in working List to Lady day 1792 & taken out of unworked List

Mr Dickinson

Farnacres 25th Janu[ar]y 1792

Above you have several extracts from the Proposal Book and memorandums relative to the making up the Lead Mine Quarterly Accounts which we doubt not you will attend to.

Caple Cleugh Lease being prior to Longholehead, Caple Cleugh Sun Vein, and the Middlecleugh Veins, will of course be intitled to its full Boundary which is 940 yards West and 260 yds East from the Engine Shaft. The next Lease in priority is Middle Cleugh and next to that Caple Cleugh Sun Vein & the better to enable you to judge how the matter is relative to the Caple Cleugh & Middle Cleugh Veins we inclose you a Copy of an Agreement relative to them which you may take a Copy of & return.

We have wrote and recommended John <Friend> to succeed his Father but what salary the Hospital will give we cannot yet say.

We are glad to have a good acc[oun]t of your expectations for next year and hope the extra price for the Ore Carriage will cause an increase of Galloways. We shall expect your sending us an Estimate of the Quantity of Ore w[hi]ch it is supposed will be raised this year.

We are Y[ou]r H[um]bl Servants

Walton & Turner

[An isolated fragment of an incomplete separate elsewhere in the volume appears to be part of Walton's promised letter to the Board:]

Mr Walton junr presents his compliments to Mr Ibbetson and desires he will be so good as acquaint him whether John Friend is appointed to succeed his Father or not as a person is immediately wanted to look after the washing the lead Ore before the

4 Feb 1792 Nicholas Walton to Mr Sample

Farnacres 4th Febr'y 1792

Mr Sample

John Nevin to whom I understand the Chatts wish to assign their lease of Peacock House is now with me as also William Chatt one of the Hospital's lessees. I find that it is intended that the two survivors of lessees Thomas and Wm Chatt and Widow Chatt shall join us in making an assignment to John Nevin which is proper enough and particularly so as the Widow Administered to the Effects of her husband John Chatt. I can see a point respecting this wch however it is not necessary for me to mention nor you to think about. The only things I have to say to you are what follows.

If John Nevin is a sufficient Man we shall be glad to have him to be a Tenant instead of the Chatts. The arrear due to 12th May last is £67.18 [s] to which the half years rent of £26.6 due 22nd Nov being added the whole Arrear amounts of £94.4 & that shd at all events be secured to Greenwich Hospital to be pd at the next Rect at Hexham or before and the last ½ years Rent due 12 May 1792 be secured to be pd at Octo 1792 & if you can contrive to get those matters settled we shall be very agreeable to have them so fixed & desire you will employ Mr Ruddock. Mr Chatt says that £5 were pd since you settled <wch is to> the 21 November last and that something is due to him & his brother for carriage of some Lime to the Bush

I am Yr Hble servt

Nich Walton Junr

8 Feb 1792 Nicholas Walton to Mr Sample

Farnacres 8th Febr'y 1792

Mr Sample

On looking into Hannah Ridleys agre[ment] I think she is liable to pay the Rent clear of all deductions as there is not a word said not even about Land Tax. It will certainly be quite right not to sell for ready Money at Erringtons Sales and three Months Credit will do very well. As I understand the Chatts mean to let Peacock House Farm to John Nevin. The[y] say that since the £11 you accounted for when you last settled they have p[ai]d you £5. & Wm. Chatt said they wanted Pay for the carriage of some Lime to the Bush but I see he was p[ai]d £3.6 – the 8th Novem[be]r last for the carriage of Lime to the Bush. I observe the £11 is charged in y[ou]r Acc[oun]t as

having been Rec[eive]d in July. I am surprised you did not keep the £3.6 – in part of Rent. The Arrear for Peacock House will stand as follows

Arrear due 12 May 1791	£67 18 -
1/2 a years Rent due 22d Novemr 1791	26 6 -
	£94 4 -
Suppose you have received	5 - -
This sh[oul]d be secured	£89 4 -
1/2 a years Rent which will become due 12 May 1792 which it is supposed the Way going crop sh[oul]d pay	26 6 -
Total	£115 10 -

I am Y[ou]r H[um]ble Serv[an]t
Nich Walton Jun.

PS you may Copy the inclosed

10 Feb 1792 Nicholas Walton to Mr Sample

[Note: Although not complete this letter can safely be assumed to be from Nicholas Walton]

Farnacres 10th Feby 1792

Mr Sample

I have rec[eive]d yours of this day and think it to be impossible for us to allow J Nevin having Peacock house Farm unless he will join the Chatts in a Security to us for payment of the Arrear up to the 22nd November last upon or before the 1st day of May or at the next Recet at Haydon Bridge rather & therefore the time of payment sh[oul]d be not later than the 25th April and Nevin sh[oul]d give another security himself for the half year Rent which will become due 12 May 1792 but if any difficulty sh[oul]d arise as to this the best way will be to let all alone till Dukesfield Pay and do as you propose. When you got a Recet for £3.6 you sh[oul]d certainly have settled the Acc[oun]t between them and you and pd them the 6s & it is quite wrong that you did not do so.

There will be no objection to Mary Errington letting the Farm to a good tenant but she must Administer if she has not done so already. I suppose she must have done so as she had no right to sell anything till she did Administer

24 Feb 1792 Nicholas Walton to John Bell

[Note: Although the recipient's name is not shown the context of the letter suggest it was John Bell]

Farnacres 24th February 1792

Dear Sir

I duly rec[eive]d your letter of the 18th Inst which surprised me not a little as I clearly understood at our meeting at Mr Herons that the two Commissioners to be chosen by the Lord of the Manor and the Commissioners And Governors of Greenwich Hospital were to chuse a third Commissioner but I now see that Ground is abandoned, and what astonishes me still more I find that the Petition as properly (in my opinion) drawn has been altered and matter never before intimated put in (the Division) of Catten Common Fields) which will very probably be the cause of an opposition to the Bill sh[oul]d the Division of these Fields make a part of it and the Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich Hospital will undoubtedly think themselves to have been very improperly treated in never having had any information of such an intention as that of Dividing Catten Common Fields under the same Act as the Dividing the Allendale & Hexhamshire Common. I am

Dear Sir Your most H[um]ble Serv[an]t
Nich Walton Junr

3 Mar 1792 Nicholas Walton to John Bell

Mr John Bell

Farnacres 3d March 1792

Sir

Soon after I received your Letter of the 3d Ult: I wrote to the Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich Hospital relative to the Proposition of Sir Thomas Blackett to divide the Land in dispute between Langley Barony and the Regality of Hexham of which I before gave you an intimation. I now have the satisfaction to acquaint you that the Commissioners and Governors of the Hospital being actuated by the same motives as Sir Thomas Blackett [underscored: 'for the sake of peace and ending all disputes'] they are very willing and desirous that the Land in dispute shall be equally divided staked or marked out and after that unalterably fixed by a Clause in the Act for dividing & inclosing part of Allendale & Hexhamshire Common and Stinting the remaining parts; and as it is a very desirable thing to have this busyness gone in hand with immediately I beg leave to add that it is quite agreeable to have Messrs Bates and Fryer to set out the Bounder Line and that it is my wish to have them to meet you and myself on Wednesday Morning next at the Inn of Elrington ready to proceed upon the settling of this long disputed matter. I have only to add that should any thing unforeseen prevent this busyness being done conformable to the Proposition as it now stands from Sir Thomas Blackett and the Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich

Hospital reciprocally the proposition itself is by no means to be considered or made use of in future as a dereliction or disclaimer of the Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich Hospitals Right to the whole of the Land in dispute. I am

Sir Your most Humble Serv[an]t

Nich Walton Junr

19 Mar 1792 Nicholas Walton to Tristram Everest

Mr. Everest

Farnacres 19th March 1792

Dear Sir

By the Mail Coach which sets out from Newcastle this morning I send you a copy of the Bill intended to be presented to Parliament this Session for Dividing parts of Hexhamshire and Allendale Commons and Stinting the remainder. It is directed to the care of Mr Holmes 156 Strand and I must beg you will call for it. I hope you will find it tollerably accurate and that with the additions in pencil which are also noted in the margin with red Ink and leaving out the words struck thro[ugh] with red Ink it will answer the intended purpose. The Clause for settling the Boundary between the Barony of Langley and the Regality of Hexham will with the proposed alterations in pencil and leaving out the words scored under for the reason mentioned in the Margin will I hope be quite sufficient. The Ditch is not yet cut but will I expect be finished next week. After you have perused the Bill I shall be glad to hear from you and I flatter myself few if any alterations will be necessary.

The sessions will I fear be short & the sooner the Bill is got Thro[ugh] the Committee the better. Youll be so good as name to the Board our sending you the Bill for the Division. Mr Heron will I expect be in London next week and if you sh[oul]d judge any alteration to be necessary I wish you to write them down upon a paper referring to the Bill till you see him and as most of the intended alterations in pencil are of his own writing it w[oul]d be well to let them stand as at present till you can be together upon the busyness. I am satisfied there will be no occasion for any one but yourself to attend for Greenwich Hospital except Members and when wanted you will muster as many as you can I doubt not. Where the <direction> of the Bill does not suit your ideas I beg leave notwithstanding that no alteration may be made provided the intention of it is answered as it stands. Little stops in a Committee where time is precious may be great inconvenience & lose the Bill.

