

[Note: This is a selection of correspondence from the Baker Baker papers in Durham Univ Library's Special Collections relating to Embley Grove on Bulbeck Fell. Individual piece references are given for each item transcribed. Embley was the lead mine near Embley farm in the Baker family's hands on the east bank of Devil's Water on the line of the Burntshieldhaugh Hush in the parish of Slaley but generally regarded as part of Hexhamshire.]

18 Apr 1747 John Dixon to George Baker

[Note: DUL BAK 9/102. Although not named, the context suggests the recipient was 24 year old George Baker (1723-74), who owned the Bulbeck mining rights]

Dear Sir

I am much obliged to you for the favour of your last Letter, & heartily pity you, for falling into the Company of such despicable wretches. However as there is no evil, which may not be productive of some good, I flatter myself that the behaviour of such Creatures, will make London life bewitching, & the Country more agreeable to you.

Mr Reed of Unthank has been stirring up mischief at Bulbeck; a set of Rascals by his directions, (as tis believed), have burnt large Quantities of the Ling, & in all probability destroyed many broods of Game, which would have afforded you good diversion this Summer. I have sent George Dodds to Mr Fenwick, who will, I make no doubt, order the offenders to the house of Correction & a good whipping; which is the only punishment that I know, the Law has provided for such offenders.

There has a Report prevailed of late, which possibly may obstruct the letting of your lead mines, if not put a Stop to. Mr Wardell was lately in this part of the Country, where he was told, that in the Grant from the Crown of the Manor of Bulbeck the mines were excepted; and that some persons, are now actually applying to the Government for a Grant of them. I am persuaded that there is not the least foundation for this Story, however as your interest may suffer greatly by it, I would advise you to get a copy of the Grant made by King Charles the first, to Ditchfield, Highlord, Clark & Moss, of the Manor of Bulbeck, it is dated 24 September, 4 years of his reign 1628, & as I fancy it was involved in the Court of Chancery, no doubt a copy may be held there. If you'll please to send directions to my Agent Mr Hewatson at his Chambers No. 6 Holborn Court Greys Inn; He will do the business effectually. It will perhaps be attended with some little expense, however that you will not regard, were it only for your Satisfaction, much more as you are concerned in point of interest to clear up this affair. As far as I know of your title, there is only an exception of the forests, chases, & Mines of Gold & Silver. If you let Mr Hewatson know when he shall wait on you, he'll acquaint you with his Success, & afterwards you'll please to send the Copy of the Grant to us.

As I make little doubt but this matter will turn out as I wish, then I would desire you to let me have your directions as to the proposals which have been sent you for the Letting of these Mines.

Mr. Liddell is sorry for the loss of your papers, & begs you'll not make yourself uneasy about the thing he sent by you. My Mother & Sister send their compliments to you, & I beg leave to assure, I am with great truth,

Yr. most obt. Hble. Servt.

John Dixon

P.S. When you see <Mr> Vane, please to make my Compliments.

Durham Apr. 18 1747

1 Feb 1768 Francis Potts to George Baker

[Note: DUL BAK 13/6]

George Baker Esq. Dr. to Francis Potts

1768 Feb 1st

Letter from Mr. Baker directing me to wait on the Lead Company in St. Martins Lane Cannon Street to desire them to give up his Lease of the Lead Mines in his Manor of Newbiggin and Newbiggin Hope which was determined. 4d

Attending the Company's House in St. Martins Lane abt. this Matter when the Secretary promised to lay it before them at the next meeting and afterwards to give me an Answer which he accordingly did telling me he had received their Directions to look out the Lease but he must write to their agent in the Country to know if the Counterpart had ever been del[iver]ed to Mr. Baker before it wd. be given up and writing to Mr. Baker thereupon. 6s 8d

Attending them again the 15th. April by Mr. Baker's Directions when I was desired to come again on the 21st. accord[ing]ly when they refused to give up the Lease unless Mr. Baker wd. produce the Counterpart which their Agent had wrote was del[iver]ed. 6s 8d

Attending Mr. Baker hereupon in New Bond Street April 22nd. when he could not find the Counterpart but directed me to offer any Acknowledgm[en]t under his Hand with respect to it with a promise to deliver it up if ever it shd. be found. 6s 8d

Attend[e]d the Company again April the 28th. when they determined neither to deliver up the Lease nor Cancel it unless the Counterpart wd. be produced & writing Mr. Baker their Determination. 6s 8d

£1 7s -d

[on reverse:]

March 6th. 1769 Received of Geo: Baker Esq. the within One Pound Seven Shillings for the use of Mrs. Potts Ex[ecu]ter of Mrs. Potts deceased.

