

19 Nov 1791 Nicholas Walton to Nicholas Ruddock

[Note: An office copy of this letter is filed amongst the GH papers now in TNA ADM 66/123, but that copy omits the postscript given here]

Mr Nicholas Ruddock
Atty at Law Hexham
Mr Nicholas Ruddock

Farnacres 19th Novemr [1]791

Dear Sir

I have recd your favor inclosing Copies of Messrs Bates and Fryer's Letter in answer to yours to them and of Mr Richardson's Letter relative to the Division of the Hexhamshire and Allendale Commons. I do not think the Letter of the former <cod> be expected to obtain contain more or even so much as they have said but it shews evidently their Wish to do what is proper upon the occasion With regard to the Letter tho I assure you I respect Mr Richardson yet I cannot but say that under the Circumstances of his age and Inability to perform the expected Duties (as he himself has in my Opinion fully sett forth in his Letters) for such an extensive Busyness and in such an exposed Country I think he is a very unfit Person to be a Commissioner and shod think myself wanting in Attention to every one concerned if I did not express myself as I now do

I am not yet authorized to say that Sir John Turner and I can take upon us to agree with Sir Thomas Blackett's agents in having the Boundary between Langley Barony and the Regality of Hexham Sett out but hope we may soon receive Directions for that purpose and as soon as any thing further occurs as to that you will hear from us but we have never yett had a formal Intimation that Sir Thomas Blackett would agree to the disputed Ground being equally divided from the East Allen to the Fences of Nubbuck joining the Hall-Hill and without that can be done and till we find that the Commissrs of Greenwich Hospital are agreeable to having the Boundary settled in that way we cannot stir in the Busyness. From what you have mentioned to me I cannot think otherwise than that Sir Thomas Blackett is agreeable to have the Boundery Line settled as above as I am satisfied Mr Bell wd not be consenting to that if it were otherwise but still the Matter must come more clearly to us than it has yet done & at all Events the Boundery Line if ever agreed upon between the Hospl and Sir Thomas Blackett must be unalterably fixed by a Clause in the Act for the intended Division which will not cost any thing extraordinary I am Dear Sir Your most hble Servt
Nich Walton Junr

P.S. I am not a little surprised you shod not sooner let me know the Results of the Meeting at Newcastle

25 Nov 1791 Nicholas Walton to Nicholas Ruddock

[Note: An office copy of this letter is filed amongst the GH papers now in TNA ADM 66/123, but that copy omits the second sentence of the postscript given here.]

Mr Nicholas Ruddock
Attorney at Law Hexham

Farnacres 25th Novemr 1791

Mr Nicholas Ruddock

Dear Sir

I have the Pleasure to inform you that the Commissrs and Governors of Greenwich Hospital at a Genl Court held the 17th Inst resolved to join in the intended Application to Parliament for an Act to divide the Allendale and Hexhamshire Commons provided the Terms upon which such Division may be proposed to be carried into Execution shall be found to be for the Interests of the Hospital. I take the first opportunity of communicating the above and am

Dear Sir Your most hble Servt
Nich Walton Junr

P.S. In Consequence of this Resolution you will see that we are now enabled to receive such Propositions as may be made us. There is an Error in my Letter to you of the 19th inst wch I did not perceive till this day after Hall-Hill read 'and without that can be done and till we find that the Commissioners etc

26 Nov 1791 John Fryer to Nicholas Ruddock

Mr Ruddock
Attorney at Law Hexham

Newcastle 26th Novr 1791

Sir

I have just had the Pleasure of seeing Mr Walton who informs me that he has received a Letter from the Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich Hospital and I think it likely he would meet the agents of Sr Thomas Blackett Bart upon the Ground to set out the Boundary between the Regality of Hexham and the Barony of Langley as claimed by the two adjoining Lords if he had any intimation from Sir Thomas or any of his agents that this seems a Thing wished by Sir Thomas <preparative> to drawing a line of Boundary between the two Claims by two different Persons one to be chosen by Sir Thomas Blackett's agent and the other by the Receivers of Greenwich Hospital and the two persons to be agreed upon to attend at the Time of Setting out the respective Claims and after this the two indifferent Persons to mark out a Line of a Boundary so as to give an equal Quantity of the disputed Ground to each Lord and the New Line of

Boundary to be confirmed by by the Act of Parliament. The Expence of Setting the Boundary I suppose will be expected to be paid one half by Sir Thomas Blackett and the other by Greenwich Hospital

I believe Greenwich Hospital will have no Objection to the above mentioned Terms but as Sir Thomas Blackett is Lord of the Waste Ground now intended to be divided the proposition should in my opinion come from Some of Sir Thomas's Agents

I am Sir Your most hble Servt John Fryer

1 Dec 1791 Nicholas Ruddock to John Bell

[Note: undated but assumed to have been sent on 1st if received on 2nd]

Dear Sir

I send you the Inclosed for your Perusal, and after having considered the Contents very deliberately, am clearly of Opinion that there is not any thing required on the part of Greenwich Hospital that can give Offence to Sir Thos Blackett or his Agents, in that if granted would amount to a Condescension. All that Mr Walton wants, according to his Letter of 19th Ultima, is a direct Intimation from Authority (i.e. from yourself, not thro' me etc) that Sir Thos Blackett will consent to agree to the disputed Ground therein described being divided, in order to enable Messrs Walton and Turner to put the Question of Consent to the Comns of Greenwich Hospital on their part. I hope you will not refuse to write to Sir Thomas on the Subject & I am Dear Sir

Your very obedient Servt Nich Ruddock

[In Bell's hand:] Note this Letter came to J Bell the 2nd Decemr 1791

2 Dec 1791 John Bell to Nicholas Ruddock

[Note: draft reply from Bell as written on reverse of letter from Ruddock dated to 1st Dec 1791, and assumed her to have been written on the date received by Bell]

Mr Nics Ruddock Hexham

Hexham Abbey 4th Decemr 1791

I have read over both Mr Walton's Letters and that of Mr Fryer of as carefully and attentively as I can and assure Mr Ruddock that it is not [struck out: through any apprehension the fear] through Fear of condescending to Mr Walton nor is it that I crave Sir Thomas Blacketts Intimation of being willing to divide the Ground in Dispute with the Greenwich Hospital to come through me only but it is the apprehension less Sir Thomas Blackett should meet with such another Insulte as he received from the

Hospital Agents in return for his Civility in the Matter of Langley Barony Corn Tithe the History of which I gave you and which I am willing to verify in the most Solemn manner when properly called upon and therefore till I have some Intimation under Mr Walton's own Hand that the Comms of G. Hospital are willing to divide the Disputed Ground equally upon Application by Sir Thos Blackett or some of his Agents for that purpose I will not trouble Sir Thomas upon the Subject to what End to have his application rejected and treated with Contempt. From an Expression in Mr Waltons Letter of the 19th of Novemr I wish you may not have said more on this Business as coming from me than I had any Authority for because all that I heard Sir Thomas say about the disputed Ground when Riding the Boundary was 'Had it not better be divided or halved' or Words to that Effect Mr Walton in his Letter of the 25th of Novr is not decisive he as to the Division of the Commons is still at Liberty for he only Says ' provided the Terms upon which the such Division may be proposed to be carried into Execution Shall be found for the Interests of the Hospital