<Please> excuse me and believe that I am Yours faithfully

Nich Walton Junr

23 Mar 1792 Nicholas Walton to Ralph Heron

Farnacres 23d March 1792

Dear Sir

I thank you for your last favor of yesterday and am glad to see that no doubt is entertained respecting the obtaining a sufficient number of Names to come up to three Quarters of the amount of the whole of the Rentals in Hexhamshire and Allendale. I have thought it necessary to send you a Letter to Mr Ibbetson as well as Mr Everest. I have acquainted Mr I with the object of your journey and that you will hope to have his assistance in procuring the attendance of such Members of Parliament as are connected with Greenwich Hospital and be glad to consult with him as occasion may require concerning that or any other necessary matter which may arise. Mr Ibbetson is Secretary to the Board of G Hospital & lives at the further end of Spring Gardens next the Park. I have also mentioned to Mr Everest the intention of your Journey and that I am satisfied you will be happy to do every thing in your power along with him to have the busyness got as readily thro' the two Houses of Parliament as possible and that as the Session is expected to be A short one I doubt not every thing will be ready on the part of the Hospital when you see Mr Everest and that the Hospitals consent in form is absolutely necessary & this has been already intimated to the Board of Directors.

I heartily wish you a good Journey and happy return & am Dear Sir Yours
sincerely

Nich Walton Junr

PS I intend writing to Messrs Ibbetson & Everest by tomorrows Post & will mention y[ou]r coming Pray don't forget the Poor Parsons power of charging their allotments with the Expence of the Division. I think the Clause will do but I beg you & our friend Everest will make it clear if you sh[oul]d not think it is so in its present form. I am far from well of the broken Skin but I will attempt the Boundary next week and hope I shall be able to get that matter settled. Pray let one of y[ou]r Clerks drop me a line after the Bill arrives with sufficient Signatures.

Ra Heron Esq

23 Mar 1792 Nicholas Walton to Tristram Everest

Farnacres 23d March 1792

Mr Tristram Everest

Dear Sir

As I understand something is going forw[ar]d in the House of Commons concerning the Repair of the Roads in the County of Berwick in Scotland I wish you to take the first opportunity of waiting upon Mr Ibbetson relative to this Busyness. Mr

Heron will I hope be able to set out for London to morrow or the next Day and will I doubt not take the first opportunity of seeing or sending to you. If you sh[oul]d be in Town he will after his arrival be met with at Wm Rich[ar]d Wilsons Bartlets Buildings.

When you get together I wish you to take into your joint consideration what can be done to enable the Poor Parsons who are possessed of Lands purchased with Queen Anns Bounty etc. They wish to be enabled to raise money by way of Mortgage upon the Allotments which shall be made to them respectively. You will oblige me much by attending to this. I am

Dear Sir Your most H[um]ble Serv[an]t
Nich Walton Junr

PS There are 13 Clergymen circumstanced as above who will get allotments upon the Division of Hexhamshire & Allendale Common.

6 Apr 1792 Nicholas Walton to John Ibbetson

[Note: This incomplete letter is undated but follows that of 23 March 1792, and is assumed to be from Nicholas Walton to John Ibbetson at the Board. Bell and Heron left for London on 25th March, so allowing sufficient time for their journeys and for time in London, perhaps a fortnight, a date of 6th April is used here.]

I understand Mr Bell who accompanied Mr Heron to London is returned with the consent Bill it being I am told necessary that every resident & Proprietor of an Estate having right of Common upon Hexhamshire & Allendale Common sh[oul]d be waited upon and the answers of such as refuse to sign to be taken down in writing. I am very glad the Bill in general meets with your approbation. A great deal of attention was paid to the forming of Heads for the Bill in which I bestowed not a little Time and Mr Heron is so ready in his conceptions that I think upon the whole the intended purpose will be <.....>

Everything relative to the fixing of the Bounder Line between the Regality or Manor of Hexham and the Barony or Manor of Langley is finished and I inclose you the Clause respecting that & submit it to your consideration whether it will not be more proper to introduce it immediately before the enacting <part> for perambulating the Boundaries. If you sh[oul]d be of opinion that it is not material to alter the situation of the Clause the best way will be never to name the altering the situation but merely to alter the Clause conformable to the inclosed paper. I am

Dear Sir Your very h[um]ble Serv[an]t
Nich Walton Junr

9 Apr 1792 Nicholas Walton to Rowland Burdon

Farnacres 9th April 1792

Sir

As there is a Bill now before the House of Commons for the Dividing and Inclosing parts and Stinting the remainder of Hexhamshire and Allendale Common I take the liberty of intimating to you that it will very probably be well taken by Sir Thomas Blackett that you sh[oul]d interest yourself in favor of the Bill and in getting it thro' the House with every dispatch. The Quantity of Ground the object of Division & Stinting is estimated at 60,000 Acres and Sir Thomas Blackett is Lord of the Manor. I need not mention to you how very essential to your Interest it may be to have Sir Thomas Blackett as a Friend in this County and any attention you may show in the above busyness w[oul]d I sh[oul]d hope not be forgotten by him; and as the Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich Hospital are very considerably interested in this Division I flatter myself you will consider that circumstance as an additional inducement to take a part in favor of the Bill in which I shall have much satisfaction by Mr Brandlings joining you. I am with great regard

Sir Your most Odebt & H[um]ble Serv[an]t
Nich Walton Junr

Rowld Burdon Esq

9 Apr 1792 Nicholas Walton to Tristram Everest

[Note: Although signature is not included this is assumed to have been from Nicholas Walton]

Mr Tristram Everest

Farnacres 9th April 1792

Dear Sir

Saturdays Post brought me the favor of your Letter of the 5th Inst. and I am glad anything has been got done in favor of Lime and Limestones in the Berwickshire Road Act. I think the opposers of the Bill have acted very foolishly however I hope the Tolls as now intended will not hurt the Lime Trade and I think the demand for Coals will continue as at present or nearly so. The Meeting at the British Coffee House seemed to promise well but the disrespect shewn to you and Greenwich Hospital at that Meeting shewed that little good was to be expected. If Mr Hall was there with the Committee he certainly must have behaved very ill to you in not causing you to be present?

7 Jun 1792 Nicholas Walton to John Bell

Mr John Bell

Farnacres 7th June 1792

Sir

As in all probability the Hexhamshire and Allendale Division Act will soon receive the Royal Assent I beg leave to mention to you that it appears to me a likely thing that we shall have difficulties in ascertaining what are Incroachments such as are to be comprehended within the Division and as all such as are to be comprehended must be rode in when the Boundary of the Common is perambulated, at least such of them as touch upon the Boundary, it would seem necessary to take immediate steps for ascertaining as far as may be such Incroachm[en]t which will expedite the perambulation and be otherwise very <vague>. Having been with Mr Heron I named this to him and he told me that some years ago you and he went thro' the whole of the Incroachments. I therefore hope that from your knowledge of this matter and the Notes you would of course make upon the view with Mr Heron you will be enabled to do a great deal towards ascertaining the Incroachments that are to come into the Division.

The Long Ditch from Kilhope Cross to Hard Rig Currock between Hexham Regality and Alston Moor manor having lately been cleaned out I wish very much to have a View and thorough examination thereof previous to the riding of the Boundary and that Stakes of Redwood Fir of 6 feet in length sh[oul]d be drivin down at each Angle till their Tops are level with the common surface of the Ground. – I propose Fir as being more likely to continue sound than any other wood and no Sap to be made use of. If you think well of this I will order 80 Stakes to be made at Newcastle and send them up to Alston and will give you, and such others of Sir Thomas Blacketts Agents as may be thought proper, a meeting upon the Spot and see the Stakes fixed and it will be necessary to have Mr Fryers Assistance as he has a Plan with the bearing and measure of each Line which will enable us to ascertain the Angles with precision being 78 in number w[hi]ch with No1 at Hard Rig Currock and Killop Cross will make in the whole 80 places for Posts or Stakes. – I desire to hear from you the first opportunity and am

Sir Yr Most Humble Servt

Nich Walton Junr

PS I have every reason to think that Fir will continue sound underground many Hundred years. I w[oul]d propose the Stakes to be 3 Inches Square which will make 30 Feet Cube measure of wood for the whole.

9 Jun 1792 Nicholas Walton

Farnacres near Gateshead 9th June 1792

Dear Sir,

The Lease of Greengill Lead Mine to Ld Carlisle & you having been forfeited in consequence of that Mine not being worked we intend to let it of which we give you this notice and are with best wishes to yourself and Family Dear Sir

12 Jun 1792 Nicholas Walton to John Bell

Farnacres 12th June 1792

Mr John Bell

Sir

I was duly favoured with your letter of the 10th and have considered the matter respecting the riding in the Encroachments and think with you that it will be the best way to have a consultation with Mr Heron as soon as possible after he returns from London & I will meet you and him any time you shall fix.

As the Long Ditch from Kilhope Cross to Hardrig Currock is cleaned out I think it is the best time possible for fixing the Stakes & indeed I very much incline to have that done and in so very material a business I cannot suppose the Expence to be any object to Sir Thomas Blackett and Greenwich Hospital and I therefore hope when you consult with Sir Thomas's agents it will be determined to go upon the work without delay. I am

Sir Your most H[um]ble Serv[an]t
Nich Walton Junr

PS I had written the above just before I r[e]c[ieve]d yours of this Day and I will be obliged by Mr Dickinsons taking the trouble of getting the Posts made and the sooner they are got ready the better as I shall only wait 'till I see Mr Fryer to fix a Day for meeting which will I think most probably be some one the Week after next. Great care must be taken to have the Posts as clear of Sap & Knots as possible and to be of that kind of Fir that has the most Turpentine or Resin in it and a Wooden Mallet sh[oul]d be made for driving them. I will take care to keep clear of a Tuesday. I will acquaint my Father with what you mention as to the Deed for conveying the Fee Farm Rent.