Pr Wm Gibson

4 Jan 1769 Ann Westgarth to George Baker

[Note: DUL BAK 13/13]

Ann Westgarth's Acct. to Geo. Baker Esqr. for his witnesses ag[ains]t Teasdale from the 4. of Jan. 1769

	£	s	d
Jan. the 4th. Jno. Bell his Supper	0	0	6
Do. to Liquor	0	2	4
Do. the 15 Jno. Bell his Breakfast	0	0	6
Do. to Liguour	0	1	6
Do. the 11 to 4 mens Suppers at 9d. per man	0	3	0
Do. to Punch	0	6	5
Do. to Ale	0	2	8
Do. the 12 4 men to Breakfast at 6d. per man	0	2	0
Do. to 2 Horses Each 2 feeds of Corn	0	1	4
Do. to 2 Do. to Hay all night	0	1	4
Do. the 14 to 5 men at Supper	0	3	9
Do. to Punch	0	1	0
Do. to Ale	0	1	4
Do. the 15 to 6 men at Breakfast	0	3	0
Do. to Brandy and Geneva	0	1	10
Do. to Ale	0	3	0
Do. to 2 Horses Each 2 feeds of Corn	0	1	4
Do. to 2 Horses to Hay all night	0	1	4
Do. to 2 men at Supper	0	1	5
Do. the 16 to 12 men at Breakfast	0	0	6
Do. to Ale	0	1	6
Do. to Brandy	0	0	5
	£	2	1 9

Ralph Robson, your desired by your Landlord Geo. Baker Esqr. to pay this bill at sight thereof;

as witness my Hand Geo. Dodds

Feb. the 2nd. Recd. the Contents of this note by me. Ann Westgarth

11 Jan 1769 George Dodds to George Baker

[Note: DUL BAK. 13 14]

A bill of Expenses for Geo. Baker Esqr. witnesses ag[ains]t Teasdale from the 11th. of Jan. 1769

	£	s	d
pd. Jno <Thrields> at Durham for Drawing a Skitch of Emley Grove	0	1	0
pd. for Wm. Wharton's Horse for Hay and Corn at Durham	0	5	0
pd. Roger Oliver for his Self and Horse 4 Days	1	0	0
pd. Anthony Harker for Self and Horse 4 Days	1	0	0
pd. Jno. Bell for Self and Horse by my masters orders	2	2	0
pd. Wm. Gibson for going to seek Anthony [missing] he being a Broad when we wanted him	0	5	0
pd. Ed. Hirtley for going two times to Sandoe with letters	0	2	0
to Expenses for the witnesses at Ann Westgarths as per Bill	2	1	9
to my own Expenses as per Bill	1	12	11
	£	8	9 8

Ra. Robson your Desired by your Landlord Geo. Baker Esqr. to pay the bill at Sight thereof as witness this my Hand. Geo. Dodds

Recd. the 15 of Jan. 1769 the Contest of this Bill by me Geo. Dodds

19 Jan 1769 Thomas Gyll to George Baker

[Note: DUL BAK 13 15. Arbitration award regarding Embley Fell mining rights.
Paragraph breaks inserted for legibility]

To All to whom these presents shall come Thomas Gyll of the City of Durham Esquire and Christopher Fawcett of the Town and County of Newcastle upon Tyne send Greeting

Whereas William Teasdale of Buckshot in the County of Durham Minor and George Baker of Elemore Hall in the said County of Durham Esquire have bound themselves their Heirs Executors and Administrators each to the other in the penal sum of One Thousand Pounds of good and lawful Money of Great Britain by several Bonds or Obligations bearing date respectively the Eighteenth day of November in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Sixty Eight with Conditions thereunder respectively written well and truly to Stand to Obey Abide Perform Fulfil and Keep this Award Order Arbitrament final End and Determination by the said Thomas Gyll Christopher Fawcett and Ralph Hopper of the City of Durham Esquire or any two of them Arbitrators indifferently Elected and Named as well on the part and behalf of the said William Teasdale as of the said George Baker to Arbitrate Award Order Judge and Determine of and concerning all and all manner of Action and Actions Cause and Causes of Action Suits Bills Bonds Specialities Judgements Executions Extents Quarrels Controversies Trespasses Damages and Demands whatsoever at any time theretofore

had made Moved Brought commenced sued prosecuted done suffered Committed or Depending by and between the said Parties or either of them so as the said Award be made in writing Indented under their Hands and Seals or the Hands and Seals of any two of them and ready to be Delivered to the parties in difference or such of them as shall desire the same on or before the second Day of February next as in and by the said Bonds or Obligations and the Conditions thereof it doth and may appear

Now know ye that we the said Thomas Gyll and Christopher Fawcett taking upon ourselves the Burthen and Charge of the said Award and having heard the said Parties and their Agents and having heard and Considered the Allegations and proofs of both the said party's to us offered and given touching all Matters in Difference between them Do make this our Award of and concerning the same in manner following, that is to say,

First we do Order and Award that the said William Teasdale do and shall forthwith quit and deliver up to the said George Baker the possession of the said Lead Mine or Grove commonly called Emley Fell Lead Mine otherwise Emley Fell Grove and of all the Ore now lying at or near the said Mine or Grove,

And we do further Award that the said George Baker do and shall permit the said William Teasdale and his Assigns peaceably and quietly to hold and Enjoy until the Twelfth day of May now next ensuing the House now in the possession of the said William Teasdale or his Undertenant and lately built upon the Land and Ground of the said George Baker near to the said Emley Grove without any Rent to be paid for the same

And we do further Award that the said William Teasdale do and shall on the said Twelfth day of May now next ensuing deliver up to the said George Baker the peaceable possession of the said last mentioned House.

And we do further Award that the said George Baker do and shall on the Twelfth day of May now next ensuing between the hours of Ten and Twelve of the Clock in the forenoon of the same day at the Chancery Office in the City of Durham Pay or Cause to be paid to the said William Teasdale or to such person as he shall duly Authorise to receive the same the sum of three hundred & fifty eight pounds, eighteen shillings & one penny of lawful Money of Great Britain.