9 Feb 1792 Ralph Heron to John Bell

Dear Sir

The House of Commons has appointed the 2d of March as the last Day for receiving petitions for private Bills, I shall be at Newcastle in the Course of next Week and will prepare and send you or William the petition to get signed, no specific Number of Names is required, nor proof of Signature, but we will take as many of the most respectable Common Righters as we can conveniently procure - when signed I shall forward it to Mr Grey or Sir Wm Middleton to present, when we have thus got possession of the House for that is the phrase we may proceed with our Bill at Leisure, but as the House will not sit longer than the beginning of May we must lose no time after my Return, - but prey are we sure Sir Thos Blackett approves of the Measure ? do not beg let us burn our Fingers, please to make my Compliments to Mr Ruddock and communicate this to him - I intend if possible to leave Town on Tuesday Night - Scott & Allgood is adjourned to the 1st Day of Causes next Term for want of the patron & Ordinary being parties to the Cross Bills

Yrs truly

Ralph Heron

London 9th Feby 1792

[On reverse:] Mr Bell - Town Clerk Hexham

[stamped:] NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

15 Feb 1792 William Armstrong

[Note: Request for Catton to be included with the Allendale Common Enclosures. Armstrong is given as the writer as having been the first to sign. Undated, but the

reference to proposals to include Catton fields within the enclosure in letters in late Feb 1792 suggest that this 'proclamation' can be date to around the middle to that month]

Proclamation to the owners of lands in the township of Catton parish of Allendale and County of Northumberland, known by the name of west town field, East town field, hall croft, half Acres and Catton Pasture

After a serious Consideration it is the Oppinion of us now consentable with the able'st advice that great advantages would arise to the propriators of the said fields to have them divided and put as a Clause in the act of parliament together with the Common lands in the district of hexham intended to commence the next session of parliament such clause in the said act would be procured at a small expence as every thing is put forward for the division of the Common so with the Rest of my friends we crave your Approbation in signing your Names to the Condescension below.

William Armstrong

Hugh Shield

Robt Hornsby

Nio Shield

Jacob Robinson

John Foster

Wm Pearson

John Shield [makes mark. All others sign]

17 Feb 1792 Ralph Heron to John Bell

Dear Sir

I arrived Yesterday in the Mail Coach, and as I made no Halt on the Road I was consequently up two Nights - you may believe that I am much fatigued - I have drawn the Petition and have sent it to Mr Wilson for his Approbation and you may depend upon having it in due time for the Meeting, I will lose no time in preparing the Consent Bill, but before it goes to Mr Wilson I must go through it with you and Mr Ruddock for which purpose I will either take a Ride to Hexham or be glad to see you about a fortnight hence or sooner for I hope the ensuing week will do much I shall start on Sunday having already laid all the documents before me.

It will be necessary to have a List of the Names of the several Persons having Right of Common with an Estimate of the Value of their Estates respively whereby it may appear that a sufficient propotion , to wit, 3/4ths sign the Consent Bill the 3/4ths is in value not Number. the Lord of the Manor for his Estates must be included in this List - reputed Value is sufficient

Mr Wm Bell must be thinking of getting ready for his Journey to prove the Notices etc - the Signing the Consent Bill will be a troublesome Business, every

proprietor ought to be applied to unless in Cases where the Value is small & the Residence remote, in which Case Letters must be wrote desiring their Approbation generally to a Division, - if William has not a Friend's house to stay at I will provide him with comfortable Lodgings, but if he has the former it will be an Advantage to him in many Ways, and as reasonable Expence must be allowed no Matter where he Lodges. the Allowance must be the same, - Mr Thomas must be called upon on our Way to London to get his Name to the Bill you will direct a Space to the left for his Name to the petition - and I will send a person over to Bretton to get it signed as soon as you return it to me - the Sessions of parliamt I fear will be so short, that we must set off the instant the Consent Bill is ready - in any plan adopted for raising Money - that is now immediately necessary

Yrs truly Ralph Heron
Friday 17th Feb 1792

20 Feb 1792 Ralph Heron to John Bell

Dear Sir

I fear there may be some Difficulty to get the Act passed in a single Act for the Division of two Commons, but as they are in the same Manor and as upon the Face of the Bill it will appear that the Right of Common is in throughout both I hope to surmount the Difficulty, but Catton Townfields is entirely unconnected with the other Division as much as if the Lands lay in a different Manor and by inserting powers to divide them there must be a Certainty of having to pay double Fees - nay if the general Bill should be deemed double the further Expence woud make it treble

I think you have sufficient Authority to sign Sir Thomas' Name to the Petition, but I woud simply put his Name and not refer to the Authority because if you do, the letter (I apprehend) which gives you the power must be annexed - it woud be well I think to write somewhat like Sir Thomas' hand, I do not mean for similer, because if a Member shoud look at the petition and be struck with the Dissimilarity it may call for Explanation etc

the Day you have mentioned, to wit, Friday Senight, will suit me and I will inform Mr Walton, he objects to the Mode of paying Damages and I fear we shall have some trouble to get him satisfied

As to the Authority to raise Money it must not be in the Way expressed in Mr Ruddocks Draft - an Agreement shoud be executed by the parties authorizing a Committee of respectable persons to raise the money, and then such Committee may borrow the Money at a Bank, and procure me a Letter of Credit upon a Banking house in London, by this Means Interest will be saved, as I shall only take what is wanted and when it is to be paid - Or the Committee may give me their joint & sevl Notes and I can take up the Money upon my Judgment and give a Rect to the Committee for so much on Accot. W Milbank & Mr Burdon have both volunteered their Services to assist us in getting thro' the House, but we must have the County Members to play the first Fiddle

- Sir Sir Wm Middletons State of Health makes me incline to desire Mr Grey to take the Lead - he attends constantly, and can draw a phalanx of Members - Mr Brandling will do any thing, and I have interest with several Other Members

I approve of advertising a Meeting to sign the Consent Bill but the place where must depend upon you, Allendale seems the most centreral, is there any place in the Shire that woud suit - we cannot yet fix the time, the Bill I mean the Drat must be first gone thro' for I doubt there will be many Riders to be added to meet the wishes of all parties

I will when I send up the petition desire Mr Grey to inform me as to the probable time of parliaments Sitting - that I may regulate Matters accordingly, it is to be wished that there may be Sufficient time to get the Bill begun & carried thro' after Easter Holidays - for if it must be carried up before there will be no Chance of finishing it before good Friday - and it will occasion a Heavy Addition of Expence to stay in Town during the Holidays doing nothing

Ralph Heron

Yrs truly

Newcastle 20 Feb 1792

24 Feb 1792 Ralph Heron to John Bell

Dear Sir

I wish the Petition had been permitted to remain as at first ingrossed in general terms, but that is now over,

You have favoured me with the Amount of Mr Straceys Bill to wit £302.19s.10d in Henshaw and Melkridge Business, which has induced me to look at Mr White in Acomb Divn which I find to be £229.16s.10d the Difference is £73.3s.- I paid all the Printers Bills etc, which I suppose in the former was discharged by the Commrs - but no Inference can be drawn in either Case as to the Expence of obtaining the present Act, nor can the payment to Mr Fawcett be any Guide, I think he deserved to be shabbily treated for becoming a Solicitor which he actually did,

Mr Walton has just left me, he fears the Catton Townfields will occasion Objections on the part of the Hospital, and indeed it appears to me a very improper Measure - do the proprietors of these Town fields mean that the Lord shoud have 1/16th of them for his Consent or is the Division of them to be solely amongst the proprietors. are they to be combined with the Commons as to the paymt for Damages in working Mines or how otherwise, if the Clauses respecting them are to be entirely unconnected and distinct from the other purposes of the Act, they will certainly be considered as a distinct Act, but it is only my Business to pursue the Intentions of the Parties, and I can alter the Drat to take in the extra Matter