13 Jun 1792 Nicholas Walton to John Bell

Mr John Bell

Farnacres 13th June 1792

Sir

Having sent early this Morning to Mr Fryer I hear he is now in Hexhamshire and therefore it is probable you may see him before I do, and if you sh[oul]d I desire you will fix with him meeting us to examine the Long Ditch and putting in the Posts on Thursday and Friday the 28th & 29th Inst to begin at Hardrig Currock on the 28th at Nine oClock in the Morning. I intend being at Langley Mill on the 26th in the Evening and to go to Lowbyer near Alston ag[ains]t Dinner the 27th so as to have all ready to proceed upon the busyness the next morning. There is a Chain at Alston with which the Long Ditch was measured by Mr Fryer when he took the bearings of the several lines from Angle to Angle which Chain has been lying sealed up ever since & it will be proper to use that Chain in the examination of this Bounder Ditch. I think Six Men will be sufficient and I am of Opinion we cannot do with less as the Posts will be to carry along and the Horses to lead but perhaps it will suit but for us to be on Foot the whole way from Hardrig Currock to Kilhope Cross & to send our Horses to Nenthead & tho' I have appropriated two Days I hope one will do the busyness. The Stakes, and there sh[oul]d not be less than 86, sh[oul]d be laid down as follows, on the Wednesday afternoon & to be put so as not to lie open to View. Vizt

	41 Bro[ugh]t. up
5 at Hardrig End Currock	10 at High Raise Road
9 at Hardrig End Road	11 at Salters Road East of Brownley Hill
10 at Blakelaws Cross	12 at Dod End
10 at Hearty Cleugh Head	12 at the Road from Nenthead to Coalcleugh
7 at Benty Road Cleughhead	86
41 Carried up	

A small Hatchet will be wanted for sharpening with and it will be right to have two Wooden Mallets for driving the Stakes with.

When we are doing I think we may as well drive stakes in all the Angles on the Boundary lately settled joining Langley. It will only take 15 and we can do that <on> our return from the other Bounder.

I am Sir Your very h[um]ble serv[an]t
Nich Walton Junr

13 Jun 1792 Nicholas Walton

[Note: Undated but in sequence between letters dated 13th & 19th June 1792. 13th June used here]

Mr Walton intends being at Lowbyer on Wednesday the 27th Inst against Dinner and proposes going upon the examination of the Long Ditch the day following and driving stakes at Each Angle thereof which if the weather sh[oul]d not prove good will take more than one day. He will not have time to do any thing with Mr Hodgson while at Alston but would be glad to see him and Mr Donkin any Day next week except Monday. He never attends the Races at Newcastle or very rarely. Mr Dickinson is desired to examine in the Box where the Plans are kept at Lowbyer and to let Mr Walton know whether there is not a Chain in it wrapped up in Paper and written upon Chain for measuring the Long Ditch, but don't open it out. We will write you further ab[ou]t the Long Ditch next Week.

We are Y[ou]r H[um]ble Servants
Walton & Turner

19 Jun 1792 Nicholas Walton to John Dickinson

[Note: Recipient is unclear here but confirmed as John Dickinson of Lowbyer in Walton's letter to John Bell of 19th June.]

Mr Dickinson

Farnacres 19th June 1792

We have rec[eive]d your Letter of the 16th w[i]th the Rec[eip]t of Ore raised last year inclosed, and are glad to have so agreeable an amount relative to Browngill Sun Vein Small Cleugh Cross Vein and Natrass North Vein and to hear that you are likely to let the next Ten Fathoms of Nent Force Level for less money p[er] Fathom than we have paid for some time past.

By James Johnson you will receive this Week 85 Posts Six feet long each 2 Mallets to drive them and some square hoops to put upon the heads of the Posts to prevent their splitting in driving. Mr Walton intends being at Lowbyer on Wednesday the 27th Inst against dinner which he desires may be ready for five or six persons against three oClock and it is requested that there may not be too much dinner. It is proposed that Mr John Bell of Hexham Abbey Mr Joseph Dickinson of LoveLadyshield Mr Fryer of Newcastle and Mr Walton sh[oul]d meet at Hardrig End Currock <at> Nine oClock in the Morning of the 28th & to proceed immediately in driving Stakes at each Angle of the Long Ditch and therefore you must contrive to send the Stakes before so as that the first parcel may be at Hardrig Currock by half past 8 oClock in the morning of the 28th. The Stakes etc must be laid down as follows, and laid so as not to be open to View.

	41 Bro[ugh]t. up
5 at Hardrig End Currock	10 at High Raise Road
9 at Hardrig End Road	11 at Salters Road East of Brownley Hill
10 at Blakelaws Cross	12 at Dod End
10 at Hearty Cleugh Head	11 at the Road from Nenthead to Coalcleugh
7 at Benty Road Cleughhead	85 total
41 Carried up	

There must also be a small Hand Saw well set, and a small Hatchet well sharpened to take with us the whole way. The numbers in Red Ink apply to the numbers on the Plan of the Long Ditch

You must attend but as we wish the Ore carriage not to be interfered with John Friend need not attend us. We must have some Men to take our Horses forward from Hardrig End Currock to Nenthead & as there will be Six Horses at least there sh[oul]d be three Men ordered to Hardrig end Currock for that purpose and those three Men must carry the 5 Posts, 2 Mallets the Hoops & Saw and Hatchet to that Currock & wait there 'till the Company are met. It will be necessary to have five other Men to attend us and those five Men must carry the 19 Stakes 9 of which are to be laid down at Hardrig End Road and 10 at Blake Laws Cross and after laying them down they must come to the Company at Hardrig End Currock & be there by $\frac{1}{2}$ past Nine in the Morning of the 28th. Four Stakes will be equal to $\frac{1}{2}$ ft of wood and that will be easily carried by one Man. The other 61 Stakes you and Mr Joseph Dickinson must contrive to get laid at the places mentioned on the otherside & we hope there is no fear that anybody will steal them but if you think there is any fear of that one Boy sh[oul]d be got to stay by them at the place where they are laid down but you must immediately consult with Mr Jos. Dickinson about that and also about providing Men to attend & let him see this Letter, and there sh[oul]d be some consideration about contriving how we are to get the stakes drove where stone comes in the way. That we shall leave to you and Mr Dickinson. We are

Your Humble Serv[an]ts
Walton & Turner

19 Jun 1792 Nicholas Walton to John Bell

Mr John Bell

Farnacres 19th June 1792

Sir

Though I have not yet heard from Mr Fryer I take it for granted that he will be with us upon the 28th Inst and also the 29th if necessary and I have upon that idea written to Mr John Dickinson of Lowbyer and have desired him to have everything ready for proceeding with the Business and to consult with Mr Dickinson of LoveLadyShield I

have no doubt the Stakes and two Mallets were sent by James Johnsons Waggon from Newcastle yesterday with some square Iron hoops to slip on to the tops of the Stakes to prevent their splitting as driving. I have given particular directions about the laying down the stakes and the number of Persons who are to attend us and have desired Messrs Dickinson to consider of providing some thing so as that in case of meeting with Stone in the driving of any of the Stakes we may be able to overcome the difficulty that may arise upon such an occasion. I fully intend being at Hexham on Tuesday next and will be glad to have the purchase of Mr Gibson compleated that Day and therefore will you be so good as desire Mr Gibson to be prepared accordingly? I expect to be at Hexham on Tuesday by Noon. The number of Stakes ordered are 100 containing 37 ½ feet cubic measure 85 ordered to Alston & 15 for Langley Mill & I trust the Wood is of the best kind having left the choice to Mr Thomas Harvey the Raff Merchant who happened to have a Cargo just arrived from Norway

I am Sir Your most h[um]ble Serv[an]t
NichWalton Junr

PS Since writing the above I have rec[eive]d a Letter from Mr Fryer who will attend on the 28th and he says he has wrote to you; and I have also rec[eive]d a letter from Mr Harvey acquainting me that the Stakes Mallets and Hoops were forwarded By James Johnsons Waggon yesterday.

2 Jul 1792 Nicholas Walton to John Dickinson

Farnacres 2d July 1792

Mr Dickinson

We have rec[ieve]d your Letters of the 23rd 27th & 30th Ult & desire youll give Thomas and Caleb Kidd leave to try for the Veins w[hi]ch they have named to you, on the usual conditions and paying one fifth Duty to Greenwich Hospital for one Moiety of the Ore they raise. The Tenants of Tynehead & Mark Close Houses must repair them but particularly those of Mark Close which were built quite in good condition since or a little before Cuth: Fairlamb took Lowbyer. If the Tenants refuse to do the repairs they must be prosecuted.

The Shaft Heap 446 yards from Fletcheras Whimsey must be insisted upon as the Bounder of the Gen[era]l Grant to Lord Carlisle & Co & Thomas Temperleys behaviour upon being asked ab[ou]t it shews that he is ingrateful and worse. Acquaint Bulman & Atkinson that the above Shaft must be considered by them as their Boundary.

You must not put in Nentsberry Greens Middle Vein in consequence of the Proposal by Kirkpatrick & the sooner the Quarter Accounts are made out the better and when signed you are desired to send them down to this place.

The Posts that spared may be divided as Mr Dickinson Proposes and the Mallet and Iron sold. The Mallet cost 2s/6d and 4d Carriage, and as its now bound with Iron it is as good as new. Give the Smith 6d to drink who bound it. As to the Iron we do not

23 Jul 1792 Nicholas Walton to Mr Sample

Farnacres 23d July 1792

Mr Sample

I have read Robert Browns Article which my father has this Day executed. What the Bells can mean I know not but it is plain to me they are bad fellows and we must do as well as we can with them without a Lease. I have also rec[eive]d Robert Farbridges Administration & will give directions for a Lease being prepared but you must endeavour to get some Cash from him as there were Forty Pounds Seven Shillings due 22d Novem[be]r last yet unp[ai]d & half a years Rent due 12 May last Twenty Pounds Three Shillings in all £60.10. In December 1789 you acquainted us you had sold 8 Matts at 8d a piece. We do not find you ever p[ai]d the Money.