And lastly we do Award that the said William Teasdale and George Baker Do and shall upon Request mutually Execute to each other a General Release of all Claim and Demands whatsoever to the day of the Date of the said Bonds of Arbitration, but so as not to Release the said Arbitration Bonds on any of the Matters hereby Awarded.

In Witness whereof we have to this our Award Indented set our Hands and seals the Nineteenth day of January in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty Nine.

Signed sealed published and Declared In the presence of Wm. Gibson
Thomas Gyll (his signature and seal)
Chr. Fawcett (his signature and seal)

23 Jan 1769 George Dodds to George Baker

[Note: DUL BAK 13/12. Undated, but given date of first Monday after last dated expense item in the bill. Recipient unnamed, but presumably Geoge Dodds, named as recipients of bill dated 11 Jan 1769]

A Bill of Expenses on Geo: Baker Esq.'s Affair with Teasdale from the 18th. of Nov:
1768

	£	s	d
Nov the 18 to Expenses with Anthony Harker a witness	0	1	0
pd. Jno. Bell for His Expenses wth. Roger Oliver a witness ag[ains]t Teasdale	0	2	6
Do. the 18 to Expenses with Do. at Birkenside	0	1	0
Do. the 21 and 22nd to Expenses at Durham for Jno. Bell and myself waiting upon Mr. Wetherall for instructions	0	8	8
Do. the 22 to Expenses at Birkenside for Jno. Bell	0	1	6
Dec: the 14th. pd. Jno. Smith for going to <Crook>, 3 letters	0	1	0
Do. the 16 by Expenses for Conveying these 3 letters to Coal Clugh Sandoe and Hexham	0	5	0
Do. the 28 and 29 to Expenses waiting upon Mr. Wetherall for orders upon Teasdale Affair	0	4	0
Jan: the 2nd. 1769 Expenses waiting upon Mr. Donking at Sandoe and Mr. Shaftoe at Hexham with Boat Hire	0	2	6
Do. the 7 and 8th. waiting upon Mr. Donking at Hexham all night treating one Spark for a witness against Teasdale	0	3	0
Do. the 16 to Expenses at Hackford Mill when taking Possession of the ore and making a Sizeur of the work Tools	0	1	6
Do. pd. for a lock for the Stable Door at Embley Grove	0	1	3
	1	12	11

Ra. Robson your desired by your Landlord Geo: Baker Esq. to pay this bill at sight thereof as wittn[ess m]y Hand Geo. Dodds

1 Aug 1773 John Westgarth to George Baker

[Note: DUL BAK 14 25 Brumshale / Brumsheel Haugh Mine is Burntshieldhaugh. Paragrah breaks inserted for legibility]

[Annotated associated label:] The Lease of Brumshale Haugh Engine from Mr. Westgarth to George Baker Esqr.

Articles of Agreement Indented had made concluded and agreed upon this first Day of August in the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith and so forth and in the Year of our Lord one thousand and seven hundred and seventy three by and between John Westgarth of Unthank in The County of Durham Esquire of the

one Part and George Baker of Elemore Hall in the said County of Durham Esquire of the other Part.

Whereas the Reverend Richard Hutchins Doctor of Divinity and Rector of Lincoln College in Oxford the Reverend John Sharp Doctor of Divinity and Archdeacon of the Archdeaconry of Northumberland the Reverend James Douglas Doctor of Divinity and one of the Prebendaries of the Cathedral Church of Durham the Right Reverend Father in God Robert Lowth Lord Bishop of Oxford and the Reverend John Rotherham Clerk Rector of Houghton le Spring in the County of Durham by Indenture of Leave bearing Date on or about the Twentieth day of July last past before the Date herof expressed to be made between the said Richard Hutchins, John Sharp, James Douglas, Robert Lowth Bishop of Oxford and John Rotherham the one part and the said John Westgarth of the other part

Did Demise Lett and to Farm lett unto the said John Westgarth his Executors Administrators and Assigns All and every the Mines and Veins of Lead Oar as well open or not open lying and being within and under all the ancient Inclosures of the said Lessors Farm called Brumsheel Haugh in the County of Northumberland (to wit) such Lands as were inclosed before the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and nine with full and free Liberty of winning and working such Lead mines and with Liberty to Dig Delve and make Ditches Levels and Drains Sink Pit or Pits Shaft or Shafts and to erect Gins and Engines and to make and Cut Water courses for conveying and carrying away the Water out of the said Mines and Heaproom and Groundroom Bin and Binsteads upon the said Premises And also Liberty to Search for dig and work the Quarries of Slate and other Stones upon that part of the Common adjoining to the said Brumsheel Haugh Farm which lies adjoining to the South or South west side of the dwelling house of John Ward with free Egress and Regress and other convenient Wayleave and Passage with Cattle Horses Carts and Carriages to lead drive and carry away the said Lead Oar Slates Stones or Rubbish from the said Mines Quarries and Works with Heaproom and Ground room for laying the same upon the said Premises To hold the same unto the said John Westgarth his Executors Administrators and Assigns from the Twelfth day of May then last past for and during and unto the full End and Term of Twenty one Years from thence next ensuing fully to be Complete and Ended Subject nevertheless to such Yearly and the Rents Covenants and Agreements as in the said recited Indenture of Lease is reversed and contained as in and by the said Indenture of Lease relation being thereto had more fully may appear