Be so good as to send me a particular of the respective ecclesiastical Dues intended to be extinguished and in whom vested that I may set them forth, it must

either be compulsory or optional on both parties - and I think the former will be most salutary, but only say which way I am to make it

I presume there is no Alteration in the Mode of naming the third Comrs - I have made it so that Bates & Fryer are to name him, agreeable to what we thought the best place where we met

It will be impossible to have the consent Bill ready to be signed on the 8th - observe, we are to meet on the 2d to examine the rough Drat, no doubt many Amendments will be suggested and adopted - 2d and 3d will barely be sufficient for that purpose - then the fair Copy for Consent Bill must be made, but before that the Draft must be settled by Mr Wilson which cannot be expected to be done very hastily - Our Friend Ruddock shoud remember the old Adage no more haste than good Speed if he will come and help me I will thank him, I have not lost a Moment of time
Yrs Ralph Heron

Newcastle 24 Feb 1792

25 Feb 1792 Joseph Carr to John Bell

Sir

I will be much obliged to you for informing me, whether or not, any thing was mentioned in the Bill for the Division of our Common, relating to the Corn tithes, belonging the Curacy of Allendale. I have lost my own Mare lately, and have not yet got another, by wch means I was detained from attending at the Black Bull on Tuesday last.

I will be much obliged to you, besides payment, if you'l get me the Money due for the Corf Rods which were sent to the Corver last Summer if you think is time. I neither know the man's name, or place of abode; but your Woodman Robson, knows bothe. There was 63 Bunches, at 10d, I believe; but he can inform you exactly. Perhaps the money may be gotten by May. I am Sir Your very hble Srt

Joseph Carr

Allenheads Feby 25th 1792

[On reverse:]

Mr Bell/ Abbey/ Hexham

27 Feb 1792 Ralph Heron to John Bell

Dear Sir

I have made such Progress in the Division Bill, that I shall be ready for you on Friday, but I fear such Objections will be made to the including Catton Town fields that it must be given up, however so far as my Labour extended it is over. there should be a

Certainty before we meet as to the third Commer. I have made it agreeable to what we thought the best way , that is, the two to name a third, but it may be altered if I knew how - I have <minuted> nothing as to Mr Jos Carr - nor as to the Argumentation Land indeed the latter does not appear necessary for Reasons which I shall mention at Meeting - and we have no Authority as to the former, the Patron and Ordinary shou'd have been consulted, but even as to his own Mind and the Intentions of those others whom it concerns we have no Certainty - do you not think that Mr Bates and Mr Fryer shoud attend the Meeting? Mr Walton will - I sent the petn to Mr Grey - the Bill will be a confounded long one, I have finished 35 large folio Pages which in my hand is a great Deal - as the two Pastures are to be Stinted by different Classes of people - and not one general Stinting thro' all - the Line will be drawn as to Boundary and that Line will divide the Parishes, but will not an open <Meeting> lead to Quarrels & Houndings etc

Yrs Ralph Heron

Newcastle 27th Feb 1792

27 Feb 1792 Ralph Heron to John Bell

[Note: Undated but possibly of the same date as that of 27th Feb 1792, being a Monday on which he had written Bell a separate letter, and in which Messrs Bates and Fryer were also mentioned as commissioners]

Dr Sir

I have wrote one Letter to you this Morning and must trouble you with a Second to enquire who is to make the Survey and whether the payment for it is necessary to be invested in the Bill, I have a Copy of a paper signed by Mr Bates & Mr Fryer containing Propositions in which the Survey <JP> first plan is 2d per Acre - plans to annex to the Award 30 Gs - and then follows - Survey of the inclosed Lands if necessary for the purpose of valuing, 4d per Acre - this seems <loose> - the other part is £100 for Contingencies that certainly cannot be a part of the Bill their Undertaking will limit them - but what I am most at a Loss about is whether Messrs Bates & Fryer - or they & the third Comm[issione]r are to have the Benefit of surveying & planning - if not the third Man only get his £1-11s-6d a Day - and if he is not concerned in the Surveying perhaps he will not have the same Opportunities of Judging as to Value etc - and I think 2d per Acre for 60,000 Acres will be a monstrous Expence - should not this be considered - perhaps it may be sayed that surveying & planning the 15,000 Acres to be divided is all that is necessary, but is that their meaning, and must not the Stinted part be delineated in the plans - pray favour me with a Letter as soon as possible - I write this in the utmost hurry to have the post

Yrs R H

Monday

9 Jul 1792 Nicholas Walton to John Bell

[Note: An office copy of this letter is filed amongst the GH papers now in TNA ADM 66/123.]

Mr John Bell

Farnacres 9th July 1792

Dear Sir

Above you have Copies of the Accots settled with Mr Fryer Beside the Charge of £2.2.- for Plans; and I inclose you Sir Thomas Blacketts Accots for fixing Stakes in the Boundaries joining Alston Moor and Langley from which you will observe I shall want £7.2.4 of Sir Thomas & that may be settled when you give us the pleasure of your Company here & when you come I desire it may be in the Morning & we will take a ride thro' Ravensworth Woods etc

I am Sir Yr very hble Serv

Nich Walton Junr

Copy of Mr Fryers Accot for settling Bounder Line between the Regality or Manor of Hexham & the Barony or Manor of Langley

1792

| | | |
|-------|--|--------|
| Mar 7 | Attending Messrs Bell Walton and Bates and others upon the Ground which having been covered with Snow wch fell the Day before we found we could not proceed | £1 1 - |
| 8 | Returned home | £1 1 - |
| 27 | Went to Langley Mill | £1 1 - |
| 28 | Viewed the Boundaries as claimed by Mr Bell on the part of Sir Thomas Blackett and by Mr Walton on the part of the Commissioners & Govrs of Greenwich Hospital | £1 1 - |
| 29 | Making calculations previous to setting out the Bounder Line | £1 1 - |
| 30 | Setting out the Bounder Line upon the Ground & seeing the Bounder Ditch cut | £1 1 - |
| 31 | Returned home | £1 1 - |
| | Paid Mr Fryer 7th April 1792 | £7 7 - |

Copy of Mr Fryers Accot for settling Bounder Line between the Manors of Hexham Langley & Whitfield

| | | |
|-------|--|--------|
| Apr 4 | Went to Clarewood and called upon Mr Bates | £1 1 - |
| 5 | Attending Mr Charlton Agent for Whitfield Manor with Mr Bates and settling the Bounder lines Messrs Bell and Walton having set forth the Claims of Sir Thomas Blackett and the Commissioners and Governors of Greenwich Hospital | |

| | | |
|---|---|--------|
| | the 28th March | £1 1 - |
| 6 | Seeing the Bounder Ditch cut and returning home | £1 1 - |
| | Paid Mr Fryer 7th April 1792 | £3 3 - |

26 Sep 1793 James Hyde to John Bell

Dr Sir

I have left my Claim with Mr Milburn who will arrive on Monday next to deliver it at Hexham. But if by any unforeseen accident he shod Not be there in time I must request the favor of you to get another prepared for me by some one as may <Agree> to prevent my losing the benefit of my Common I am Dr Sir

Your very obligid hble Servt

<Elsmere> 26 Sept 93

J Hyde

7 Oct 1793 Joseph Carr to John Bell

Sir

I attended a meeting at Allendale town on friday which I supposed you had advertised. Not seeing you there, I inclose a paper containing the names of such people, as wish to commute the Corn tithe in the two Grieveships of Allendale town & Catton, belonging the perpetual Curacy of Allendale. Since both the Patron & Ordinary must be satisfied, as well as myself, I solely rest the proposal with you, to take the fate of such similar ones as may be offered to Mr Beaumont, on his own account.