I am Yr H[um]ble Serv[an]t
Nich Walton Junr

18 Sep 1792 Nicholas Walton to John Dickinson

Mr Dickinson

Farnacres 18 Septem[be]r 1792

We have rec[eive]d yours of the 12th and are very much pleased with your having been so particular about the Ore Carriers Galloways & the usage as to Carrying Ore, and inclosed therewith, Duke Forrests Letter ab[ou]t the Impounding of the Brownley Hill Co. Ore Carriers; the further Queries given you relative to this busyness when we saw you at Langley Mills the Strata in Nent Force Level for the last 10 fathoms; and the length of the Iron sent you for lining part of Nent Force Level Waggon Way; but I desire to know the breadth and thickness with exactness of each piece of Iron. I believe the Iron is 1/8th In. thick & 2 In. & 2/5ths broad I however desire to know and as you have got Rails and Iron & know what each cost I desire to know against I come to Alston what the expense of laying a Fathom of Level with Rails lined will cost. I reckon 2 lengths of Iron each 6 feet w[hi]ch will lay a Fathom will cost including Carriage 2s.6d.

I am y[ou]r h[um]ble serv[an]t
Nich Walton Junr

24 Sep 1792 Nicholas Walton to George Bates

[Note: Mr Bates was probably George Bates, agent for Sir Edward Blackett of Matfen, who had an interest in this proposed common enclosure]

Mr Walton presents his Compliments to Mr Bates and begs leave to express his hopes that he will see him at the Meeting at Haydon Bridge on the 6th of next month upon the business relative to the Division of Grindon & Langley South Common and Thorngrifton Common and he flatters himself that Sir Edward Blacketts determination in favor of the whole will be had before that time. Mr Bates will observe that the Meeting is advertised in all the Newcastle Papers. Mr Walton thinks that Sir Edward ought scarcely to be considered as a Proprietor having right of Common upon Langley South Common as Sillywray only as he believes can have any right there and that Estate as he is told is Customary and held of Sir Edw[ar]d as of his Manor of Henshaw but as to that Mr Bates must himself know best. Mr Walton will be glad to hear from Mr Bates as soon as his convenience will admit. Mr W. took the liberty of sending Mr Bates the Proposals for the intended Divisions, last Week.

24 Septem[be]r 1792

24 Sep 1792 Nicholas Walton to John Turner

[Note: Brother is meant as his fellow receiver for the Greenwich Hospital's northern estates, Sir John Turner]

Farnacres 24th Septem[be]r 1792

Dear Brother

You will see by an advertisement in the Newcastle Papers that there is to be a Meeting at Haydon Bridge on the 6th of October to take into consideration the several Proposals made on the part of the Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich Hospital for the Division Allotment and Inclosure of Grindon & Langley South Common and Thorngrifton Common. As this is a Business of much consequence to the Hospital I think it would be well if you could attend the meeting and give your assistance upon the occasion, and I shall hope to hear from you acquainting us that you will do so. I intend being at Langley Mill the Evening before the Meeting which is to be on the 6th at ten o'Clock in the Morning.

As you have never wrote since I sent you the Itinerary I know not whether it will be convenient to you and Lady Turner to receive us at Swarland at the Time intended by my Daughter and Self & therefore you will be so good as inform me when you write ab[ou]t the Division. If convenient to Lady Turner my Daughter proposes spending a Week with her and I believe my Son Tom intends his visit as in the Itinerary but that is rather uncertain to me for as he has been at Tinmouth some weeks we see little of him.

I am extremely concerned to acquaint you that Mr Smeaton was on Sunday Sennt [ie week] struck with an Apoplectic Fit and when my account came from Austhorpe was thought to be in a dying state. He has lost the use of his Right side but can speak and was able to crawl to his Door he having fallen a little way from it upon the Grass and was no way hurt by the fall. He expresses a wish to dye. I am joined by this Family in best regards to you and Lady Turner & Am

Dear Brother yours most sincerely

Nich Walton Junr

PS Messrs Selby and Forster intend attending the Meeting at Haydon Bridge. Mr Tweddell sticks at nothing to overturn the Busyness.

Supposed Quantities in Grindon Common	4500 Acres
Langley South Common	2500 Do
Thorngraston Common	1500 Do

5 Dec 1792 Nicholas Walton to Nicholas Ruddock

Farnacres 5th Decem[be]r 1792

Dear Sir

I have taken the first opportunity of considering the intended application of the Hexhamshire & Allendale Proprietors to the Lord of the Manor. I think it w[oul]d be impossible or nearly so, and certainly be attended with great expence & hazard if practicable to perambulate the Boundaries at this Time of Year; and therefore I w[oul]d not ask Mr Beaumont to give any directions for that being done immediately as I think the Month of March is as early as any thing of the kind ought to be attempted.

Grindon Bill is I expect before Mr Williamson and the other Bills are in great forwardness. I am

Dear Sir Yours sincerely
Nich Walton Junr

[annotated in pencil:] Mr Nichos Ruddock

Sir

We the undersigned Proprietors and Agents of Proprietors having Right of Common on Hexhamshire and Allendale Common beg leave to represent to you that the delay which has already happened by not Perambulating the Boundaries of the said Common according to the Directions of the Act of Parliament for the Division and Stinting thereof will be found to be injurious in many respects to the Proprietors in general and has a tendency to increase the Expence of carrying into execution the intention of the several Persons interested in this Business. We therefore request that you will have the goodness to give Orders that the Boundaries aforesaid may be Perambulated at some Time as early as the weather will permit the ensuing Spring and in case the Season of the year should cause it to be unpleasant to you to attend in person you will be pleased to direct that the perambulation for your part may be performed by your Agents

We are Sir
Your most Obed[ien]t & h[um]ble Serv[an]ts

December 1792

To Thomas Richard Beaumont Esq
Bretton Hall
Yorkshire

11 Feb 1793 Nicholas Walton to Tristram Everest

Mr Tristram Everest

Haydon Bridge 11th Febr[uar]y 1793

Sir

Yesterday I wrote you from hence and sent you at the same time a Copy of the Lobley Hill and Alston Etc Road Bill with several proposed alterations and additions thereto. <Tobiorce> I have omitted the naming in my letter the following particulars Pages 14 and 20 respecting Eight Trustees instead of Seven with the exception and the alteration relative to the erection of Toll Houses etc and Page 74 as to drawing pieces of Timber or Stone upon the said Roads – all which you are desired to attend to – As to the last (Page 74) it frequently happens that pieces of Timber are dragged over the Moor by Horse and it would be hard not to allow such or pieces of Stone to be drawn across the Road tho' certainly right to prevent their being drawn along the Road. It will be proper to insert The Governor and Company for Smelting down Lead with Pit Coal and Sea Coal as Trustees under the Letter L and if the name of Thomas Dodd <of> Nenthead is not in the Bill as a Trustee that should also be inserted but I think it is in the Bill. The last part of the Clause respecting Tolls and making Lead Lead Ore Iron or Steel liable to a double Toll in case of certain weights being exceeded should in my opinion be extended to all articles whatever and indeed it seems as if the Lead Mines were particularly struck at by naming only Lead Lead Ore Iron and Steel or that the framers of the Bill think that a Ton of those Commodities is heavier than a Ton of any other. I am

Dear Sir Your very H[um]ble Serv[an]t
N W Junr

28 Feb 1793 Nicholas Walton to Tristram Everest

Mr Tristram Everest

Farnacres 28 February 1793

Dear Sir

I yesterday attended a Meeting at Lanchester when it appeared perfectly clear to be the intention of most of the Gentlemen present to fix side Gates in every part of Alston Moor where the Lead Ore Carriers could be taken in and upon my strenuously adhering to the sentiments expressed to you in full the Gent[leme]n came to a

resolution not to carry the Road further than to Burtry Ford and most of those present signed it. As the Road is to be extended to Burtryford I think it would be improper for Greenwich Hospital to stir further in the business at present. I am

Dear Sir Your most H[um]ble Serv[an]t
Nich Walton Junr

PS you are desired to return the Plan of Alston Moor and to enter it at £21.10 valued
Burtry Ford is 10 ½ Miles from Alston

17 Mar 1793 Nicholas Walton to William Peters

Mr Wm Peters

Farnacres 17th March 1793

Dear Sir

I am this Day favoured with your letter of the 15th Instant. Tomorrow I have no doubt Mr Fryer will be with you unless some accident sh[oul]d prevent that. I think Sir Edwd Blackett has acted very strongly. Every attention has be paid to him and neither he or any one for him has ever given an answer to anything for or against and tho' he has acknowledged the rec[eip]t of your Letter and the Bills it appears that we cannot say whether he has any or no opinion at all about the Business respecting Grindon and Thorngrafton Divisions. I speak from recollection but <tho> Sir Edwd says his Interest in Grindon is very small his Rental is £<11> P[er]ann[um] and his Rental in Thorngrafton is just £9 short of double. I observe with concern what you intimate relative to the Bishop and I think the sooner that matter was considered the better & consequently that it was very proper in you to determine to see to Mr Everest when you had such an intimation. It w[oul]d be hard indeed to lose our Bills when all Persons interested in the right of Common are consenting except it may be Sir Edwd Blackett who will not oppose and two Proprietors at Haydon Bridge one of whom says he is for the Division of Grindon but that he never will sign any paper again as long as life is in him & he knows what he is doing, because he signed away an Estate w[hi]ch ought otherwise to have belonged to him and the other who refuses signing says that he cares not whether there is a Division or not but that he thought by signing he w[oul]d make his Estate in respect of which he has Common right liable to be Mortgaged or Sold for payment of Expences. The circumstance as to the Bishop makes it necessary to be less rigid with respect to the Cypher but as to this every thing will be fully considered by you and Mr Everest and if the Sheep Clause was struck out of Grindon Bill it w[oul]d be well as it w[oul]d remove considerably of the Vicar's objection. I am so very indfferently tonight that I must request you to communicate the contents of this Letter to Mr Everest & that you will desire him to be so good as excuse my writing to him.