And Whereas there was lately Erected and Built by the said John Westgarth in and upon the Premises above demised a Water or Bob Engine for the drawing Conveying and carrying away the Water from forth and out of the said Mines and Minerals And Whereas the said George Baker is Seised of and in certain Lead Mines called Emley Haugh Leadmine lying and being near and adjoining the said Brumsheel Haugh Leadmine And Whereas it will be a mutual Convenience to both the said Parties that the said Engine should be made use of for the Drawing of the Water forth and out of the said Mines and Minerals as well those belonging to the said John Westgarth called Brumsheel Haugh Lead Mines as the same Emley Haugh Lead Mines

belonging to the said George Baker and Accordingly the said John Westgarth and George Baker have come to an Agreement with each other that the same shall be made use of by both the said Parties in such manner and for such Purposes as hereinafter are mentioned and in Consideration thereof the said George Baker hath agreed to advance and pay to the said John Westgarth upon the Execution of these Presents the Sum of One hundred Pounds And also to pay him his Executors Administrators or Assigns such Yearly Rent or Sum as hereinafter is expressed and declared

Now these Presents Witness and it is mutually agreed on by and between the said Parties to these Presents in such manner as hereinafter is mentioned And first the said John Westgarth in Consideration of the said Agreement and of the sum of one hundred Pounds of lawful Money of Great Britain by the said George Baker to the said John Westgarth in Hand well and truly paid upon or before the Sealing and Delivering of these Presents the Receipt whereof he doth hereby acknowledge and of the Rents Covenants and Agreements herein after contained on the part of the said George Baker his Heirs and Assigns to be paid done and performed for himself his Heirs Executors Administrators and Assigns doth Covenant Promise and Agree to and with the said George Baker his Heirs and Assigns by these presents that it shall and may be lawful for the said George Baker his Heirs and Assigns

to have hold enjoy and make use of the said Water or Bob Engine for the Drawing Conveying and Carrying away the Water out of and from and for the better and more effectual winning and working the said Lead Mine called Emley Haugh with Liberty of making and driving Drifts Levels and Water courses to and from the said Emley Haugh Lead Mines to the said Engine and of all such other Privileges in respect thereof as the said John Westgarth is Intitled to give by virtue of the said recited Indenture of Lease for all the residue of the said Term of Twenty one Years yet to come and unexpired or until the said Indenture of Lease shall be otherwise sooner determined by virtue of any Conditions or Agreements therein contained (Subject to such Privilege of Using the said Engine by the said John Westgarth his Executors Administrators and Assigns as is hereinafter Comprised in that behalf) Together with free Ingress Egress and Regress to and from the same by the said George Baker his Heirs and Assigns and his and their Servants and Workmen for the amending and repairing the said Engine and Engine Shaft and the Water courses to be made use of by him and them in Provenance of the Liberty hereby Granted

And also full and free Liberty and Licence to and for the said George Baker his Heirs and Assigns to have the use of all the Water that can be Collected within the Boundaries granted to the said John Westgarth in and by the said above in part recited Indenture of Lease, but so as not to Injure the said John Westgarth his Executors Administrators or Assigns in his or their Winning or Working the said Brumsheel Haugh Lead Mines or Prevent or hinder them for that Purpose from first using the said Water or so much thereof as he or they shall have Occasion for

Item It is further agreed and the said George Baker (in Consideration of such Licence Liberties and Privileges as aforesaid) for himself his Heirs Executors and Administrators doth Covenant Promise and agree to and with the said John Westgarth

his Executors Administrators and Assigns by these Provisions in the manner following (that is to say) That the said George Baker his Heirs and Assigns shall and will Yearly and every Year for the first five Years of the said Term well and truly Pay or cause to be paid unto the said John Westgarth his Executors Administrators and Assigns the Yearly Rent or Sum of Twenty five Pounds of lawful Money of Great Britain at two Days or Times in the Year (that is to say) the first [space left] day of February and the first [space left] day of August in every Year by even and equal Portions the first Payment thereof to begin and be made on the first [space left] day of February next ensuing the Date hereof the said several Payments to be made without any Deduction or Abatement of or for any Taxes Assessments or other Matter or Thing imposed or to be imposed by any Act or Acts of Parliament already or hereafter to be made or otherwise howsoever

And also shall and will during the Continuance of this grant demise and Liberty at his and their own Proper Costs and Charges pay and discharge all the Expense to be occasioned by the working of the said Engine as well for the Benefit of the said George Baker his Heirs and Assigns in the Drawing and Conveying of Water out of and from the said Emley Haugh Lead Mines as of the said John Westgarth his Executors Administrators or Assigns for the drawing and conveying of Water out of and from the said Brumsheel Haugh Lead Mines

And also shall and will at his and their own Proper Costs and Charges from time to time and at all Times during the Continuance of the said residue of the said Term well sufficiently and in a proper manner repair maintain and uphold the said Engine and the Engine Shafts and the Watercourses to and from the same in good Order repair and Condition so as to be sufficiently Capable of drawing and conveying away the Water from forth and out of the said Lead Mines respectively and shall and will at the End or other sooner determination of the said Term Yield and deliver up unto the said John Westgarth his Executors Administrators or Assigns quit and peaceable Possession of the said Engine and Engine Shaft in good and sufficient repair and Condition