If the tithe were mine own private property I would not allow its commutation, at the general average rate of the annuel receipt; because the land is not cultivated as it is capable, & what it probably will be. As the case is, I wish to be guided by the Lord of the Manor's conduct. You see Sir my few names, to the paper. The generality of the people seem averse to the one as well. My insurance is now due. I send 3s 6d for the next year, & will be obliged to you, for a receipt at your opportunity. If any thing be done in this affaure, it will be attended with some trouble. You can easily know whether the proprietors will be at the expence of laying the paper before the Ld of the Manor, Ordinary or not etc; before you put yourself to any inconveniece. I am Sir Your most obedt hble St

Joseph Carr

Allenheads Oct 7th 1793

To the Reverend Joseph Carr Curate of the perpetual Curacy of the Parish of Allendale in right of which he is intitled to the Corn Tithes in the Two Townships or Grieveships called Allendale Town Grieveship and Catton Grieveship.

We whose Names are hereunto subscribed Owners of Messuages Lands and Tenements in the said respective Grieveships of Allendale Town and Catton in respect of which we are severally and respectively entitled to a Right of Common upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land called Hexham Shire and Allendale Common, certain parts of which are now about to be divided and inclosed and the depasturing of the other Part Stinted, by Virtue and in persuance of an Act of parliament entitled 'An Act for dividing and inclosing certain parts of the Commons, Moors or Tracts of Waste Land called Hexham Shire and Allendale Common, and also certain Townfields within the Regality or Manor of Hexham, in the County of Northumberland and for Stinting the depasturing of the other parts of the said Commons Moors, or Waste Land ' being desirous that the Corn Tithes growing and arising upon our said respective Messuages Lands and Tenements And also what may hereafter arise and become due and payable upon and from our respective Allotments of the Parts of the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land to be divided and allotted in respect thereof should cease and be extinguished beg leave to propose to you to give you, and your Successors, such Proportion of the said Common Moors or Tracts of Waste Land so to be divided and allotted as shall be equivalent in Value to the said Tithes so due and payable or to become due and payable to you as aforesaid

Henry Newburn

Jas Ellis for Geo Cuthbertson

J.Allgood <Hun...>for

Messrs Jno & Wm <Biven>

Anthony Wright

Edward Robson

Nich Ruddock

Jno Hammerton

Robt Jobling

Caleb Dixon

George Waldie

Cutht Teasdale

1 Nov 1793 John Bell to William Bates

[Note: Undated, but assumed to be late 1793 based on the sequence an timing of events in the enclosure process. In John Bell's hands and the fair copy was presumably intended for the Commissioners, of whom Bates is normally named first]
Draft of the claim of Thomas Richd Beaumont and Diana his wife for their estate in Allendale

1 A Tenement called Lightshields in West Allendale consisting of One Dwelling house and Byer under the same and Four Closes in Meadow and Pasture in the Possion of Thomas Walton

2 Also one other Dwelling house there and a Byer under the same and two Closes of Meadow Ground in the Possion of Edward Nixon

3 A Tenement called Wolfcleugh in West Allendale consisting of a Dwelling house and a Byer and Stable under one Roof and three Closes or Inclosures of Meadow and Pasture over and beside the Encroachment in the Possion of Thos Crawhall and Thomas Whitfield

4 A Tenement called Keirsley Well Row in West Allendale consisting of Two Dwelling Houses and a Stable and Byer under One Roof with Hayloft above and Four Closes or Inclosures in Meadow and Pasture in the Possion of Wm Taylor NB There is An Encroachment here

5 Also one Dwellinghouse there and Byer under the same and Two Closes or Inclosures in Meadow and Pasture in the possession of Ann Newton Widow

NB There is A House and an Encroachment on Keirsley Well Row Green in the possession of Mrs Hetherington

6 A Dwelling house one Stable and Two Byers at Allenheads and Four Fields in Meadow One Pasture being the North Part of that Tract of Land called Fallside in Possession of Westgarth

7 The south Part of Fallside let in Stints to sundry People

8 A Dwelling house One Brewhouse one Stable and Byre at Allenheads and Three Closes or Inclosures in Meadow in the Possion of Alexander Nicholson

9 A Dwelling house and Cottage house one Stable and Byer at Allenheads and Three Closes or Inclosures in Meadow in the Possession of Westgarth Forster Junr

10 A Dwelling house and Byer and Stable there under one Roof and One Close in Meadow in Possion of Joseph Archer

11 A Dwelling house Stalls and Byer there under One Roof and Two Closes in Meadow in Possion of Ann Nixon

33 One Cottage in Possion of Matt Ridley

34 One other Cottage in Possion of Thomas Routledge

12 A Dwelling house and Byer there and One Close or Inclosure in Meadow in Possion of Thos Philipson

13 A Dwelling house and Byer there and One Close or Inclosure in a Meadow in the Possion of Mary Hunter Widow

- 14 A Dwelling house a Byer and Garth there and One Close or Inclosure in Meadow in the Possion of John Lee Junr
- 15 A Dwelling house and Byer there and One Close or Inclosure in Meadow in the Possion of John Lee Junr
- 16 A Dwelling house and Byer and One Close or Inclosure in Meadow exclusive of a Part of the Park in the Possion of John Shield
- 17 A Dwelling house a Byer and Stable and Three Closes or Inclosures in Meadow in the Possion of John Bownas
- 24 one Cottage in Possion of Wm Pactson
- 25 one other cottage and Garth in Possion of <..isay> Ellis
- 26 One other cottage in Possession of John Nicholson
- 27 One other cottage in Possion of Jane Clinkscales
- 28 One other cottage in Possion of Ann Pastle
- 29 One other cottage and a Garth in Possion of Jane Dickinson
- 30 One other cottage and a Garth in Possion of Jas Percival
- 31 One other cottage and a Garth in Possion of Ann Sparkes
- 32 One other cottage in Possion of Alexander Nicholson
- 18 A Dwelling house and a Byer and Stable under one Roof at Allenheads and Two Closes or Inclosures in Meadow in Possion of Mary Fuller
- 19 A Dwelling house and a Byer there and One Close or Inclosure in Meadow in Possion of Thos Ridley
- 20 A Dwelling house and Byer there and two Closes or Inclosures in Meadow in Possion of John Moor
- 35 One Cottage in Possion of John Frost