I am D[ea]r Sir Yours very truly
Nich Walton Junr

PS For certain occasions I wish you not to have a further Letter of Credit yet. When you see the Money to be wanted let me hear & there shall be no delay

Under the circumstance of the intimation relative to the Bishops will it not be necessary to be careful in not advancing too much Money on back of Fees etc. What is necessary however must be paid but I beg you will consult Mr Everest about this. If it sh[oul]d be thought right to admit the Claim as to the Rent of £6.19.8 perhaps the sooner the better as it might be the cause of getting the assistance of his Grace the Duke of Northumberlands Friends.

27 Mar 1793 Nicholas Walton

[Note: although the recipient is not named context suggests it might have been John Erasmus Blackett, chief agent to the Beaumonts. A letter of his just the previous day (NRO 672/E/1E/5, given elsewhere in DD) had named the dates of the pays to T R Beaumont.]

Provided always and be it further enacted that nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to authorise or empower the said Trustees or any of them to do any Act Matter or Thing which shall or may damage any Lead Mines or whereby the winning or working thereof may be prevented or interrupted or to take any Ore or Mineral which shall proceed or which shall or may have arisen or proceeded from the same or to do any Damage to such Buildings Engines Erections or Watercourses or other Things as have been or which shall be necessary to be occupied with or for any Lead Mines, nor to take any Deads Stones or Rubbish or other Matter or Produce which shall or may have arisen or Proceeded from the same without the previous Licence or Consent of the Owner or Owners of such Mines, or Of his her or their Agent or Agents.

Farnacres 27th March 1793

Dear Sir

By the Post of this day I have rec[eiv]ed an account from London that the Lobleyhill Road Bill has passed the Committee of the Commons with the addition of the above Proviso at my instance and also with an alteration of a Clause which made Carriages of a certain description liable to double Toll on carrying Lead Ore Iron etc above a limited weight tho' all other articles might be carried in such Carriages let the weight be what it might and only pay single Toll. The Clause is now extended to all articles. As it stood before it was a manifest insult upon the owners of all Lead Mines. I am sorry you have been so poorly and beg to assure you that it will give me much pleasure to be informed of your having got better. I have not sold any Silver lately the last price was 5.7 ³/₄ I shall be obliged by your letting me know how the price is now. I thank you for your information as to the times of Mr Beaumonts Pays. I am

Your obliged & Obed[ien]t Ser[van]t
Nich Walton Junr

PS The Lobbyhill Road is to extend to Burtry ford <a six> Miles beyond Chapel

27 Mar 1793 Nicholas Walton to Tristram Everest

Mr Everest

Farnacres 27th March 1793

Dear Sir

I have this day rec[eive]d your agreeable information respecting the Lobleyhill Road, and am much obliged by your attention to my wishes. I do not think, if you find a proper opportunity, that it w[oul]d be amiss to acquaint Mr Skelton of the Clause or Proviso relative to the produce etc from the Mines having been inserted at my instance and of the Clause respecting double Toll having been extended to all Articles instead of being confined to Lead, Lead Ore, etc observing at the same time to him that these Clauses w[oul]d not in the Lobleyhill Road but in the least affect the Interest of Greenwich Hospital but that from what you have understood the Proviso w[oul]d be of use to Mr Beaumont and that the alteration as to the double Toll Clause was made with a view not only to preserve the Roads but that Lead Lead Ore and Articles connected with the Lead Mines sh[oul]d not be held out to the Public as being more liable to be taxed or charged to the maintenance of a Turnpike Road than other Articles. I do not think but that the communicating of this information to Mr Skelton may be of use as it will shew that tho' Mr Beaumont is endeavouring to cut your rights by the roots we are endeavouring to preserve his. I have <realy> been so much engaged as not to have had it in my power to write you at the same time as I have done to Mr Peters but being satisfied of his communicating every thing to you I am convinced you will excuse me. I am Dear Sir

Your obliged & very h[um]ble Serv[an]t
Nich Walton Junr

PS The only objection I have to giving up anything to a Bishop or Vicar is the bad precedent but it would be better to give up a <.... of> all.

24 May 1793 Nicholas Walton

[Note: Abstract of expenses for building turnpike road. Undated but immediately precedes a letter dated 24th May 1793, and the topic was under discussion that spring. 24th May is used here, and it is assumed to have been drawn up by Nicholas Walton.]

Abstract of Estimate of Expencc of making a Turnpike Road from Burtry ford near Cowshill to the Town of Alston.

Making the Road	£794. 6. 2	
Purchases and making various Alterations	236. 1.10	
Bridges &c		
Hatherley Cleugh	£150. . .	
Snedberry }		
Burdas Cleugh }	No Bridges necessary	
Pearts Cleugh }		
North Cleugh }		
Rampgill	20	
Gillgill	10	
Nenthall	50	
Hudgill	10	
Erecting Turnpike Bar and Contingencies 50	£300	
		£1335. 8. -

From Alston Bridge by way of Raise, Wanwood and Howgill rig Tenements and Whitley Ground all New Road till it joins the Old Road in the Manor of Whitley

Making the Road	£210. 1. 9	
Purchases and making various Alterations	401. 6	
Bridges etc		
Ellery Mill	£5	
Gildesdale Burn	100	
Lecke Burn	5	
Levelling in several Places	20	
Erecting Turnpike Bar and Contingencies 50	£180	
		£823. 7. 9
Expencc of Drawing Bill and obtaining an Act of Parliament		380
Total		£2538.15. 9

6 Jun 1793 Nicholas Walton to Henry Addison

Mr Henry Addison

Farnacres 6th June 1793

Sir

I have been indisposed for several days past or you sh[oul]d certainly have had a Letter before this in reply to your obliging favor of the 30th & 31st Ult with the accompanying depositions. I observe w[i]th satisfaction that you have been very attentive to the business and it appears clearly that damages must be paid. It is the wish of Sir John Turner and myself that upon every occasion where damages ought to

be expected they should be paid and that the Persons injured sh[oul]d receive more rather than less. The disposition on the part of those who are the cause of the damages at Natrass seems to carry with it a desire to do what is fair and as the satisfaction or payment in respect of damages will come from them it is well they are so inclined and makes it less a difficulty to settle matters.

As to the damages to the surface upon parts of Natrass Tenem[ent] they will speak for themselves so far as they can at present be judged of and from the information of Persons acquainted w[i]th the circumstances it is hoped such an ans[we]r may become at as that a proper determination may be made as to damages made previous to this time. With regard to the claims for losses of and injury to Isaac Whites Cattle I really think appearances are in favour of a supposition that as long as a Mine is working in the neighbourhood of Natrass Isaac White's Cattle will never have any other complaint than the Bellon. I understand the Cow died of the Fellen which does not sound much amiss for what Isaac has substituted.

Upon the whole I beg to assure you that I shall have great satisfaction in having you to attend at Alston along with Mr Bird and the Lessees and desire you will get every thing settled in such way as you may judge to be most proper. You will be so good as mention to Mr Bird my wish that in future every thing may be so conducted that these may be no cause of complaint whatever from him or from those concerned for the Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich Hospital. I am

Sir Your Obliged H[um]ble Serv[an]t
Nich Walton Junr

Mr Henry Addison Private and Secret

Farnaces 6th June 1793

Dear Sir

I think it is evident that Isaac White may be punished on Acc[oun]t of his hounding or chasing Piggs Galloways but as to the Assault I am inclined to consider it to have originated with Pigg tho' he did not strike first.

My wish under all the circumstances is that matters as to Prosecution sh[oul]d be entirely abandoned provided Mr Bird makes a point with Isaac White that the latter is to behave differently in future and I hope you will be enabled not only to get this so fixed but to have the Smith's Shop given up as Mr Dickinson has acquainted me it will be useful.

I am very happy to hear of Mrs Addisons having got better and heartily wish her a good recovery. I am

Dear Sir Your Obliged H[um]ble Serv[an]t
Nich Walton Junr

PS The Pointer got safe home but almost dead with fatigue. I thank you for the trouble you took in making an inquiry concerning it.

7 Jun 1793 Nicholas Walton to Nicholas Ruddock

Mr Walton Junr begs leave to name to Mr Ruddock that he thinks no time sh[oul]d be lost in applying to Mr Beaumont to ride the Boundaries of Hexhamshire and Allendale Commons. It is a great pity to have lost so fine an opportunity as there has lately been the Weather never having been more fit than for some time past. Mr Walton has the pleasure to inform Mr Ruddock that the Grindon Langley South Common and Thorngrafton Acts have had the Royal assent.

Farnacres 7 June 1793

10 Jun 1793 Nicholas Walton to Henry Addison

Mr Addison

Farnacres 10th June 1793

Dear Sir

I have rec[eive]d acc[oun]t from Alston Moor that Isaac White assisted by one Thomas Yeats of High Fairhill who was on Horseback came and took away 5 Ore Carrier Galloways belonging to Thomas Taylor and 3 belonging to Thomas Summers and had got a considerable way towards Alston before they were discovered and then Taylor and Summers set off in pursuit of them and Summers having taken another Galloway he rode upon it full speed until he came up with Thomas Yeats (who was driving their Galloways away as fast as he could and had left Isaac White a considerable distance behind) and took hold of him and the Horse and held them fast until Taylor got up and drove the Galloways back again which Isaac White endeavoured to prevent as much as he could by scuffling with Taylor and often heaving his Stick and threatening to strike and endeavouring to get before the Galloways to turn them. Both Taylor and Summers told John Friend that it was very disagreeable work for them and if they could not come and take the Ore away quietly they would both decline being Carriers.