And shall not nor will at anytime or times during the said residue of the said Term obstruct or hinder the said John Westgarth his Executors Administrators or Assigns in the free use and Exercise of the said Engine for the Drawing or conveying the Water from forth and out of the said Brumsheel Haugh Leadmines or the Exercise of any of the Power Liberties or Privileges hereinbefore mentioned to have been demised to him as aforesaid in and by the various part recited Indentures of Leave And shall not nor will do or suffer to be done any Act Matter or Thing whatsoever whereby the said Engine or the said Brumsheel Haugh Mines or the Works or Workings thereof shall be any Way Injured or Damaged in or during the time that the said George Baker his Heirs or Assigns shall continue to work the said Engine or by reason or Occasion thereof or of the Communications to be made therewith by him or them to the said Emley Haugh Leadmines

Provided always and it is hereby declared and agreed by and between the said Parties to these Presents that the said George Baker his Heirs Executors Administrators

and Assigns shall and may have full and free Liberty to Sink the said Engine Shaft deeper than it now is if he or they shall think it necessary so to do and to make such Drift or Drifts there from or to the said Emley Haugh Mine as he or they shall at any time think proper for the more effectual winning and working the same and thereafter the said Engine Pit shall be so Sunk deeper or the said Drift or Drifts shall be made therefrom if the said John Westgarth his Executors Administrators or Assigns shall use or receive any benefit or advantage in his said Lead Mine from the said last mentioned Works to be made by the said George Baker his Heirs Executors Administrators or Assigns then and in such Case the said John Westgarth his Executors Administrators or Assigns shall and will from the Commencement of such use benefit or advantage pay or cause to be paid one half of the Expense of repairing and working the said Engine and Engine Pit Drifts and the Works for and during so long time as he or they shall continue to receive such Benefit or Advantage therefrom as aforesaid

Provided likewise and it is declared and agreed by and between the said Parties to these Presents that if the said George Baker his Heirs or Assigns shall at any time during during the said residue of the said Term be aminded or desirous to determine and put an end to this present Agreement and of such his or their Mind or Desire shall and do after the first five Years give Six Calendar Months Notice in Writing to the said John Westgarth his Executors Administrators or Assigns or shall leave the same at his to their usual Place or Places of Abode then and in such Case the Rents Covenants and Agreements herein contained on the part and behalf of the said George Baker his Heirs Executors and Assigns having been paid and performed and not otherwise the said Yearly Rent and every Clause Covenant and Thing herein contained shall (from and after the End of such Six Calendar Months) cease determine and be utterly void anything herein contained to the Contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding Except with respect to the said One hundred Pounds which shall be retained by the said John Westgarth for his own use

In Witness whereof the said Parties to these Presents have hereunto Inchangeably Set their Hands and Seals the day and year first above mentioned

George Baker

John Westgarth [signatures and seals]

[on reverse:]

Signed Sealed and delivered by the within named John Westgarth and George Baker in the Presence of us

Lance. Richardson Cuth. Stafford [both sign]

Received the Day and Year first within written by me the within named John Westgarth of and from the within named George Baker the Sum of One hundred pounds being the Consideration within mentioned to be paid by him to me. Witness my hand Jno. Westgarth [signed]

Witnesses to the signing herof Lance. Richardson Cuth. Stafford [both sign]

10 Aug 1775 Thomas Marshall to Judith Baker

[Note: DUL BAK/14/118b. Judith Routh married George Baker in 1749. She was 'a beautiful and knowledgeable young lady from a well-appointed family living at Dinsdale near to Darlington in County Durham. It seems likely that the marriage produced some stability for the financial affairs of the extravagant George.' Hetton-le-Hole Local History group newsletter Vol 1-2, Jan 2010]

Hexham 10th. Augt. 1775

Madam

I have your last letter by which I see you have not forgot to speak to Mr. Rotheram and I am glad to hear that they are obliged to work the Mine. Before I got your letter I found they were going to begin for they sent in a parcel of wood and they have begun to open out some old drifts which is far from doing the thing Effectually. They draw their work or Mettle at our Engine Shaft. I suppose they may have thought to do so but I have desired them to forbear two or three days, til I in part prevent the work as much as possible from falling into the bottom which may be of bad consequence, but of this you may be sure to have a further account as soon as I can see their Agent. I am Madam with all due Respect. Your most obliged Humble Servt.

Thos. Marshall

19 Aug 1775 George Pearson to Judith Baker

[Note: DUL BAK 14/118a.]

Durham 19th. August 1775

Madam!

I have perused the Lease from Mr. Westgarth to Mr. Baker, and think clearly that the former has no Right to use the Engine Shaft for any other Purpose than that of drawing Water. I think it would be proper for Marshall to have a Copy of the Lease sent him, that he may be able to resort to it on any Occasion.

I sent Mr. Jackson's Letter. I had a Letter from Mr. Thompson to the same Effect as that to you.

I am Madam! Your very obt. Srvt.

Geo: Pearson

You have the Lease & Marshall's Letter ret'd. herewith.