- 21 A Dwelling house Byer and Two Closes or Inclosures there in Meadow in Possion of Matt Bright Sen
- 22 A Dwellinghouse and Byer there and Two Closes or Inclosures in Meadow in Possion of Ann Dodd
- 36 A Cottage in Possion of Matt Bright Jun
- 74 A Dwelling house and Byer called <Fellside house in the> Allenhead and One Close or Inclosure in Meadow in Possion of John Williamson being held by Copy of Court Roll and vested in Jno Bell as <Trustee > for the Lord of the Manor
- 28 A Dwelling house Byer and Stable there and a Garth and also Two Closes or Inclosures in Meadow in Possion of the Revd Joseph Carr
- 54 A Dwelling house and Byer and one Close or Inclosure in Meadow in Possion of Joseph Milburn
- 55 A Dwelling house and Byer and two Closes or Inclosures in Meadow exclusive of an Encroacht in Possion of Joseph Charlton
[54 and 55:] in Dirtpot
- 56 A Cottage in Possion of Mary Armstrong
- 50 A Dwelling house in Possion of Jane Stokoe Widow
- 51 A Dwelling house in Possion of Thomas Dargue
- 52 A Dwelling house in Possion of John Danguie
- 53 A Dwelling house in Possion of Cuthbert Ord
[50, 51, 52 and 53:] Low <house>
- 37 A Cottage in Possion of Joseph Shield
- 38 Another Cottage in Possion of Robt Walton
- 39 Another Cottage in Possion of Ann Currey Widow
- 40 Another Cottage in Possion of Robert Beck
[37, 38, 39 and 40:] Fall Side Green
- 41 A Dwelling house in Possion of Jane Westgarth Widow

- 42 Another Dwelling house in Possion of Ralph Leighton
- 43 Another do in Possion of John Postle
- 44 Another do in Possion Thos Hawdon
- 45 Another do in Possion John Forster
[41, 42, 43, 44 and 45:] Fall Side Houses
- 46 A Cottage in Possion of Geo Page <Briggs>
- 47 A Cottage in Possion of Hannah Ribson
- 48 A Cottage in Possion of Robert Aiston
- 49 A Cottage <House> in Possion of John Danguie
[46, 47, 48 and 49:] Woodhead
- 57 A Dwelling house and Byer and two Closes at <Ropehaugh> the one in Meadow and the other in Pasture in Possion of William Kirston Junr
- 58 A Dwelling house and Byer and Three Closes or Inclosures at Peas Meadows in Meadow and in the Possion of Mattw Hall
- 59 A Dwelling house Byer and Stable and a Cottage and two Closes or Inclosures in Meadow at Peas Meadows in Possion of Jonathan Sparke
- 60 A Dwelling house and Byer and two Closes or Inclosures at Peas meadows the one in Meadow and the other in Pasture in Possion of Henry Johnson
- 61 A Dwelling house and Byer and two Closes or Inclosures in Meadow att Peas meadows and also one Close in Pasture there Part whereof is an Encroachmt in Possion of Joseph Watson
- 62 One Cottage house att Peasmeadows in Possion of Deborah Hawdon
- 63 One other Cottage house there in Possion of Wm Hemsley
- 74 A Copyhold Tenemt consisting of Two Dwelling houses and Two Byers and Four Closes or Inclosures in Meadow and at Upper <Coaten> fell One Close or Inclosure in Pasture exclusive of an Encroachmt in the Possion of Richd Noble vested in Jno Bell as Trustee for the Lord of the Manor

75 One Dwelling house and Byer and Two Closes or Inclosures in Meadow and One Pasture Part whereof is an Encroachmt att Nether Coaten Hill in the Possion of Isaac Reed

76 One other Dwelling house and Byer and Two Closes or Inclosures in Meadow at Nether Coaten hill in the Possion of Joseph Reed

64 A Dwelling house and Byer and Stable and Three Closes or Inclosures at Old Dike in Meadow in Possion of John Ritson

65 One Water Corn Mill called Allenheads Corn Mill Two Dwelling houses Stable and Byer and One Close or Enclosure in Meadow exclusive of an Encroachmt there in Possion of said John Ritson

66 A Dwelling house and Byer and a Close or Inclosure in Meadow at Brazen Walls att Field Close in Possion John Laverick

67 A Dwelling house and Byer and Three Closes or Inclosures Two of which are in Meadow and one in Pasture at Spartylee in Possion of John Rowell

68 A Dwelling house and Byer and Three Closes or Inclosures in Meadow at Spartylee in Possion of Matt Bonds

69 A Dwelling house and Byer and Two Closes or Inclosures in Meadow at Swinhope Mill in Possion of Edwd Rowell

70 A Dwelling house and Byer and Three Closes or Inclosures in Meadow at Swinhope Mill afsd in Possion of Jno Robson

71 A Dwelling house and Byer and one Close of Meadow (exclusive of the Encroachmt) at Rye Close in Possion of Wm Routledge

72 One Water Corn Mill and a Dwelling house and Byer called Black Bank Mill with a Meadow Close there exclusive the Encroachmt in possion of William Burnhope

73 A Dwelling house and Byer and one Close or Inclosure in Meadow and One in Pasture at Black Bank in Possion of Nichs Lee

NB There is a Tithe Barn on Keenley Leazes and another in Studden Park for which the Lord and Lady of the Manor ought to have a Compensation in case the Tithes should be extinguished and if not then those Barns and the stack Yards

belonging to them with a Way to each shield be reserved and a little more Ground added thereto.

10 Nov 1793 Nicholas Walton to John Bell

Golden Lion 10 Novemr 1793

Dear Sir

I got here about three Quarters of an Hour ago and am come on purpose to examine into the Claims wch have been made in consequence of obtaining the Act for Dividing Allotting and Inclosing Hexhamshire and Allendale Common along with any others who might think proper to join in that examination. This matter was hinted by me to Mr Ruddock soon after the second meeting of the Commissioners and tho' I did not desire Mr Ruddock to give notices to any body I really cod not help thinking, as I knew he had no objection to such a Meeting as I have mentd above, that he wd have made it known to some of the Proprietors and that he wd have intimated it to you in particular. I however find that you have not been applied to upon the occasion till this Day which I own surprised me. It is certain that none of us can wish to shew you the least disrespect and I hope you will notwithstanding the short warning favor us with your Company at the Black Bull tomorrow at Eleven o Clock

I am Dear Sir Your most hbl S[ervt]
Nich Walton Jun

[On reverse:] Mr John Bell/ Hexham Abbey

1 Dec 1793 John Bell to William Bates

[Note: Undated, but appears to be the letter of objection noted by Walton in his letter to Bell of 15th Dec 1793 so given here as 1st December]

To Mr William Bates Mr John Fryer and Mr Thomas Bates Commissioners named and appointed in and by an Act of Parliament made and passed in the 32nd Year of the Reign of his present Majesty King George th 3rd intitled 'An Act for Dividing and inclosing certain Parts of the Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land called Hexhamshire and Allendale Common and also certain Townfields within the Regality or Manor of Hexham in the County of Northumberland and for Stinting the Depasturing of the other Parts of the said Commons Moors or Waste Land'

I John Bell Agent for Thomas Richd Beaumont Esq and Diana his Wife for them and on their Behalf (in Conquence of a Proposal signed by 13 out of 17 Persons having Right of Common or Agents of Persons Bodies politic or Corporate having Right of Common on Hexhamshire and Allendale Common who set their Hands to an Objection to the Claim

of the said Thos R B and Diana his Wife marked No 265 So far as the same affected the Boundary of the said Common for withdrawing their Objections to the said claim on Condition that Mr & Mrs Beaumont would withdrawn their Claim of Right of Common for the Ground in dispute, that is, the unenclosed and a small parcel of inclosed Ground at Westburnhope) do hereby give you Notice that I withdraw as much of the sd Claim of the said Thos R B and Diana his Wife as seeks or claims a Right of Common for or in respect of the sd Ground in Dispute, that is, the uninclosed and a small parcel of inclosed Ground at Westburnhope contained in the Said Claim marked No 265 consisting of the large Tract of Ground particularly described in the same Claim and a small parcel of Ground which hath been inclosed between 30 and 40 Years

16 Dec 1793 Nicholas Walton to John Bell

[Note: An office copy of this letter is filed amongst the GH papers now in TNA ADM 66/123.]