The above shews how necessary it is that you sh[oul]d get the damages settled concerning Natrass as soon as possible and under the circumstances of Isaac White continuing to give trouble I do not see how we can avoid proceeding against him for the hounding. I cannot say that I approve of the proceedings of Summers and Taylor as it was certainly a rescue and the Goods had better have gone to the Pound and been replevied. I beg to hear from you and am sorry to have such disagreeable work to trouble you with. I will directly consult Council upon the Hounding and also respecting their last transaction. I am D[ea]r Sir

Yours sincerely

Nich Walton Junr

12 Jun 1793 Nicholas Walton to Robert Williamson

[Note: sender and recipient unclear but from context appear to have been from Walton to the lawyer Robert Hopper Williamson invited to consider bringing the case]

1793 June 12th

Case

The Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich Hospital are possessed of various Lead Mines lying within the Wastes of the Manor of Alston Moor of which Manor they are Lords and they are also possessed of various Lead Mines lying within many of the Inclosed Grounds which are held under Lease from the Hilton family for 1000 years. See Copy of one of the Leases left herewith [marked in margin as 'No.1']. The Lessees of Greenwich Hospital who work the Mines have till within a few years past taken the Lead Ore from the Mines both upon the Common and the Inclosed Grounds by means of Horses belonging to Ore Carriers who have certain Prices for carrying the Ore from the Mines to the Lead Mills, without any interruption and the Agents of Greenwich Hospital have by Carriers in like manner taken the Duty Ore without interruption till of late years. Some of the Lessees under the Hilton family are now become very troublesome to the Ore Carriers and when they observe any of their Horses Grazing near the Mines tho' upon the Common they attempt to impound them but have hitherto been prevented by the Ore Carriers resisting their attempts and forcibly keeping their Horses for the purpose of carrying away the Lead Ore. No such attempts have been made till within these two or three years last past. On the <8th> May last (ie. ult) one Isaac White a Tenant of a Person who is intitled to a Tenement under the Hilton family on Lease for 1000 years on similar conditions to those contained in the Lease of which a Copy is left herewith severely hounded some Horses belonging to a Carrier employed by the Lords of the Manor and by doing so lamed one and injured the rest but did not attempt to impound any of them. See Acc[oun]t of this transaction left herewith [marked in margin as 'No.2'].

As the interruptions given to the Lessees and the Lords of the Manor are likely to prove very disadvantageous Mr Williamson is requested to consider this business very attentively and to advise what kind of conduct sh[oul]d be observed by the Lessees, and the Agents of Greenwich Hospital and their <respective> Ore Carriers upon the occasion and also to advise whether any and what Action or Actions it may be proper to commence against the Person or Persons who have given or may hereafter give interruptions to the Ore Carriers in taking the Ore and in particular to advise in what manner it may be proper to proceed against Isaac White on acc[oun]t of hounding the Horses on the 9 Ult. It is to be observed that no such interruptions as the above mentioned were ever experienced during the time the Radcliffe family possessed the Manor of Alston Moor that ever Mr Walton Senr heard of [added in margin: 'he is now 90'].

By the long Lease the Lessees Covenant that it shall be lawful for the Lessor his Heirs and Assigns to enter into any part of the demised Premises to dig and seek for take have and convert to his and their own Profit Benefit and Use all the Mines and Ore

of Lead that shall happen to be found in or upon the Premises and to have free egress and regress with convenient way and leave for the carriage and taking away of the said Pre making recompense to Lessee his Ex[ecu]tors and Assigns as set forth in s[ai]d Leases.

In some instances Smiths Shops have been erected within the Inclosed Grounds held under such Leases. Mr Williamson is desired (as Smiths Shops are necessary for Sharping the Tools made use of in cutting Levels sinking Shafts and working the Ore) to advise whether the Lessees of the Lead Mines under G Hospital can justify the making such erecting on the Grounds so held as being necessary appurtenances to the Lead Mines tho not specifically set forth in the long Leases.

14 Jun 1793 Nicholas Walton to John Dickinson

Farnacres 14th June 1793

Mr Dickinson

I duly rec[eive]d yours of the 8th Inst and have the several necessary Papers and information about the Ore Carriers being obstructed now before <Currick>. It is certainly necessary for the Ore Carriers to be carefull and not to give any offence or have any quarrels with the Owners of the Tenements or their Lessees, and you and John Friend must endeavour to have them to conduct themselves as discreetly as possible as to that.

Last Monday I heard that Blagill Cross Vein had been cut 3ft 4 in wide good Bouse work. I desire youll let me know how that is. I am Y[ou]r h[um]ble serv[an]t

Nich Walton Junr

16 Jun 1793 Nicholas Walton to Nicholas Ruddock

[Note: Last part of the letter is missing but it is assumed to be from Walton as usual]

Mr Nich[ola]s Ruddock

Farnacres 16 June 1793

Dear Sir

I have read your Letter very attentively and as Mr Beaumont did not favor us with an answer to ours respecting the riding of the Boundary of Hexhamshire and Allendale Common I sh[oul]d think that it w[oul]d be the most proper way to have a Personal interview with him upon the subject. I therefore desire you will think of some proper Persons of the Proprietors who it may be right to have to accompany you and I will certainly go along with you and them to Tinmouth or if you think you and I going together will do I shall be ready to attend you but Mr Beaumont sh[oul]d have some previous intimation and if you will name two or three days I will endeavour to get a

time of meeting to suit some one of the Days and be glad to see you here the Day before in order that we may make up our minds as to

18 Jun 1793 Nicholas Walton to John Dickinson

Mr John Dickinson

Farnacres 18th June 1793

I have rec[eive]d your Letter of the 15th Inst w[i]th five Proposals and two acc[oun]ts of the quantity of Ore raised last year. I return one of the Proposals to be Witnessed by you and if you did not see the Persons sign I desire you will get them to acknowledge that the signatures of the Proposal are their own and then Witness and return it. The Name as it stood in the Proposal was Rodderupe Cleugh; it sh[oul]d have been Rodderup Cleugh and I have so altered it. The Acc[oun]ts of ore raised last year are now duplicates of each other. Yours was right. I am glad you give so good an Acc[oun]t ab[ou]t Blagill x Vein and Crag Green Middle Vein.

Mr Addison writes me that he is to be at Alston Thursday Evening to meet Mr Bird about settling the damages at Natrass. Mr Addison writes as follows 'Before I left Alston I particularly requested that if White took any of the Galloways not to molest or prevent him but to send over to me and that I would enter into a Bond to the Sheriff and send over a warrant to Replevy them.' This advice of Mr Addisons has been neglected as appears from the conduct of the Carriers who rescued the Galloways taken by White and Yeats. I desire you will follow Mr Addisons directions in future and you must request him to give you instructions in writing how you are to act and I beg youll take care to make the Carriers sensible how they ought to behave and if they act properly the Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich Hospital will certainly defend them but if they by their imprudence bring on difficulties they must defend themselves

I desire you will let Mr A Dixon see this letter. I am

Your h[um]ble Serv[an]t

Nich Walton Junr

20 Jun 1793 Nicholas Walton to Nicholas Ruddock

Farnacres 20th June 1793

Dear Sir

I wrote to you yesterday in great hurry, as I co[ul]d barely have time to save the Post. As we are to wait upon Mr Beaumont, I sh[oul]d be glad you w[oul]d inform yourself, whether we are to be at liberty to make any, and what, use of such information as Mr Bell has been so obliging as give, respecting the riding of the Boundaries of Hexhamshire and Allendale Common. We certainly ought to be very delicate, in any, & every, thing which may have come from him in confidence, and I am

therefore desirous of being informed, how we ought to conduct ourselves as to that, for tho' I am very anxious to bring the matter home to Mr Beaumont, I w[oul]d not say anything w[hi]ch in its consequence might involve Mr Bell in a difficulty w[i]th him. It is necessary we sh[oul]d have a full consideration upon the business, and I beg you will Dine with me tomorrow* and afterwards take a Bed at Farnaces.

I am Dear Sir Your obliged h[um]ble Serv[an]t
Nich Walton Junr

PS I attended a meeting of the Lobley hill Road on Monday last at w[hi]ch we <rescinded> the order of appointment of Surveyors at £25 p[er]ano each and reappointed them <Fenwick> at £40 & <Ska.... > at £30 They cannot do without each a horse!

Mr N Ruddock

* Dinner at ½ past Two.

28 Jun 1793 Nicholas Walton to John Dickinson

Mr Dickinson

Farnaces 28th June 1793

Yours of the 22nd I rec[eive]d on Monday last and am glad the damage at Nattrass we got settled but sh[oul]d have been also glad to know how much they were settled at for each Company and what is proposed to be paid for the Ground which has been destroyed and the quantity of Ground destroyed and how much it might be worth <pr Ann pr Acre> to be let to a Tenant before it was damaged. The matter as to the Cattle has just proved as I expected. The sooner the Quarters Acc[oun]ts are got made out the better. The Proposal for Rodderup Cleugh is re[ceive]d and the whole of the Proposals lately signed have been sent to Greenwich Hospital. If you sh[oul]d want any thing particular next Week you may write to me at Langley Mill. I shall be there from Friday Night the 5th till Tuesday at Dinner the 9th of next Month and at Haydon Bridge the three following days. Deliver the inclosed to Mr Hunter immediately. I am

Your h[um]ble Serv[an]t
Nich Walton Junr

PS I send you an Alston Moor Rent Account

The Ore Carriers must not allow their Galloways to Graze in Alston moor and they sh[oul]d have them muzzled. I think it will be right for you to meet me at Langley Mill on the 5th of July and desire you will be there ab[ou]t 5 o Clock in the Afternoon & then you may if there is occasion set forward homeward early the next morning.

19 Jul 1793 Nicholas Walton to John Dickinson

Farnacres 19th July 1793

Mr Dickinson

We have rec[eiv]ed yours of the 29th Ulto and the 10th and 13th Inst and hope every thing goes on well with the Lead Ore Carriage without obstruction.

You may give leave to Thos Martindale and James Stephenson to make some trial of Fairhill Flow Edge Vein on usual conditions.

If Matt[he]w Blacklocks application had been to try for or have a Lease of Nentsberry Pasture Cross Vein, the Boundary ought to have extended Southward from the South side Boundary of Nentsberry Hagg's Vein; but as you express it, no Man can understand it, for you say, that, it is to be between the South Boundary of Nentsberry Hagg's Vein and Nent River, which it is clear to me does not express any Boundary at all.