Mrs. Baker

25 Feb 1778 John Westgarth to Judith Baker

[Note: DUL BAK/15/10]

Unthank 25 Feby. 1778

Dear Madm.

I have your favour of the 22 Inst. and at your request have drawn a Bill upon your Son for the half year rent, wch. if you had not named it should not have drawn, being in hope to attend at Easter Sessions. I am thank the Almighty, better than I could have hoped, being left with all my senses perfect, and after so severe a stroak of an Apoplexy, reduced (by Large quantity of blood taken away, Blisters, Medicines, and six weeks confined in my bed) very soon after I was able to sit up a few hours in a day, found my strength return. Now can walk with a stick and rid[e] an hour or two in the day when the weather permits, from which am greatly benefitted.

So soon as I can rid[e] so far must be at the mines in the Shire, shall let you have my thoughts on my return. The Draught upon Mr. Baker is at sight for the half years rent due at Candlemas, to the order of Mr. Jno. Robson, Castle Durham. Beg you will Accept, & make my respectful Comp[limen]ts to y[ou]r self & son.

Dr. Madm. Yr. most Obt. Servt.

Jno Westgarth

Mrs. Baker

23 Mar 1778 John Westgarth to Judith Baker

[Note: DUL BAK/15/11. One or two words missing due to torn original but interpolated]

Dear Madm.

I have your favour of the 5 Inst. I have now with me some of our people who are employed at Burnsheelhaugh mines. Your agent Wm. Teasdall is out of health, and not at present able to atten[d the] mine, and by what I am told is not in a hopeful [way] of recovery. I writ him some time since to order the Gin keeper to put the Gin in proper order, &c; had no answer.

Your Men are I presume upon Wages, that <&no ispection> will not answer for you. In the Agreement between your Husband & me we were to be at half the Expense in Sinking the Ingen [Engine] wch. we are ready to Undertake. It will be of advantage to you, Equal or more so than to us, but as the Ingen at present is kept the low Stand of Pumps are not used &c, this should have been done before your drifts from our Ingen foot was set out, You might by that have got some fathoms more level, & by Sinking two fathom more got a chance of a new Sill. Can say more was I with you & you <sought it>. Am sure should have saved you a large Sum of money. I cannot venture such a Journey <in> the Extreme frost and large falls of Snow upon the moor (wch. are

now dissolving) could not Attempt to cross them to the mine. If you think that the sinking the Ingen should be done, it must be begun & finish'd before the dry Weather sets in, & takes from us the day water.

I shall order our Agent to give an Eye to what's going forward at your works till I can get over, he's a judge & could inspect both for a trifle more & may have much pay <.. a year> for yr. agent.

Compts. to yourself, & Son, believe me Dr. Madm. Yr. most Out. Servt>
Jno Westgarth

Mrs Baker

10 Apr 1778 John Westgarth to Judith Baker

[Note: DUL BAK/15/12]

Unthank 10 April 1778

Dear Madm.

I waited acknowledging your favour of the 26 Ulto in hopes of having a call from Mr. Angus who <I> have not seen, as he has not be returned before this, hope he has given a satisfactory answer as to sinking the Ingeine [Engine] for the rest, shall let it be til I am able to ride so far, no Objection now but the giddyness in my head, by times; and find Cold increases it, crossing the moors is sure to Effect, the Air being sharp & much more Chilly than where I live; wch is within a Stones throw of the River side and plentifully covered with timber. Mr. Robson writ me he had my Bill upon your Son. If Mr. Pearson has the money he can see him anytime, the two of us being so near each other. Mr. Robertson I Expect will be at Blanchland on Monday <first>, If he has Cash for my Bill with him, can get it there.

Compliments wait upon yourself and Son
Dr. Madm. Your most Obt. Servt.
Jno Westgarth

Mrs. Baker

[on reverse:] Mrs. Baker, Elemore Hall, Durham

[Annotated in Judith Baker's hand:] Mr Angus to wait upon Mr. Westgarth

7 May 1778 John Westgarth to Judith Baker

[Note: DUL BAK 15/14]

Unthank 7 May 1778

Dear Madm.

I was in hope of getting to Durham, would then have done my Self the pleasure of waiting upon you and your Son, Hope you had a satisfactory Acct. from Mr. Angus, I have advice that your workmen have in their working meet a Sump in Mr. Blacketts liberty lower than your level, wch. will confirm what I told Mr. Angus that the sills dipped that way & your level would be of no use, besides Sr. Walters people made a full trial. I mention this to hint the loss it is & may be to you if pursued. Wm. Teasdale might have known this, & ought to have explained it to Mr. Baker.

I shall not add more, shall when I am able to get to the mine you may hear from me, the Weather will not permit my crossing the moors, and a pain in the back part of my head, obliged me to take away twelve ounces of Blood yesterday.

Compts. to yourself & Son Dr. Madm.

Your most Obt. Servt.

Jno. Westgarth

Mrs. Baker Elmor Hall

21 Jul 1778 John Westgarth to Judith Baker

[Note: DUL BAK/15/16]

Unthank 21 July 1778

Dear Madm.

I am very sorry when I got to the Sessions my health would not permit me to see my friends, was not able to sit in the Court above half an hour & be glad to get home wch. I did (by resting on the way) on Wednesday Eve at Ten o Clock.