Farnacres 16 Decemr 1793

Dear Sir

I have the satisfaction to acquaint you that I am fully empowered to act for the Commissioners and Govrs of Greenwich Hospital respecting the Claims on the Hexhamshire and Allendale Common. I shall be happy to hear you are under similar circumstances. I am also authorised to Subscribe £300 towards the Road from Burtry Ford to Alston and from thence to Burnstones and am glad to hear that Mr Beaumont has agreed to subscribe £200 and I have no doubt we are obliged to you for your good Offices on the occasion.

I am Dear Sir Your very hble Servt
Nich Walton Junr

PS I have taken Mr Williamsons Opinion relative to Persons making objections to Claims who is of Opinion that ten Objectors make the whole of the proprietors liable to pay expences of Litigation. It certainly will be right to have as many of the Principal Proprietors to attend the Meeting on the 30th as possible, tho' Ten as objectors will do, and therefore, would it not be right to apply to the Principal Proprietors or at least such of them as it may be judged proper to have at the Meeting? As you know the several Persons who it is likely will be useful in giving information such as Joseph Watson John Johnson etc will you be so good as take the trouble of applying to all such and for your trouble and expence it will certainly be reasonable and proper that you should be paid by the Proprietors. Mr Heron will I expect attend the 3d Meeting. I wish to hear from you.

18 Dec 1793 John Skelton to John Bell

Bretton Decr 18 1793

Sir

By the Coach you'l rece the two Deeds of <R.> of the Westburnhope Tit[le] - Mr Beaumont is gone from Home

I am Sir Yr very Ob Sert

Jno Skelton

No 2 Decr 2d 1687 - <Release> Sr John Fenwicke or the one part to Edwd Burdett of Grays Inn in the County of Midx on the other part of All that Messuage Farne Tenement or <Sheepewalk> called Westburnhope and all Tythes &c

No4 Augt 14 1691 - Rcd: Edwd Burdett on the one part & Sr Wm Blackett on the other part of sd prem[is]es

Note - As the Deeds do not mention any particular quantity & the Map is recent may not some Enclosures have been made before which now constitute the 97 Acres - If so the Cons[iderati]on £140 is a Still Greater Price

Mr J Bell/ Hexham Abbey/ Northumberland

20 Dec 1793 Nicholas Ruddock to John Bell

[Note: Undated, probably late 1793 based on the sequence of letters]

Mr Ruddock returns Compliments to Mr Bell with Thanks for his pleasing Information & kind Congratulations for which Mr R is sure All the proprietors will think themselves obliged to Mr Bell.

They will feel themselves now as a House not divided agin its self. Mr R submits the inclosed to Mr Bells Correction - is much divided in his Opinion whether it shod state the Withdrawing of the Claim or the Objection first - but thinks it not very material - The Withdrawing the Claim first is more natural, but then the other way is more corresponding with the Terms of the Proposition made by the Objectors.

Hexham Saturday Eveng

Mr R is tired or he would have waited on Mr Bell

22 Dec 1793 John Bell to Nicholas Walton

Hexham Abbey 22nd Decem 1793

Sir

When at Bretton I received Instructions how to act under certain Circumstances and according to the Exigencies of Cases of the different Nature of the respective Claims. It is most extraordinary there has not one person since the Advertismen of the 3rd Meeting applied to inspect or examine a Claim

I am very glad to hear the Road from Burtry Ford to Alston and from thence to Burnstones seems now likely to get forward With respect to Mr Beaumont's Subscription I flatter myself I did no harm - I observe what you say respecting Mr Williamson's Opinion about the Expences of Litigation I am sorry there should be any - Mr Ord's Claim or Objection to the boundary will be settled without Litigation as I have the Description as settled by the Accord so that the Boundary will only be to stake out agreeable thereto by the agents on both Sides

Joseph Watson and Jno Johnson I expect will both attend the Meeting and some intelligent people with them I am etc

Mr Walton Farnacres

23 Dec 1793 John Fryer to John Bell

Newcastle 23rd Decemr 1793

Sir

On the other side I send you an account of the Incroachments which have been noticed in that part of Allendale which I have Surveyed. I am not enabled to give you an account of those in the Shire, having never seen them, but at the times of the Boundary riding. I am Sorry you should think the notice too short. I called upon Messrs Bates the 1st day of decr and we then fixed the Meeting to be on the 30th Mr W Bates was to call upon you on the 3rd with the notice, and if the time was not agreeable to you, to alter it to any other time which would be so. As the notices had been given, we must meet at the time appointed, but if you are not prepared to do every thing necessary, we will adjourn the meeting to some future time which may be thought proper. I am

Sir Your Obdt Hble Servant
John Fryer

[On Reverse:]

Mr John Bell/ Hexham Abbey

30 Dec 1793 John Bell to William Bates

[Note: Objections to Encroachments in Allendale from John Bell to the Commissioners]

To William Bates of Clarewood in the County of Northumberland Gentleman John Fryer of the Town and County of Newcastle upon Tyne Gentlemen and Thomas Bates of Halton in the said County of Northumberland Gentleman Commissioners named and appointed in and by an Act of Parliament made and passed in the thirtysecond Year of the Reign of his present Majesty King George the third intituled 'An Act for dividing and inclosing certain Parts of the Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land called Hexhamshire and Allendale Commons and also certain Townfields within the Regality or Manor of Hexham in the County of Northumberland and for stinting the Depasturing of the other parts of the said Commons Moors or Waste Lands.'

I John Bell Agent of Thomas Richard Beaumont Esquire and Diana his Wife Lord and Lady of the said Regality or Manor do on their Behalf by this Writing under my Hand object to the several Claims of the Respective Persons hereafter named claiming Right of Common upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land as hereinafter mentioned, that is to say,

To the Claim of Jane Snowball for a Right of Common in respect of a Garth and Close at Hill-house in the Parish of Allendale for that the said Garth and Close have been taken from the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste land within the Space of fifty Years last past and further her House only is Copyhold under the Regality or Manor of Hexham

To the Claim of Nicholas White for a Right of Common in respect of three Cottages and a Garth at Catton Loaningfoot & because the said Cottages are built upon and the said Garth is a Part of the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste land

To the Claim of Thomas Craig for a Right of Common in respect of one Dwellinghouse and Smith's Shop and one Close called New Peat Shield for that the said Dwelling house and Smith's Shop are built upon and the said Close hath been taken from the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Gideon Whitfield for a Right of Common in respect of a Dwellinghouse in Allendale town because the said Dwellinghouse is built upon the Town Street being the Waste of the Lord and Lady of the Manor

To the Claim of Jacob Robinson of Maryland house so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Joseph Newton so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Robert Jobling for a Farm called High Ousley so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land adjoining the said Farm

To the Claim of Joseph Dickinson for South Hesleywell so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at South Hesleywell aforesaid

To the Claim of Ann Toppin for Easter and Wester Garrets Hill so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Edward Robson for Stone hill als Stone hall so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there also for Parkside so far as the same Claim respects the Encroachment upon the same Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at Parkside aforesaid

To the Claim of Michael Hutchinson for Heirsleywell Raw so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Joseph Dickinson of Gillshouse so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of John Rowell for his Estates at Catton and Sunnyside so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of John Lowes for Holmes so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Thomas Nicholson of Oakey-Dean so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Edward Maughan for Calcoats so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Elizabeth Sparke for Hayleazes so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of John Graham and William Graham for their Estate at Sunnyside in the Township of Catton so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of John Johnson for Stoneylaw so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at Flake-Gate part of Old-town Pasture