We are sorry that Nent Force Level still continues to be so high; it is however hoped that you will soon cut a Valuable Vein to make up for all Expences and Inconveniences.

We are so much engaged concerning the Divisions of the Commons, the Boundaries of which have been lately ridden, that we have not had time to consider of any thing further about the Road from Burtry ford to Alston etc, and the Hexhamshire and Allendale Division will occasion a further Delay as to that. The whole, however, shall be attended to, and Mr Walton, who will be at Alston some time early in the first whole week in August, will give you some further intimation respecting this Business.

You may give Liberty to Wm Pearson & George Philipson to make some Trial of a Vein North of Farnbery North Vein upon usual Terms.

The Mill Wright shall be seen concerning the Millstone Dust Hoop etc for Alston Mill. The Iron for <Tampers> is ordered. We are

y[ou]rs etc Walton & Turner

PS You will receive 600 Tickets for the Lead Ore Carriage some time this Week or next.

25 Jul 1793 Nicholas Walton to Henry Addison

Mr Henry Addison

Farnacres 25th July 1793

Sir

On the 10th of next Month a Meeting is intended at Lowbyer to take into consideration the making of the Roads Turnpike from Burtryford to Alston, from Alston to Mere Burn, and from Alston to Burnstones, by authority of Parliament and to enter into a Subscription for carrying the above Propositions into effect we are desirous to have you to attend at Lowbyer as it is probable you will be requested to take care as

to the application to Parliament in case the business or any part of it sh[oul]d go forward. Mr Allgood Hunter will be proposed as Clerk and has our good wishes.

We are rather surprised never to have heard from you since the Damages were settled at Natrass. We are

Sir Your very h[um]ble serv[an]t
Walton & Turner

PS You will see an Advertisement in the Newcastle Papers desiring a meeting as above.

29 Jul 1793 Nicholas Walton to John Dickinson

[Note: recipient unclear but appears from context to be John, the Hospitals' mines agent at Lowbyer]

Mr Dickinson

Farnacres 29th July 1793

I have rec[eive]d your Letter of the 27th and will bring you £20 when I come to Lowbyer. From what follows you will see it to be impossible for me to stay much in Alston Moor, in August.

Wednesday 7th Attend Mr Beaumonts beginning to Ride his Boundary and get to Lowbyer in the Evening

8 Attend Mr Beaumonts Bounder Riding from Kilhope Cross to Hardrigend Currock & Attend Mr Beaumonts Bounder Riding from the Cupola Bank to Nubbuck Hall Hill

9 Return to Lowbyer in the Evening

10 Meeting about the Roads & get to Langley Mill. I shall be glad to have some conversation with Mr Dodd and Mr Hodgson before the Meeting

There will only be Mr Hailes with me & how many will dine on the 10th I cannot say. I shall dine and expect you and John Friend will also dine. Thomas Hailes will also dine. You had but endeavour to find out who else will dine. I shall pay for you and John Friend and for Mr Hailes & myself but no more & the Company will of course treat Mr Hunter if we sh[oul]d approve of him as a proper person to be recommended a Clerk and I hope that will be done. Mr Addison will I flatter myself meet with the approbation of the subscribers as a proper person to be employed as <a visitor> & I have desired him to attend

I am y[ou]r h[um]ble serv[an]t
Nich Walton Junr

28 Aug 1793 Nicholas Walton to Tristram Everest

Mr Everest

Farnacres 28th Augt 1793

Dear Sir

I have rec[eive]d your favor of the 23d Inst and as upon inquiry I find that Sir William Middleton is expected in the Country in a little Time you had best send me the Bond and I will take care to get it executed and properly attested, and will after that is done return it to you. I am

Dear Sir Your most h[um]ble Serv[an]t

Nich Walton Junr

PS All the Hospitals Tenants in Hexhamshire (nothing having been said in the Act for dividing Hexhamshire and Allendale Common relative to settling additional Rents) have entered in to Agreements upon Stamps to leave that business to the Commissioners appointed to divide and allot that Common; and all the Tenants of the Hospital, interested in the Divisions of Grindon and Langley South Commons [struck out: ' and Thorngrifton Common'] except for four Farms have signed requests pursuant to the powers contained in the Acts for those divisions, and the Tenants for the 4 farms will I expect sign requests at the second meeting of the Commissioners. The whole number of requests and agreements signed amounts to 49.

28 Sep 1793 Nicholas Walton to Nicholas Ruddock

Mr Walton junr desires Mr Ruddock will be so obliging as take into consideration whether it may not be necessary to make some objections to certain Claims which have been made respecting the Hexhamshire and Allendale Division and whether it w[oul]d not be proper to have the Gentlemen whose names were set down as Persons fit to be a Committee to give their attendance on Monday; and indeed as many of the Proprietors as can make it convenient ought to give their attendance at the Meeting the 30th Inst and also at the third meeting. Mr Ruddock will be so good as give directions to have a Copy made for Mr Walton of the request to the Lord & Lady of the Manor relative to being exempted from the payment of Tithes.

Farnacres 28 Septem[be]r 1793

Mr Walton will he expects be at Hexham on Monday about Ten o Clock & Mr Peters Junr will come with him.

4 Oct 1793 Nicholas Walton

Farnacres 4 Octr 1793

Dear Sir

I have rec[eive]d your letter & card of this day and agree with you that it will be right to date the Notices on the Days & <affixing> them on the Sessions Houses. The Estimate for making the Road need not be made by a Surveyor of the Road. The order says 'there shall be annexed to the Petition an Estimate of the proposed Expence of the Undertaking, signed by the Person or Persons making the same' and I think you – being the Person or Persons who make the Estimate, sign it, will be sufficient. I think your best way will be to hire a Chaise by the Day and which you may do at 10s/6d for each day out and I recommend your Journey to be As follows.

	Miles
Saturday 5th Set out and get to Langley Mill	28
Sunday 6 Get to Penrith	33
Monday 7 Return to Alston or Langley	20
If to Langley Mill	13
Tuesday 8 Return home	28
	122

It will be well to engage as light a Chaise as you can and A pair of true pulled Horses.

Wednesday 10 Go to Durham early in the Morning & return as soon as you can get the business done and go to Morpeth that Night Thursday go to Alnwick early in the Morning & get to Newcastle that Night. Friday get to Langley Mill in the Evening Saturday 12 get to Alston Lowbyer against Ten o Clock in the Morning & return with us to Langley Mill that Afternoon. I am

Dear Sir Sincerely

Nich Walton Junr

PS I shall send Mr Farrer w[i]th a Letter for Mr Wallace and I will write to John Dickinson to be in the way when you get to Alston on Sunday & John <Friend> to show you the Road to Alston

7 Oct 1793 Nicholas Walton to Nicholas Ruddock

Mr Ruddock

Farnacres 7th Oct[obe]r 1793

Dear Sir

I have rece[ive]d your letter of yesterday inclosing the Application to the owners of the Tithes in Hexhamshire which I shall send to Mr Caton this Morning. The Allendale

Proprietors are certainly infatuated & I have some fears that several in Hexhamshire are no better.

I see with concern that there is great Prospect of Experience of Litigation relative to some of the Claims that have been made for the Hexhamshire & Allendale Division. It will be impossible for me to give any particular Attention to them till the week beginning with the 11th Novem[be]r. & it is therefore my wish that there should be a Special Meeting of the Committees at Hexham for Hexhamshire and Allendale to begin on the 11th of Novem[be]r at Ten o'Clock in the morning and to continue the succeeding days till the whole of the Claims are fully considered. Your Assistance upon the occasion will I am certain be very useful & I doubt not you will think it proper between this time & the 11th of Novem[be]r to consult with the Committees preparatory to the Special Meeting. The matter as to Incroachments is of great magnitude in this Business & I am glad to hear that it is the intention of the Commissioners to have a thorough Examination of them upon the Ground. At the Special Meeting it will be absolutely necessary to have Mr Fryer to attend with the Plans not only of the Inclosed Lands but of the Common as without them it will be impossible to form a proper Judgement relative to the Claims. As soon as I get Mr Catons signature or Answer I will return you the Application concerning the Tithes in Hexhamshire. I am

Dear Sir Your obliged h[um]ble serv[an]t
Nich Walton Junr

6 Jan 1794 Nicholas Walton to Nicholas Ruddock

Mr Ruddock

Farnacres 6 Janry 1794

Dear Sir,

As most of the Claims which were objected to at the Hexhamshire and Allendale third Meeting have been persisted in, if not the whole, it sh[oul]d be considered what ought to be done and as you will I presume be at the Sessions at Newcastle I desire you will be so good as make Farnacres your sleeping place before you go to Newcastle. I think Mr Heron sh[oul]d be told what has been done as to retaining Council. I am

Dear Sir Your very h[um]ble Serv[an]t
Nich Walton Junr

8 Jan 1794 Nicholas Walton to Nicholas Ruddock

Mr Ruddock

Farnacres 8 Janu[ar]y 1794

Dear Sir

I am very glad you have intimated to Mr Heron the having retained Council. It was early enough. Mr Heron cannot be seriously offended by our doing what we thought the best thing that co[ul]d be done and in which I am satisfied we did what was proper. He will I suppose of course have the conduct of such of the Suits as do not relate to the Lord & Lady of the Manors Claim as to Westburnhope. That however sh[oul]d be well considered and I wish most heartily that no such Claim had ever been made. I shall expect to see you in good Time either on Tuesday or Wednesday. You say it will be most likely on Wednesday and as that is not your market day cannot you take Potluck here at Two o Clock. I am

Dear Sir Your very h[um]ble serv[an]t
Nich Walton Junr

8 Feb 1794 Nicholas Walton

[Note: The recipient is not named and the last part cropped so not clear who the letter has come from – assumed to be Nicholas Walton Junr. Sketch map attached]

My Lord

Farnacres 8th February 1794

An application being intended to be made to Parliament this Session for the obtaining of an Act for making a Turnpike Road from Burtry Ford in the County of Durham to Alston in the County of Cumberland and from Alston by the Dyke to Burnstones in the County of Northumberland I beg leave to name this to your Lordship tho' I have no doubt you will recollect that Notice of the proposed application was given at the Sessions holden at Penrith in October last and that you enquired of Mr Peters in what situations the Toll Gates were to be erected. He could not give your Lordship any information, indeed no determination had been made, and Mr Peters, tho' now appointed to solicit the Bill, was at the time of your Lordships seeing him, merely employed to give the Notices required by the House of Commons, instead of Mr Addison of Penrith, who died upon the 27th of September.