As the weather is now changed, & plenty of Day Water to keep the Ingen [engine] going, shall be glad of your Sons presence upon the spot, to determine what is proper to be done for your advantage as well as ours. Your people are not so deep as the Old Workings before you begun the Mine by agreement with us nor is it likely that the pickings the Old Man left will reimburse you. Sinking below into fresh Ground has a chance. If Mr. Baker chooses to proceed further for the (to be hoped) benefit of both parties, now is the season. Shall not add, as Mr. Bakers giving timely notice of the time of meeting to me. Shall if able attend him or order a proper person to represent me, if not of ability.

My best wishes attend yourself & Son

Dr. Madm. Yr. most Obed. Servt.

Jno Westgarth

PS Wednesday Eve 22

I opened this to tell you that Wm. Teasdal is to be intared this evening

Mrs Baker

14 Sep 1778 John Westgarth to Judith Baker

[Note: DUL BAK/15/18]

Unthank 14 September 1778

Dear Madm.

I should have long since acknowledged your favour but Expected to have heard from your Son long since. Mr. Angus called upon me one day the week beforehand, and said he would communicate what passed between us to Mr. Baker and give me in writing Mr. Bakers determination. as we have had <Ka.> and the Ingen at Work, the sooner we comes to some determination the better. Shall therefore be glad to hear from your Son when he has given it a thought. To yourself and him beg my respectful compts.

Dr. Madm. Your most Obed. Servt.

Jno Westgarth

PS If you send the rent to Mr. Robson a receipt will be good

[on reverse:] Mrs Baker / Elmore

[annotated, presumably by her:] Westgarth 12-10 / all pd to Mr Westgarth / rent ceasing Aug 78

28 Oct 1778 John Westgarth to Judith Baker

[Note: DUL BAK/15/20]

Unthank 28 Oct 1778

Dear Madm.

I have sent to Mr. Robson, but have just this moment writ him, that you had sent Mr. Angus who payed me the half years rent due at Lammass last, for wch. gave him a receipt. I am sorry you have had the trouble. My health would not permit me to attend at the Sessions. I was at Bishop Auckland on the 15 Inst. at a Session and to meet one of my Daughters who had been at Newcastle at the <divertions> there. Riding home at night in some Rain has fixed a Cold, fear it will not leave me soon & prevent my making any Excursions this winter. I am glad your Son escaped without any Accident at the great Hunt. My Compliments waits on yourself and him.

Dr. Madm. Your most Obed. Servt.

Jno. Westgarth

PS When Mr. Baker has anything to say about the mine shall be ready to give him an answer or to order one to attend him.

To Mrs. Baker

24 Jan 1779 John Westgarth to Judith Baker

[Note: DUL BAK/15/28a]

Unthank 24 Jany. 1779

Dear Madm.

I was in hope of hearing from your Son but since have been told Mr. Angus prevented it for reason best known to himself.

I have not been able to get into Hexhamshire this some months, but have been told the Ingen [engine] has been standing some time. You will be so good as let me know Mr. Bakers resolution wch. shall esteem a favour. The Ingen standing still will hurt him more ways than common use.

I hope you and your Son are both well. I wish you and him a succession of happy years.

Believe me Dr. Madm. Your Ever Obed. Servt.

Jno Westgarth

Mrs. Baker

[verso:] Mrs Baker / Elmor Hall / Durham

[annotated by her:] Mr. Westgarths Letters

[& also by her on a separate scrap (DUL BAK/15/28b):] to take the engine just in the state she is / and what <every> things there is he take them at the valuation

4 Feb 1779 John Westgarth to Judith Baker

[Note: DUL BAK/15/29. Westgarth's handwriting has deteriorated to the point of illegibility in parts of this letter, which at least spares us some of the gory details of his friends' various ailments.]

Unthank 4 Feby. 1779

Dear Madm.

I have your favour of the 2 Instant. Shall be glad to have your son and self only to talk with. I have not been <misinformed> in what I think. As the Ingen [Engine] was <standing> and the <pre[tended] reason> to use it was frost. <..... the contrary> we have had no frost to hurt anything. A tail race from the Ingen was run, and the Water she lifted could not be <conveyed>, therefore was at a stand. If Mr. Baker have no mine at work yet the Ingen must be kept going, its a preservation to the Ingen. Also if your Son makes no use of her it is not reasonable he should be at the charge of an Ingen keeper. I am sorry I dare not undertake a journey to Durham, a bad day would lay me up, if not be fatal.

I presume you know Mrs. Craddack has got herself a Daughter, I had the pleasure of a letter from her before that Event, a Grandson I have at Hertforth School gave me the advice of her getting her bed, & she & the <.....> both in a hopeful way. I writ to

<Sharp> and begged our worthy friend would order some to give me the <state> of his & her Sisters disorder. Mr. Smith the Apothecary upon that writ me That Mr. Wilkinsons disorder was a stoppage in the Bowels wch. was <i...ned>, and he hasty walking out daily, and adds has not been so well since he was first <attacked>.

Our Femal[e] friend had a breaking out in two places in one (or both) legs. That a mortification had taken place wch. <Dr.> Smith had <stopt.>, brought the wounds to Digest, the matter friendly and the <ulcers> clean but that he contrived to give her proper medicines, & hoped she would do well. I know you have a regard for them, makes me so particular. I beg my best Compliments may be acceptable to yourself & Mr. Baker. Dr. Madm.