To the Claim of William Lee of Corryhill for Corryhill and Chairheads so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Thomas Snaith for his Estate at Sindropshield so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of John Hill for his Estate in the Parish of Allendale, to wit, at Studden so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Elizabeth Watton for her Estate called Whitestone or Smiddy so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Matthew Robson for his Estate in the Parish of Allendale, to wit, at Roundmeadows so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Joseph Whitfield for his Estates at Wooleyburnfoot and Hollingreen so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at or near the same Estates respectively

To the Claim of the Heirs of Thomas Reed deceased for their Estate at Coaten Hill otherwise Side House so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Isabel Manderville for Cleughbank so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Paul Blair for Oak Pool so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of William Armstrong for his Estate in Catton called Jacksons Lands and Smeath Lands and the Moiety of Aickley Walls so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of William Sparke Whitfield for his Estates at Burnlaw, Burnlaw hill West-side Hairlaw-Bower and Wooley Burnfoot so far as the same Claim respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at or near the same Estates respectively

To the Claim of Joshua Watson for his Estates at Swinhopesfield and Tedham so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at or near the same respectively

To the Claim of William Shield for his Estate at Broadwoodhall so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Robert White for his Estate at Cook's houses so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Anthony Wright for his Estates at Catton and Scotch-hall so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at or near the same Estates respectively

To the Claim of William Keenleyside for Bates-hill so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Ann Keenleyside of Spartywell so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at Spartywell aforesaid

To the Claim of Jacob Hutchinson for his Estates at Sipton Shield and Hollinclose so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land lying at or near the same Estates respectively

To the Claim of William Charlton of Hawksteel so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at or near the his Estate at Hawksteel aforesaid

To the Claim of Isaac Chester for his Estate at Hesleywell so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of William Roddam of Knockshield so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Tamar Chester for North Hesleywell so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Nicholas Lee of Appletreeshield so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at or near Appletreeshield aforesaid

To the Claim of Cuthbert Roddam for his Estate at Knockshield so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at or near Knockshield aforesaid

To the Claim of John Liddell for his Estates at Wooley, Hagburngate, Hayrake in Swinhope, Broadlee, otherwise Broadlee-head and Farney Cleugh-foot so far as the same respects the Encroachments at or near Hagburngate Hayrake and Farney Cleugh-foot

To the Claim of Thomas Sparke for his Estate in the Parish of Allendale, to wit Roundhill-Field so far as the same Claim respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at or near the same Estate

To the Claim of Isaac Hall for his Estate at Wester Studden so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of John Dixon for his Estate at Siptonshield so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of John and Matthew Tingate for their Estate at Hay Leazes so far as the same respects their Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of John Dawson for his Estate at Wester Studden so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Thomas Liddell for his Estate at Broadlee so far as the same respects his Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of John Green for Broadgate-head so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Joseph Watson of Shildon for his Estate at Tedham so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Christopher Nevin for Smaleburn so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Alexander Nicholson for his Estates at Blackhouse and Sindrop so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste

To the Claim of the Assignees of Robert Lowes a Bankrupt for their Estate at Nether Limestone-brea so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Matthew Dawson of Far Hope so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at or near Far Hope aforsaid

To the Claim of the Assignees of John Lee for Sheel-bank so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of the Trustees of William Ord Esqr for Hawkuplee and a Tenement called the Monk in Possession of Matthew Stobart so far as the same Claim respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at or near the Monk aforsaid

To the Claim of William Ord Esqr for his Estates at Eshiebank Hunter Gap Wide Eale Water Meetings Field and Old Monk so far as the same Claim respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at or near Eshiebank Hunter Gap Wide Eal and Old Monk respectively

To the Claim of John Leighton for Strother Meadows so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of George Forster for Cooperhaugh so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of John Dixon for his Estate at Birkenpeth so far as the same respects his Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Joseph Lowdon the elder for his Estate at Middleside so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land near the said Estate

To the Claim of Mary Lee for her Estate at Dryburn so far as the same respects her Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Thomas Wilson for his Estate at Carr Shield so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at or near his said Estate

To the Claim of John Clarke of Lowhouse for his Estate there so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at or near his said Estate

To the Claim of Matthew Lee for Low-Hairsley so far as the same respects his Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Thomas Shield for his Estate at Dryburn so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land near the said Estate

To the Claim of Francis Graham for his Estate at Studden so far as the same respects his Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Robert Forster for his Estate at Birkhot and Birkenpeth so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land near the said Estate

To the Claim of John Sparke for his Estate in the Parish of Allendale, to wit, Upper-Bishopside so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at or near the said Estate

To the Claim of John Farbridge for his Estate at Hagg so far as the same respects his Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of John Routledge for his Estates at Butteryshield, Holling Close Middlehope Greens and Redhaugh so far as the same Claim respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at or near ButteryShield Holling Close and Middlehope Meadows respectively

To the Claim of William Summers for Yatehouse so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of the Heirs of Christopher Thirlwall for their Estate at Scotch-hall so far as the same respects their Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Sarah Hall for Milescott so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of John Dawson for Far Pasture and his Estate at Wolfcleugh so far as the same Claim respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at adjoining his said Estate at Wolfcleugh

To the Claim of Matthew Summers for his Estate at Mount Pleasant being Part of Upper-Eshies so far as the same respects his Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land

To the Claim of Joseph Watson for Huntwell, Middlehope and his Estate at Riding so far as the same Claim respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at Huntwell Middlehope and Riding aforesaid

To the Claim of Joshua Watson for Sheel Close so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Thomas Harvey for Ellersopsheel so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of John Coulthard for his Estate called the Nook so far as the same respects his Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Matthew Bowman for his Estate at Birkenpeth and Upper Eshies so far as the same Claim respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of the Trustees for the Allendale Free-School for their Estate at Dryside and in Allendale Town so far as the same Claim respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land adjoining their said Estate at Dryside

To the Claim of John Walton of Wolfcleugh for his Estate there so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of John Bownas for his Estate at the Middle so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Joseph Bownas for his Estate at the Middle so far as the same respects his Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Robert French for Hunter Oak and Water Holm Garth so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at or near Hunter Oak

[In the margin:] Acre Money paid Michs 1784

To the Claim of Nicholas Watson for Taylorburn Broadlee, Dike Nook, and Furnees House so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at Taylorburn Hot-house part of Taylorburn Furnes house and Dile Nook

To the Claim of John Harrison for Greenley cleugh and Guisecoats so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of William Keenlyside of Upper Birkot for his Estate there so far as the same Claim respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Francis Shield for Thornley Gate and Forster's House so far as the same Claim respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at Bunker's-Hill part of his Estate at Thornley Gate

To the Claim of Hugh Hutchinson for his Estate in Allendale-Town at Sindrop and at Stone Stile so far as the same Claim respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land near Sindrop

To the Claim of John and William Burn for Podsbank Low Thornellies Brides Hill and Brides Hill Corn Mill so far as the same Claim respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land near Podsbank aforesaid

To the Claim of John Currey for Ellersop so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of John Hammerton for Draper house Bulls Hill, Coeshole High Close and Half Acre so far as the same Claim respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at Draper house Coeshole and Half Acre respectively