I have the honor now to intimate to your Lordship that a Meeting of the Subscribers and other Persons interested in the intended Road was held at Hexham on Wednesday last at which the Bill was read and approved and a Petition to Parliament signed and it was agreed to leave the fixing of the situations of the Toll Gates to the discretion of a Meeting of any Five or more of the Trustees under the Act except in one



17 Feb 1794 Nicholas Walton to Nicholas Ruddock

Mr Nich[ola]s Ruddock

Farnacres 17th Feby 1794

Sir

With the utmost satisfaction I have signed and return you the inclosed respecting Westburnhope and am gratified by having an expectation of the Greenridge and Ardley Claims being given up, but to which I must beg your and Mr Bells attention in order that every thing may be done regularly, so as to be carried properly before the Commissioners. As to the other Claims of Lord Crewes Trustees and Mr Clavering I really trust, that as now we may reasonably expect to have both the Lord and the Lady on our side, nothing can hurt us. I am with best wishes to you and yours

Sir Your obliged h[um]ble Serv[an]t

Nich Walton Junr

PS I say nothing about y[ou]r business you last mentioned except that it is clear it must drop.

How I shall be engaged when I come to sell the Wood I cannot say I however must own that I incline to accept your obliging Invitation.

25 Feb 1794 Nicholas Walton to John Erasmus Blackett

Farnacres 25th Febr[uar]y 1794

Dear Sir

Being called upon to Pay the Sum of £600 & Interest on acc[oun]t of the Money advanced for obtaining the Act for Hexhamshire & Allendale Division by the Tyne Bank on the Note of Mr John Bell Mr Nicholas Ruddock myself and others I am desirous to know when the Pays of Mr Beaumont are to be as immediately afterwards the Commiss[ione]rs for the above division intend to make a Rate for discharge of that Note and towards payment of a Variety of other things. I therefore propose to write to the Tyne Bank immediately after I hear from you and desire some further time. I propose sending for an answer this afternoon and am Dear Sir

Yours sincerely

Nich Walton Junr

PS Hope you rec[eive]d mine relative to the prices of Silver
J E Blackett Esqr [added in pencil]

25 Feb 1794 Nicholas Walton to John Bell

Newcastle 24th Feb[ruar]y 1794

Nich[ola]s Walton Junr Esqr & Co

We hold your Note on demand for £600 on acc[oun]t Allendale Common dated 13 March 1792 as we are now calling in all our Securities, we must request that you will discharge it on or before the 12th March next. We are respectfully

Y[ou]rs

Baker Hedley & Co

Messrs Bell & Ruddock

Farnacres 25th Feb[rua]ry 1794

Gent[leme]n

Having rec[eive]d a Letter from Baker Hedley & Co demanding Payment of the £600 borrowed on Note for the purpose of obtaining an Act for the Division of

Hexhamshire and Allendale Common I think it necessary to send you a Copy as above. I intend first calling upon Mr Heron and afterwards calling upon the Gent[leme]n who certainly must be p[ai]d the Money and with Int[erest]. I think the Commissioners appointed to Divide Allot etc the above Common should with all convenient speed make a rate so as to be ready to collect such a Sum as shall be sufficient to discharge the Note above referred to and Int[erest] and to pay the Commissioners and Surveyors on Acc[oun]t of proceedings and especial care sh[oul]d be taken that in laying on the rate no Person to whose right of Common in toto is included. I must beg the favor of you Gent[leme]n to attend to this and desire you will request a Meeting of the Commissioners for the Division and get every thing put in a way of being properly adjusted respecting this business. I propose endeavouring to get til Midsummer for Payment of the Money due on the Note or the 12th of June as that would give time for collection of the Money and if it c[oul]d be paid sooner it w[oul]d be very well but as I understand Mr Beaumonts Pays are not to be till about the Middle of May no money can be had from the generality of the Proprietors before that time. But suppose the Gent[lemen] of the Bank will not be satisfied to wait till the middle or towards the latter end of June & insist upon their Money on the 12th of March what is to be done as to raising it. The power given to us to borrow will I apprehend cease on Payment of the £600 & Int[erest] so that I doubt we must raise the Money upon our own Security. I beg to be informed what you think as to this & desire to hear from you the very first opportunity. I am Gent[leme]n

Your very h[um]ble Serv[an]t
Nich Walton Junr

PS If we sh[oul]d borrow Money on our own Security who is to make that and the Interest good.

26 Feb 1794 Nicholas Walton to John Bell

Messrs Bell & Ruddock

Farnacres 26th Feby 1794

Gent[leme]n

I have been w[i]th Mr Heron who recommended Our note being carried over to Acc[oun]t of the new Tyne Bank. I afterw[ar]ds waited upon Mr Ormston and after conversing with him some time I found that the new Bank w[oul]d not take our Note because they had determined not to accept of Notes payble on demand. The matter being thus circumstanced & I having no wish to press the new Bank to take the Note, the only thing asked for by me was being allowed till Midsummer for payment of the Note & Interest to the old Bank & I think from what Mr Ormston said it is probable that will be agreed to. I have therefore no doubt you will take care to put the Commissioners for the Division etc of Hexhamshire and Allendale Common upon <d[elivery] o[f]> the needful to obtain Money, in Time, in the first instance to enable

them to discharge the Note for £600 with all Interest which shall be due at the Time of taking it up and to deliver the Note to us, and in the next to pay tow[ar]d expences of the Surveying etc. I am in haste

Gent[leme]n Your very h[um]ble Serv[an]t

Nich Walton Junr

4 Mar 1794 Nicholas Walton to Nicholas Ruddock

Mr Ruddock

Farnacres 4th March 1794

Dear Sir

I have been favoured with both your Letters and am particularly obliged by your last.

Not having it in my power to wait upon Mr Heron I wrote to him to the following effect yesterday and had a verbal message that he entirely concurred with my sentiments.

Copy

I have rec[eiv]ed from Mr Ruddock a Copy of a Letter from Joseph Watson, to him, relative to a very extraordinary application in my opinion, from William Armstrong of Staward, on behalf of Mr Chas Clavering, at the instance of his (Wm Armstrongs) Son. I am decidedly of opinion that it would not be proper to do any such thing, as hath been proposed on the part of Mr Clavering nor can I think that we can now do otherwise than await the decision of a Court of Law, or otherwise for the satisfaction of Mr Claverings giving up. As to making any comments upon the proposition, I think it far the best, to let that alone and shall be happy in finding that your sentiments and mine agreed.

I have had a card from Baker Hedley & Co desiring that I will wait upon Sir Wm Loraine & Co relative to the £600 Note and intend calling at the Tyne Bank on Thursday, and I have seen Mr Fryer and pressed him to get a Rate made out as soon as possible and for that purpose to have a Meeting with his Brother Commissioners and Mr Bell & you. I am w[i]th Comp[limen]ts to Mr Bell

Dear Sir Your very h[um]ble Serv[an]t

Nich Walton Junr

PS If Actions, in consequence of persisting are not already commenced, there will be no occasion for examination of Witnesses about Boundaries for the Hexhamshire and Allendale Divisions, but the less we say ab[ou]t that, the better. – Verbum sapienti sat. There are however many instances in which I find this is not to be applied to effect, and some very recent.

4 Mar 1794 Nicholas Walton

[Note: This appears to be the second half of a letter to an unknown recipient but since a date of 'h 1794' is visible on part of the previous page, and the following letter is dated 4th March 1794 so that date has also been used here]

Being very desirous to know whether Mr Clavering and Lord Crewes Trustees or either of them have commenced any Action or Actions in the Court of Kings Bench and when I beg you will as soon as you can with convenience make the necessary enquiry and that youll let me know as soon afterwards as possible. We had a very extraordinary Proposition made on the part of Mr Clavering. After declaring the vast unwillingness to put the Proprietors to any expence on acc[oun]t of Riddlehamhope & Hallywell Common w[hic]h he has claimed exclusively to himself – it was proposed that we should gather our Witnesses together and that they sh[oul]d be examined by his Agent and if he found he had no right he w[oul]d give up his Claim. I objected to this as a very unhandsome thing and merely calculated to find out in what parts we were vulnerable if any such there sh[oul]d be and in my mind the consenting to the offer of Mr Clavering w[oul]d have been wrong and unjust in the extreme to the Proprietors at large and the allowing of such an examination seemed more likely to occasion Mr Clavering to persist than give up. I wrote immediately to Mr Heron who joined me most heartily & I have some expectation that Mr Clavering will give up if he has not already done so, but as to Lord Crewes Trustees I doubt we must have a contest at Law, with them.

I am glad you have got our Quietus which I doubt not your care of.

Yesterday I was in Newcastle and had the pleasure to see your Father and Miss Peters in good spirits and very well.

We are all well at this place and yesterdays Post brought me a letter from my Son Jonathan who is also in good health.

We all join in best wishes to you & I am

Dear Sir Yours Sincerely

Nich Walton Junr

PS When you see L[or]d Auckland, Sir Wm Middleton Mr Burdin, Mr Milbanke & Mr Brandling I desire you will present my respectfull Compliments. Thorngrafton Common Field Division is completed and all marked out