Your most Obed. Servt.

Jno. Westgarth

Mrs Baker

8 Mar 1779 John Westgarth to George Baker

[Note: DUL BAK/15/31]

Unthank 8 March 1779

Sir

The delay in answering your letter of the 7 Ulto. was occasioned by the Lease your Father signed being at Sandoe. I am only one the <three> contracting party but have no right to give any of the money. You will please to peruse the Lease and you'll find so long as you continue the Ingen you are to keep her, the Water courses &c in repair and so that none of our work be impeded. When the Race was suffered to run our works was stopped & your people obliged for want of wood to repair it, to take wood from us. We have no objection to your keeping her conformable to the Conditions spacificed or in like manner to secure her on the terms in the Lease set forth. The above is the company's Sentiments. Compts. to your good Mother

Sir Your humble Servt.

Jno Westgarth

25 Nov 1782 Thomas Ridley to George Baker

[Note: DUL BAK/15/127.]

Valuation of Work Gear &c at Emley Haugh Grove belonging to Geo. Baker Esqr.

12 Picks with other Tools Wt. 4 Sto at 3d per lb	14	-
8 Kibbles at 6d. each	4	-
3 Shovels	-	6

DUL BAK 9-16 Misc lead mining Correspondence re Embley Grove 1747-87

3 Mells 6s 0d & 2 Colrakes 6d.	6	6
4 Pr. of Tongs Smiths Tools	2	-
3 Hammers	3	6
8 Punches & Chisels	1	4
6 Sto: Iron & 2 lb at 2 1/2	17	11
A pr. Pinchers & Hammer	1	2
A pr. Bellis	10	-
5 Deals	8	-
2 Dozen <Grene> Wood	4	8
A Candle Chest	2	6
A Wey Balk	1	-
2 Four Stone Weights	9	4
2 Rowls	10	-
1 Wimble, 1 Gouge & 1 Chisel	1	6
4 <Air> Boxes	3	-
2 <Scieves>	1	4
2 Waggon	10	-
A pair of Barrs	2	6
2 Buddles	4	-
A Piece Grove Rope	3	-
	£6	1 9

Valued by Thos. Ridley
Nov. 25th. 1782

23 Feb 1786 Judith Baker to John Donkin

[Note: DUL BAK/16/66. Recipient not stated, but probably John Donkin of Sandhoe (1727-1800) given the annotation, and subsequent correspondence from Donkin.]

Elemore Feb. 23 1786

Sr.

By a Letter from William Dodds dated 17th. of this Month, he Writes - Mr. Earl desires to know if Mr. Baker will allow a trial to be made for a Lead in Beldon Bourn, & that I would write to you at Sandoe.

I have before me the Copy of your proposal to my son, Nov 10th 1783. you having the Original Sign'd. - makes it unnecessary for me to repeat - The people you sent have said they had engaged the Liberty of the Trustee's [sic] for Ld. Crewe Charity but without both Liberties could not make trial & had in consequence (of flattering themselves with my Son inclining to give encouragement to Miners & particularly wished next to engage with Mr. Errington) had even brought <wood to> a great amount, & <wd ereck> an Engine directly - pleaded much for a speedy trial to get repaid for the large Sum they were to lay out, after wch. no <step> taken as engine Built & it proves that the trustee's Liberty not even yet engaged as the Bearer Mr. Angus can confirm you. But if you think proper Mr. Rotherham will treat with you & the Bearer

go with who you send to Houghton so please to give yr. answer fully in writing to the Bearer.

Yr. Humble Servt. J. Baker

[on reverse in same hand:] Feb 23rd Copy to Mr Donkin – 86 -

24 Apr 1786 John Donkin to Judith Baker

[Note: DUL BAK/16/73]

Sandoe 24 April 1786.

Madam,

I rec'd your Letter of the 14 Inst. and since which I have also had a Letter from Mr. Wood acquainting me that the Trustees agree to the Proposal; and requests my sending such Instructions on behalf of Mr. Errington & Co. as are necessary for preparing a Lease from. Will. Routledge, who had likewise rec'd Notice of the Proposal being accepted, came over hither & recommended my sending a Draft of a Lease, as he appeared confident that would be most agreeable. I am accordingly preparing one to be sent over to Blanchland, against their Rent Day, which he says is the 8th. of next Month.

Mr. Wood mentions Mr. Adams of Alnwick being Attorney for the Trustees; so that I could wish as the Premises adjoin each other and the Conditions similar, that both Parts be settled by the same Person, if you approve of it. And I shall however send a Draft with the other for Mr. Baker's Instruction and Approbation, which I will give Orders to be forwarded to you from Blanchland. My Wife begs her most respectful Duty to you. I am, Madam,

Your most obedt. h'ble Servt.

Jno. Donkin

[on reverse:] Mrs Baker / Elemore hall / Durham

6 Sep 1787 to George Baker

[Note: DUL BAK/16/102. Recipient not stated but from context was presumably Baker]

Lead Ore wrot. at Emley Haugh and deliver'd at Mr. Errington's Mill 8 ½ Bing at £3.

14. 6 per Bing is £31. 13. 3

1/7 Duty is £4. 10. 5 ½ (due to Mr. Baker)

Septr. 6th. 1787