To the Claim of Nicholas Ruddock for Bishopfield Juniper house and Low Mill so far as the same Claim respects his Encroachments at Bishopfield and Juniper house upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Henry Johnson for a Right of Common for one Burgage or Stone house upon the Top of the Hill in the Dike Row in the North Part of the Tenement called Sheelbank in East Allen with two small Closes to the same adjoining for that said House was built upon the said Closes were taken from off the Common

To the Claim of Henry Mewburn for a Freehold Tenement called Portgate and two Copyhold Tenements called Tombs House and Cooks houses so far as the same Claim respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at Portgate

To the Claim of Revd Calob Dixon for Riding Hill so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Peter Mulcaster for Blackcleugh, Intake-head, Hope-head and North Moorhouses so far as the same Claim respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at the same Estates respectively

To the Claim of Mary Brown of Peat Shield so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at Peat Shield aforesaid

To the Claim of Hugh Watson for Harty Cleugh and Turnersshield so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land Harty-Cleugh and Turnersshield respectively

To the Claim of John Wilson for Carrshield so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Esther Hunter for Burnfoot so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of James Hyde for Scotch-Hall, Finnyhill, Water house and Scotch-Meadows so far as the same Claim respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at Finnyhill and Scotch-Meadows respectively

To the Claim of William Westgarth for Moor Gate Sheel so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Hannah Bateson for Woodmas Walls so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there and at Outgate Part of Woodmas Walls

To the Claim of John Johnson of Moorside so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at Moorside aforesaid

To the Claim of John Roddan for Round-tree Stob so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of John Shield for Old-Town and Old-Town Wood so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Hugh Shield for his Estate in Catton and at Hoods Riding so far as the same Claim respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of John French and Thomas Cowen for Moor-houses so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of William Redchester for Finny-hill so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at Finny-hill aforesaid

To the Claim of Mary Lee for her Estate at Hawksteel so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the several Claims of Elizabeth Shield, Mary Watson Ann Shield Thomas Whitfield and Susannah his Wife and William Renwick and Judith his Wife For Stripe house Whiterigg and Low Acton so far as the same Claims respect the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at or near Stripehouse and Whiterigg respectively

To the Claim of George Joseph Winter for Whamlands and Upper Eshies so far as the same respects the Encroachments made upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Joshua Thirlwell for his Estate at Scots-hall so far as the same respects the Encroachments made upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Joseph Bell of Elpha Green so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Robert Archer for Swinhopeshield Knockburn and his Estate in Allendale-town so far as the same Claim respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at Swinhopeshield and Knockburn respectively

To the respective Claims of William Roddam Thomas Barrow and George Pearson for Old-Field so far as the said several Claims respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at Old-Field aforesaid

To the Claim of the Revd Nicholas Richardson at Farniside so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of John Vickers for his Estate at Elpha Green so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Christopher Soulsby Esquire for his Estate at Allendale Town so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land adjoining his said Estate

To the Claim of Elizabeth Reed for her Estate at the Middlehope Low Prye so far as the same respects the Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of George Green for his Estate in Allendale namely Keenlyside Hill so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of John Hetherington for Pryehouse part of the Tenement called Broomknot so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there (In the margin) says all in <Surr>

To the Claim of Raisley Calvert for Whitley Steel so far as the same respects his Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Jane Pears for Part of Dirtpotsheel so far as the same respects her Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of John Walton for Farstiles Burn and Wooley High-house so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of John Thirlwell for his Estate at Scotch Hall so far as the same respects his Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Robert Hornsby for his Estates at Old-Town, High-Field and Catton so far as the same Claim respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at High-field and Catton respectively

To the Claim of William Currey for New-Fold-House Part of Hayrake so far as the same respects his Encroachment upon the the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Robert Watson for his Estates in the Parish of Allendale namely at Studden so far as the same respects his Encroachments upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land at Studden aforesaid

To the Claim of William Green for his Estate late William Spark's at Dirtpotshield so far as the same respects the Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Elizabeth Shield of Swinhopesfield so far as the same respects her Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

To the Claim of Thomas Wallis for Kitterlands so far as the same respects the his Encroachment upon the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land there

And for Cause and Reason of Objection to the several Claims hereinbefore mentioned to which no Cause and Reason have been assigned and given I the said John Bell on the Behalf of the said Thomas Richard Beaumont and Diana his Wife do urge and insist that the several Incroachments hereinbefore alluded to and every of them have been taken from the said Commons Moors or Tracts of Waste Land within the Space of Fifty Years last past before passing the said Act of Parliament or have paid some Acknowledgement for the same within that Period of Time

Jno Bell 1793 Decem 30th

[On reverse:]

Objections to Incroachments in Allendale by John Bell Agent to the Lord and Lady of the Manor

10 Jan 1794 Ralph Heron to John Bell

Dear Sir

It will be necessary to take some immediate Steps as to the Westburnhope Claim - for which purpose please to send me Copies of the Claim Objections and persisting

that I may advise Mr Williams. I think we may compel the Objectors to go before the Arbitrators - look at the Clause and give me your Sentiments - the Claim is not barred by the plain refusal of bringing an Action unless he shall still refuse to consent to refer to the Arbitrators Mr Ruddock informs me that he retained Mr Law & Mr Chamber for the Common Righters contra omnes this is somewhat extraordinary - and is what I suppose he meant by having stolen a March - has he assumed the Solicitorship against all the Claims - if not, am I to adopt his Agent in the Actions thro' whose hands these Retractions were given - I am really at a Loss to know what to do - as far as Concerns Mr & Mrs Beaumont I clearly cannot be concerned against them, am I then a fortiori to give up all the other Matters - Mr Williamson will want the Case on which he wrote his Opinion to enable him to advise on future proceedings

Yrs Sincerely

Ralph Heron

Newcastle 10th Janry 1794

[On reverse:]

Mr Bell - Town Clerk/ Hexham

15 Jan 1794 Joseph Carr to John Bell

[Note: Undated, probably 1794 based on the sequence of letters. It is possible that an enquiry into Watson's position arose prior to having him named in the legal case referred to in letters of Feb 1794, so this one is dated to a few weeks before then.]

Sir

At the request of Mr Forster, I am desired to inform you, why Joseph Watson my late assistant was dismissed. It was solely for inattention.

One reason chiefly for such conduct was the anxiety he felt, for losing his place when I came here, as he then was sole master, being made to believe, that I wanted his place. My mortification at getting it, was equal to his losing it.

I wish you could get the remaining arrear of Rent from Kirsopp which is £1.4s.- I suppose it may be recovered next court

I am Sir Your, very hble Svt

Joseph Carr

6 Feb 1794 Ralph Heron to John Bell

Dr Sir

the 30th of Decr was the time of the Persisting etc and the two Months creep away - unless the Objectors to Mr & Mrs Beaumonts Claim withdraw the Objection I

must commence the Action within the two Months - Joseph Watsons Name stands first and I think of making him Df[endan]t perhaps it woud be Right to commence the Action at all Events - and for me 'amicably to name an Atty for the Df[endan]t and there let the Matter rest but this I only mean as a Measure to prevent any Lapse on either Side - it will be most advisable if the Matter can be settled that no hostile Steps shoud appear upon Record - speak to Mr Ruddock & give me your Thoughts

Yrs truly
Ralph Heron

NCastle 6 Feb 1794

<Thirston> & Grey have sent two Writs to Wilson - Beaumont at Clavering to which Appres are entered

I have heard nothing of the other Claimants - the Settling the Issues will be attended with much Nicety pray tell Ruddock that his Notice was this Day served on Watson

[On reverse:]

Mr Bell - Town Clerk Hexham